

The Influence Of A Godly Mother

- II Timothy 1:1-7

- Only God Himself fully appreciates the influence of a Christian mother in the molding of character in her children.

Billy Graham

- I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.

Abraham Lincoln

- My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her.

George Washington

From my Mother I learned the value of prayer, how to have dreams and believe they could come true.

Ronald Reagan

➤ **READ SCRIPTURE**

- **How important of a role does a Mother play in the life of her children? Often a mother has asked herself & even others, "Am I really making a difference?" I am not sure anyone has or ever will be able to place into words the true value that she holds.**
- **G. Campbell Morgan, a profound British preacher whose four sons all became pastors, influenced millions with his preaching, teaching and writing. One day, when his young son Howard finished preaching, a reporter asked him, "Since you have five Pastors in your family who is the greatest preacher? Expecting the son to give the honor to his father, Howard surprised the reporter by saying, "My Mother!"**
- **This week I sat down and tried to put together some characteristics of what Great Mothers are all about so I could share them with you this morning.**
 - She is a caregiver.
 - Cook
 - Nurse
 - Teacher
 - Caretaker of the house
 - Comforter
 - Encourager
 - Taxi
 - Listener
 - Motivator
 - Faithful
 - Loving
 - Strong
 - Enduring
 - Persistent
 - Thoughtful
 - Prayer Warrior
 - Godly Servant
- **In the passage we read this morning, Paul is seeking to be an encouragement to young Timothy as he recalls to him the Godly influence and upbringing that had been a part of his life.**
 - He reminds him that his grandmother, Lois, was the first in the family to be won to Christ.
 - Then his mother Eunice came to know the Lord and the two of them saw to it that Timothy was taught the scriptures and knew God.

- Timothy's heritage was a great one. He was reared in a Godly home by two women who loved the Lord and saw to it that Timothy would know this same God they had grown to love and serve.
- **As we read about Timothy's Godly influence, I am reminded that many a Christian mother has been used by the Lord to teach their children about the things of God and to plant seeds in their life that have brought many of us to Christ.**
 - My Mother led me to the Lord when I was young. I remember many of her teachings about God and the importance of living for Him.
 - Obviously, I believe God led me to where I am today, but I believe that my Mother was a tool that God used in my life to shape me.
 - Our Pastor did not know his father very long before he passed away, but you have recalled to me many times the important part your mother played in your life.
 - For many of you sitting here today, you are only here because of two reasons; God's grace and a mother's prayers.
- **As we celebrate and honor our Mother's today, I want to encourage you mothers with a Biblical perspective of a what a Godly mother is.**
 - We have some who have become Mothers recently, some of you have been raising your children for some time and others of you have seen your children go on to start their own lives.
 - Yet even after they are gone, the truth is a Mother's job is not complete.
 - Mother-In-Law
 - Grandmother/Great Grandmother
 - Caregiver
 - Wife
- **So with our time remaining today, I would like to share with you a few thoughts that I believe God would have every Mother do and every young lady learn to do.**

I. Be Used Of God

a. Allow Christ Into Your Life

- i. If there is one thing that I would encourage Mothers and Fathers, men and women, teenagers and kids to do today before you leave today is to allow God to be a part of your life.

1. Salvation

- a. Our goal each and every Sunday is to be sure that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is presented in such a way that if there is anyone who does not know Him as their personal Savior, they will accept Him as their Redeemer and Lord before they leave.
- b. It is our prayer and our desire that the people we minister to and worship with understand that Jesus Christ loves them and gave His life for all so that they might have forgiveness of sins.
- c. We believe that in order for you to fulfill God's desire and His plan for your life, you first have to allow Him to come into your heart and save you from your sins.

2. Relationship

- a. This is where as your closest Friend, you learn to
 - i. Trust in Him
 - ii. Depend on Him
 - iii. Walk with Him
 - iv. Love Him
 - v. Spend time with Him
 - vi. See Him as the most important thing in your life.

- b. Many people desire for Christ to save them from their sins, but not everyone wants Him to be a part of their life.
- c. Lois & Eunice relationship with God.

b. Allow Christ To Live Through You

- i. Mothers you have such an influence through your life that the best thing you can do for your family is let them see Christ in you.
 - 1. Words
 - 2. Actions
 - 3. Thoughts
 - 4. Motives
 - 5. Love
- ii. As you look at the life of Timothy, his life was directly influenced because of a Godly mother and Grandmother who served God.

