

2 Timothy 1:5

Mother's are very special. They do so much and many times with very little acknowledgement. What does the Bible have to say about mothers? Contrary to the feminist movement and our modern Culture, the Scriptures actually elevate women and mothers to a very high and lofty place

- I. In our text, we find that mothers have a great influence
 - a. Notice that Paul is writing to Timothy.
 - b. When we think of Timothy, and who he was, we now see the source of his faith...his mother and grandmother.
 - c. Mother's, you have a very powerful influence with your children.
 - i. Do not quite on them. Even if you wonder what is going on or are they getting it, they are listening. They are watching
 - ii. When all things seem dark and daunting, you have the ability to pierce through to sometimes even the hardest of hearts and minds
- II. We find that Mother's teachings are invaluable – Proverbs 1:8-9¹
 - a. The charge here is for the child to listen to the law of their mother.
 - b. Mother's, your teaching of the children is powerful.
 - i. Notice in verse 9 what is said about this teaching
 - ii. It will be a graceful ornament
 1. Also translated as wreath (like a Christmas wreath: Example the wreaths hanging on the door of our house)
 2. The teaching is powerful. It will surround and cover your children notice here with grace (word can be interchanged with elegance, charm, favor, acceptance) Mother's, did you know that your teaching can do that? Your law can do that?
 3. Do you want to know something else about this word ornament?
 - a. It is only found one other place
 - b. Proverbs 4:9 – It describes the work that wisdom does!
 - iii. It will be chains about their neck
 1. When we speak of chains, I am not talking about restrictive chains.
 - a. When we think about mothers, sometimes we think that they are too restrictive or too controlling.
 - b. Mother's, you are doing what God has called you to do. Raise your children up
 2. When we talk about chains here what do we mean?
 - a. The chain here will be like a pendant. It is as a necklace.
 - b. I don't wear necklaces, but what I see, it isn't bulky. It isn't in the way. It doesn't weigh down anyone (at least some don't)
 - c. It is more of an adorning type idea.

¹ Pro 1:8-9 My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; (9) For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck.

- i. What does it show?
 - ii. In the culture, the chain showed power, prestige, authority, and dignity.
 - iii. By your teaching, mothers, they will be able to have that around their neck in a good way.
 - iv. It will carry them, uphold them, and help them.
- III. We also find that the mother is valuable no matter where they are in life – Proverbs 23:22
 - a. Mothers are valuable. They have never gone out of value
 - b. Packer and Tenny, they say, “Israel’s history and its culture owes a great deal to these hard-working women.” And therefore, I can say to the same degree, mothers, we owe you so much.
 - i. Mother’s work some of the hardest job’s ever, yet the pay can sometimes be the worse
 - ii. The pay that mothers receive, outside the home, would not even be legal, yet they work hard.
- IV. Mothers have a major role in the success or failure of the home – Proverbs 31:10-31
 - a. Again, Packer and Tenny say, “The Israelite mother held an important place in the life of the family. To a large degree, she was the key to a successful family or the cause of its failure. She could have incalculable influence on her husband and her children.”
 - b. Mothers, do not downplay the work that you do
 - i. You are very valuable.
 - ii. You are the one whom God designed and created to be what we as men and even as children cannot be.
 - iii. Embrace your role as a mother and honor God in how you raise your children.
- V. For those who have a hard time this time of year I wish to encourage you in something – 1 Timothy 5:2
 - a. Maybe you are in a place where you depressed because you did not have any children of your own. Maybe you are feeling that you have missed out on something.
 - b. First, may I tell you that God can fill that empty void in your heart – Psalm 113:9
 - c. Second, may I also tell you that you do have children Spiritually – 1 Timothy 5:2
 - i. Notice that Paul is talking to Timothy. He is telling Timothy what to do
 - ii. Last week, I said that sometimes what the Bible doesn’t say is as important as what is said.
 - iii. What Paul is saying is to treat the older men as fathers and the older women as mothers
 - iv. What Paul is indirectly saying is that ladies, you spiritually have sons...They may not be biological, but the charge to help them can also carry over to you as well.
 - v. Do you embrace that...Does that give you a new vision or outlook? I pray it also gives you a new encouragement.