

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of May 12, 2019**

**THEME: "Honor our Mothers"  
A MOTHER'S FAITH**

**Sunday ..... Read II Timothy 1:1-7**

*"When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice..."* Is it not a wonderful thing that Paul, in this letter to Timothy, would call attention to the role of his mother and her mother and the impact they had on this young man who would join Paul in his vital ministry in the work of God! Obviously, Timothy developed a reputation as a man of strong faith. How did he establish such conviction? Well, Paul gives credit to his mother and her mother, his grandmother! Does that not tell us something about the importance of mothers in the development of the faith of their children? Think about it! God placed this detail in Holy Scriptures for all the generations to come for all people in future centuries as part of the instructions for the Christian life. Had it not been for this couple of verses, it is likely that Paul would have been the one given credit for the development of Timothy as a solid Christian man and valuable minister of the gospel. Yes, God did use Paul, and he did have a lot to do with Timothy for his calling in God's work; there is no question about that; but I think God wants us to see that He led Timothy to work with Paul because of the *"unfeigned faith"* that Timothy already had as a result of his mother and grandmother's example! I doubt Paul would have selected Timothy to be a partner had it not been for what his mother had done so well. I think we cannot adequately measure the worth of a mother in the upbringing of their children. I believe some of the most rewarded people at the Judgment Seat of Christ will be mothers for their commitment to developing children of a strong faith with solid convictions. Praise God for grandmother Lois and mother Eunice!

**HUSBAND'S SUPPORTER**

**Monday ..... Read Proverbs 31:10-12**

*"The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil."* Actually, according to Ephesians 6:4, God has given fathers the responsibility for the Christian upbringing of his children. We are told this in that Scripture: *"And ye, fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."* But let us also remember what God said in the creation of the world's first family even before He created the woman. After having brought Adam into the world, when he was the only human being on earth, God said this on the sixth day of creation as recorded in Genesis 2:18: *"It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."* I am certain that God had a lot of things in mind when He made that observation; but I have to believe one of the primary reasons for a man needing help is in the bringing up their children in the *"nurture and admonition of the Lord."* Most of the time in the early years of childhood, sons and daughters are with their mothers for the greater part of the day, so obviously, the mother will have the greater influence in terms of time spent. That is not to say fathers are insignificant because what children see in their fathers is paramount in their development. Unfortunately, our society in American now has a lot of single parent homes where fathers have abandoned their God-given responsibility, and their children are the victims of this terrible abdication of their role as a father. One of the best examples of a husband's trust in his wife is her role in the bringing up of their children! After all, his children are a man's most prized possession!

**HUSBAND'S ENCOURAGER**

**Tuesday ..... Read Proverbs 31:25-28**

*"She opens her mouth with wisdom; and her tongue is the law of kindness."* Management of a home is no easy task; there are a lot of needs. God gives husbands the awesome responsibility to be the head of the home, and that requires a lot of wisdom to meet all the needs of a family. To run a home requires money management skills, time management skills, human interrelationship skills, not to mention decisions regarding physical, social and mental health for the people in the home. That responsibility increases as God blesses the home with children. A man cannot do this on his own; he needs his wife and the wisdom she brings. Mothers are crucial in their role as mothers, and they are huge in the happiness of their husbands. Just making ends meet to keep a home afloat is huge and very demanding, and child rearing is added to all the other responsibilities. Ability to do this for the benefit of all concerned and to get things done in a God-honoring manner requires real wisdom. Here again, praise God for mothers and the insight they have to help. The man who is blessed with a kind

and considerate wife is usually a happy man, and so are his children because of their mother! Notice that God places an emphasis on kindness. There are a lot of very capable people in the world, but if they are unkind, they do a lot more harm than good. Kindness and gentleness are paramount. That kind of wife and mother encourages all in the home. Is it not true that mothers light up a home! And their husbands and children are mightily blessed!

### **DIVINE REWARD FOR MOTHERS**

**Wednesday .....Read Psalm 127:1-5**

*"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is His reward."* What an amazing statement that ought to bless the hearts of all those women who have been blessed with children. Notice what God is saying! Children are a reward; and, I might say, a solemn trust! I like what God says about children, something it behooves all parents to consider very carefully! Children are the heritage of God. We sometimes hear of a family heritage. Now just what does that mean? Is it not referring to some of the good old family traditions, certain things that are passed down through the generation, and we do just because it has been a practice over the years in our family? Well, how about God's heritage. Children coming out of the womb of their mother are God's reward and they are God's heritage. God wants them to continue in the things that have been a part of God's family life from the beginning. How do we know all that is involved in God's heritage. Well, that is one of the benefits of the Son of God, the Lord Jesus, coming to earth, among many other benefits, I might say. The life of Jesus reveals a lot about His Father and the family heritage of God. As John said: Jesus is the Word, the expression of what God is all about. It is the will of God for all children to be reared in such a manner that they are part of God's heritage!

### **GOD'S WORKPLACE**

**Thursday .....Read Jeremiah 1:4-7**

*"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest out of thy mother's womb, I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."* What an amazing truth: God forms babies in the womb, and makes that child exactly what He wants it to be so he or she can accomplish what God would have them to do with their lives. He forms their physical appearance and gives them the personality with the talents and gifts that will fulfill His will for their lives. You might say that is what He did for Jeremiah. Well, I am reminded that in II Timothy 3:16 that *"all Scripture is given by inspiration of God for our instruction."* Does that not mean I can apply this Scripture for our instruction in living. Every person is very special to God, handmade by God. The question is whether or not people realize that and seek the will of God for their lives, that for which God made them. No one should want to be someone else; each is a special handiwork of God. It is worth noting as well when we consider this Scripture that those who support abortion are basically saying that it is okay to destroy a work of God while in the making. How would any of us feel if someone came and destroyed something on which we were working?

### **GODLY OFFSPRING**

**Friday .....Read Malachi 2:15-16**

*"Did he not He make one? Yet of the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That He might make a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of your youth."* This passage of Scripture gives the fundamental reason for marriages and homes! What might that be? God tells us that the fundamental reason for our bringing children into the world is to give our Creator *"godly"* people! Humans were made with a soul and spirit. Although born with a dead spirit because of the sin of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, parents who are following God will teach their children how to be born again of the spirit and be reconciled unto God. That, of course, will be to advise them of the need to receive Jesus as personal Savior, and the earlier in life the better. In order for parents to do as God instructs and have children be a godly seed, God emphasizes that it is important to keep the marriage intact. God goes on to say that He hates divorce and even likens it to treason against the kingdom of heaven. The devil works hard to create issues between a husband and wife to make it more difficult for children to be that godly seed to pass on the godly heritage that God wants in our homes. How important to be alert and to recognize the efforts of the adversary to create issues so we realize that God is honored when differences are resolved and the homes are kept solid for all to be spiritually blessed!

### **LAW OF MOTHERS**

**Saturday .....Read Proverbs 1:7-10**

*"Forsake not the law of thy mother."* In this verse from God's Holy Word, God gives children orders to take heed to their mother's laws. That means instructions are laws under which to live. Does that not tell us that disobedience to our mothers is akin to breaking the law of the home. It is wise for sons and daughters to remember the law of their mothers for their whole lives because they serve us well long after we are no longer under the roof of our mothers and fathers. They come in handy in life decisions, and they certainly give us a huge help when we establish our own homes. For those who have had godly mothers, it is a good way to pass on the heritage of our God. Not only does this command from God get children off to a good start, it does them good for the rest of their lives. Maybe it would be good to take time to jot down those laws of your mother and be reminded of her expectations and benefit from them even now!