II. Be Ready To Teach

a. The Love of Jesus

- i. These two mothers had God's Word in their hearts. Because they had internalized the truth into their own lives, they could impress it upon young Timothy by talking about it throughout the day, showing Timothy how the Scriptures should impact every area of life.
- ii. Mothers, it is never too early to start teaching the Bible to your children; and, it's never too late to start if you haven't already. There is nothing that can replace your role in your child's life. God wants to use you to instill within your children a respect for the Bible.
- iii. Kids need to learn their academics, math & science.
- iv. But the greatest thing they need to know from an early age is that Jesus loves them and that He gave His life for them.
 - 1. Where do they learn to love Jesus? Where do they learn to serve God? Where do they learn to put Him first in their lives?
 - 2. I will tell you where. They learn it at home. And Moms, you have a golden opportunity to set an example that will last for eternity by teaching your kids about the things of God.
 - a. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."
 - 3. The greatest thing we can leave is a Godly heritage.

b. Don't Leave It To Others

- i. Moms, if you want to instill authentic faith in your children then you better take your own faith seriously. If you're just going through the motions spiritually your kids will eventually see it, and tragically, may do the same thing when they are older. As you demonstrate your faith consistently by reading the Bible, praying, attending worship, bringing your kids to programs that help them grow spiritually, and by participating in the life and mission of the church, you will send a strong message to your children.
- ii. Moms you would not leave it up to someone else to take care of your kids, earn a living for your family or provide comfort to your children. Why would you allow something as important as their eternal destiny not to be a priority in your life?
- iii. As a mother and as a parent, you have a great responsibility to instill in your children the things of God.
 - 1. They need to know right from wrong.
 - 2. They need to learn to respect the things of God.
 - 3. They need to understand there is a price to pay when they do wrong.

- iv. You cannot guarantee their salvation by teaching them the things of God, their opportunities for accepting Christ are far greater.

III. Be Faithful To Pray

a. Guidance each day

- i. With all that you have on your plates and the great responsibility that you hold, it is only right that you allow God to guide your steps each and every day.
- ii. Any home in which faith is passed on from generation to generation has to be a home of prayer.
 1. I cannot imagine Lois not praying for Eunice or Eunice not praying for Timothy.
 2. We read in [Acts 12:12](#) that the mother of John Mark opened her home for a prayer meeting while Peter was imprisoned.
 3. In [Acts 1:14](#), Mary, the mother of Jesus “joined together constantly in prayer” with the disciples. That’s the hallmark of a godly mother.

b. Salvation of your family

- i. Mothers, this is another one of those things that you don’t want to leave to someone else to do.
- ii. When I think of a mother and her prayers for her family I think of the verse of scripture in I Thessalonians 5:17 – “Pray without ceasing.”
- iii. You may feel as though you have done all you can do, keep on praying.
- iv. You may feel like your kids are not listening, keep on praying for them.
- v. Perhaps you have prayed for so long and you wonder if they will ever turn to God, be faithful and continue to pray for them.

➤ **Because of a faithful mother, Timothy exemplified three qualities:**

I. First of all, he was a strong believer.

- a. He is referred to as a disciple. Luke, the author of Acts, could have referred to him as a believer or a Christian, but he chose to call him a disciple. A disciple is a learner and a follower. A disciple was one who was serious about Christ, not just one who was going through the motions. As we’ve already established, his mother modeled this type of authentic, no holds-barred kind of faith.

II. Second, he had a good reputation.

- a. The believers in the area spoke well of him. People knew him as a man of integrity and as a man of the Word. He was rock solid. Again, this had a lot to do with his mother and grandmother.

III. Third, he was a servant.

- a. As you continue to read the Book of Acts, you’ll see that Timothy was eager to minister. He knew it meant leaving home and he knew it meant facing hardship. Friends, there is no way this kind of commitment to ministry develops if it has not been encouraged at home.

- **Mothers and Grandmothers, you are a special gift of God.**

- **What are you giving to your children and grandchildren that is of eternal value?**
- **What provisions are you making for them as they journey in this life?**
- **Will the fire of your devotion light their way?**