May 13 | Sunday

Mom, Mum, Mommy, Ma, Mother - We Love You! Read Proverbs 31:28



14 | Mon - One mom's great risk | Read Exodus 2:1-10 and 6:20,26-27

Imagine yourself as a slave, trying to keep your family together when those in power are bent on exterminating your children. This brave mother did everything she could to keep her baby boy safe but she had run out of options. Is there a principle in this story you could apply to your own heart when you are worried about the safety of the children you love or the future that awaits them? Listen to God, do what you can, then trust that He will intervene.

15 | Tue – Children are a gift from the Lord | Read <u>1 Samuel 1:1-28 and 2:19-21</u> In ancient times, and still in some cultures today, not being able to have children is considered a curse. Hannah was barren but her prayer for a child was motivated for something more than just a release from this cultural stigma. You can see what kind of woman she was by her words and her actions when her request was fulfilled. Do you get discouraged when your prayers go unanswered year after year? Is it tempting to give up? Remember Hannah.

16 | Wed - Kids are watching you | Read Psalm 86:1-17

David was called 'a man after God's own heart.' He loved God deeply and actively pursued that relationship. Even when David sinned, he was quick to repent because he did not want anything to stand between him and his God. Where did he learn that? Reread verse 16. What impact will you have on your children and even their friends? If you're not a parent (Is. 54:1), who are the children in your life - extended family, children of friends or your neighbors? Through your love and example, you can point them to a God worth knowing.

17 | Thu — A grandmother's influence | Read Acts 16:1-3 / 2 Timothy 1:5 and 3:14-15 Timothy was from a spiritually mixed family. His father was a Greek Gentile, his mother was Jewish. How is it that he became a Christ follower and a church planter? Read Paul's words in his last letter to Timothy. God can and will use you to influence not only your children but grandchildren and future generations through your prayers and intentional example. What kids can you pray for today who will become the world changers of tomorrow?

18 | Fri – My agent is my mom | Read Matthew 4:21-22 and 20:20-24

Most parents work hard to provide as many opportunities for their children as they can. Is it possible to go too far in that pursuit? In this exchange between Jesus and the mother of two brothers, it is easy to misjudge this mom because of her grand expectations but you will see she was far from a superficial person when you read Matt. 27:50, 56. See her commitment to Jesus that surpassed anything she hoped him would for her family. In your enthusiasm, have you ever misspoken? People don't always see your good heart but God does.

19 | Sat – When you cannot do anything more | Read <u>Isaiah 49:25 and 54:13 and 44:3-5</u> Children grow up. Your responsibilities change from active coaching to cheerleading on the sidelines. What about the times you see them making unwise choices or even walking away from God. What then? God has given promises to parents/grandparents - check out 3 listed above. Take these words to God in prayer, reminding *yourself* that God's heart is good and reminding *God* you depend on Him to do what you cannot; then see what God will do.

