

GODLY MOTHERS IN AN UNGODLY WORLD

TEXT: (Titus 2:3-5, MSG)

³ Guide older women into lives of reverence so they end up as neither gossips nor drunks, but models of goodness. ⁴ By looking at them, the younger women will know how to love their husbands and children, ⁵ be virtuous and pure, keep a good house, be good wives. We don't want anyone looking down on God's Message because of their behavior.

I. The Attitude of Motherhood

1. "Sons are a heritage from the LORD, children a reward from him" (Psalm 127:3, NIV).
2. "Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful" (I Corinthians 4:2, ESV)

A. God Exalts Motherhood

1. "Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor" (Romans 13:7, NIV).

B. Motherhood Is from the Lord

1. "The LORD enabled [Ruth] to conceive, and she gave birth to a son" (Ruth 4:13, NIV).
2. "Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, 'Because I asked the LORD for him'" (I Samuel 1:18, 20, NIV).

II. LOVING YOUR CHILDREN

1. "[The older women] can train the younger women to love their...children" (Titus 2:4, NIV).

A. Loving Children Requires

1. "I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also" (II Timothy 1:5, NIV).
2. "Do not hesitate to discipline a child. If you spank him, he will not die. Spank him yourself, and you will save his soul from hell" (Proverbs 23:13-14, GW).

III. MANIFESTING GODLINESS

A. Be Self-Controlled

1. "Then [the older women] can train the younger women to...be self-controlled" (Titus 2:4-5, NIV).
2. "I want women to show their beauty by dressing in appropriate clothes that are modest and respectable. Their beauty will be shown by what they do, not by their hair styles or the gold jewelry, pearls, or expensive clothes they wear. This is what is proper for women who claim to have reverence for God" (I Timothy 2:9-10, GW).

B. Be Pure

1. "Then [the older women] can train the younger women...to be...pure" (Titus 2:4-5, NIV).

2. “Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives” (1 Peter 3:1-2, NIV).

C. Create a Home

1. “Then [the older women] can train the younger women...to be busy at home” (Titus 2:4-5, NIV).

D. Be Kind

1. “Then [the older women] can train the younger women...to be kind” (Titus 2:4-5, NIV).
2. “Jesus of Nazareth...went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil” (Acts 10:38, NIV).
3. “This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience—it looks for a way of being constructive” (I Corinthians 13:4, PHILLIPS).

E. Submit to Your Own Husband

1. “Then [the older women] can train the younger women...to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God” (Titus 2:4-5).
2. “Wives, be subject (be submissive and adapt yourselves) to your own husbands as [a service] to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church.... As the church is subject to Christ, so let wives also be subject in everything to their husbands... However, let each man of you [without exception] love his wife as [being in a sense] his very own self: and let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband [that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, venerates and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly]” (Ephesians 5:22-24, 33, AMPC).
3. “You married women, be submissive to your own husbands [subordinate yourselves as being secondary to and dependent on them, and adapt yourselves to them], so that even if any do not obey the Word [of God], they may be won over not by discussion but by the [godly] lives of their wives, When they observe the pure *and* modest way in which you conduct yourselves, together with your reverence [for your husband; you are to feel for him all that reverence includes: to respect, defer to, revere him—to honor, esteem, appreciate, prize, and, in the human sense, to adore him, that is, to admire, praise, be devoted to, deeply love, and enjoy your husband]” (1 Peter 3:1-2, AMPC).