

## **Mother's Day Message**

**May 10, 2015**

**The Scriptures speak volumes about the roles of men and women and their responsibilities to God in living godly lives.**

**Our lives should be an open book to the world that testifies to the saving power of Jesus Christ to deliver people from the bondage of sin.**

**In Titus chapter 2, Paul gave instructions to Titus on training men and women to build up the kingdom of God. Notice what he focuses on in verse 4. Older men should be self-controlled, serious, wise, and strong in faith, in love and in patience.**

**He then tells him to teach older women to be holy in their behavior, not speaking against others, not enslaved to wine and be teachers of what is good. Then they can teach younger women to love their husbands, to love their children to be wise and pure to be good workers at home, to be kind, and to yield to their husbands. No one will be able to criticize the teaching that God gave us. God has given his people responsibilities within the church to care for one another. If you recall, when Peter failed the Lord and repented, Jesus asked him, "Peter, do you love me?" He answered "yes, Lord, I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." He asked him three times the same question and Peter answered that he loved Jesus. Jesus told him each time to feed his sheep and then to feed the lambs. It is important that mature Christians reach out to those who are new to the faith so they can learn to be the godly example that God wants them to be to their children, their families and those who live around them.**

**Mothers are very important to their children. It is said that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world and its domain. In Proverbs 4:1 Solomon speaks about being treated like and only child by his mother. His mother gave him individual attention and spent time teaching him values that helped him with his life's choices. Her words of wisdom planted seeds of goodness that caused him to ask God for wisdom to rule over the children of Israel. God answered that prayer and he was the wisest king who ever ruled on this earth. In Proverbs 4:18 it says that the way of the good person is like the light of dawn growing brighter and brighter until it is full daylight. The Bible says that the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord. Psalms 37:23. A praying mother is priceless to children.**

**Teaching children to pray is one of the most important responsibilities of a mother. I heard a song on the radio a few days ago about praying every day and communicating with God always. The writer gave a testimony that just like my family, her mother spent time every morning saying the Lord's Prayer with her children. This wonderful lady has continued the practice all of her life and she talked about the difference it made in her thinking and the life's choices that she has made. It set a pattern for her to always spend time talking with the Lord and the song she wrote has blessed many people for her voice is beautiful and anointed.**



**Proverbs 3:27 says that whenever you are able, do good to people who need help. If you have what your neighbor asks for, don't say "Come back later. I will give it to you tomorrow."**

**Don't make plans to hurt you neighbor who lives by and trusts you. Don't accuse a person for no good reason. Don't accuse someone who has not harmed you.**

**Proverbs 1:8 says these words: "My child listen to your Father's teaching and do not forget your mother's advice. Their teaching will be like flowers in your hair or a necklace around your neck. It is important to build godly character into a child. My grandmother use to say to me, "Diana, God sees what you do and how you act even when no one else knows about you." Those words checked me many times when I was tempted to go down a wrong path.**

**1 John 3:18 says to love not with words and talk but by our actions and truth. Children need to know that their mother is on their side. Wise mothers build memories into their children that stay with them for the duration of their lives. They need to believe that they are loved and accepted unconditionally. That is how Christ loves the Church. He was willing to lay down his life for us. We need to be willing to sacrifice for our children.**

**It is a delusion to think that children will grow up to be wise, have godly character and have faith simply because they are taken to church and Sunday School all their growing up years. The Christian influence must be lived out in the home. A mother guiding and teaching by example, praying and blessing her children will be rewarded by God.**

**Even children who go astray respect a godly mother. In Luke 18:15, people brought babies to Jesus so he could touch them. The disciples rebuked them and tried to turn them away. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them for the kingdom of God belongs to people who become like little children."**

**I have a story of a mother that I want to read today. Mothers are not perfect and many of us have made mistakes that have costs us more than we ever thought. But the wonderful thing is that God is a forgiving God and when we come to him, confess our sins and**

**shortcomings, He can turn the tide and cause the desert to blossom like a rose. He is the one who heals the brokenhearted and sets captives free. He is our deliverer and our Savior. He can wipe the slate clean and give us a new start. His love can bring two people together and a new relationship can be developed. Nothing is impossible with God. I pray that His love will touch each mother here today and will give her courage and hope to grasp the truth of "His mercy is new every morning."**