

Welcome

Thanks for joining us!



The Greatest Ingredient in
Building Bridges – LOVE
2 Tim. 1:3-7

“Mothers – Building Bridges for a Lifetime”



2 Tim. 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve from *my* forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

4 Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

5 When I call to remembrance **the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice;** and I am persuaded that in thee also.

6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Our theme this year is building bridges. Last week, we considered...

“Building a Bridge When You Are Not Sure Where You Are Going”

Welcome to Mother’s Day 2016!

- Julia Ward Howe first proclaimed Mother’s Day in the United States in 1870 in Boston, and Howe called for it to be observed each year nationally in 1872.
- In 1907 Anna Jarvis in Grafton, West Virginia, to commemorate the anniversary of her mother’s death two years earlier on May 9, 1905, first celebrated Mother’s Day in a small private way.
- The first official recognition of the holiday was by West Virginia in 1910.
- A proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as U.S. president Woodrow Wilson signed Mother’s Day on May 14, 1914.
- A tradition calls for the wearing of carnations on Mother's Day—a red one if one's mother is alive, and white if she has died.

http://www.corsinet.com/braincandy/mothers_day.html

I. THE PARENTAL EFFECTIVENESS

A. The Patriarchal Progeny, 1:3-4

2 Tim. 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve **from my forefathers** with pure conscience, that without ceasing **I have remembrance of thee** in my prayers night and day;

4 Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

B. The Parental Perpetuity, 1:5

2 Tim. 1:5 When I call to remembrance **the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice;** and I am persuaded that in thee also.

The principle of “Children’s children” is epitomized here!

Lois → Eunice → Timothy

Prov. 13:22 A good *man* leaveth an inheritance to his **children's children**: and the wealth of the sinner *is* laid up for the just.

Prov. 17:6 **Children's children** *are* the crown of old men; and the glory of children *are* their fathers.

II. THE PATIENT ENERGY

2 Tim. 1:6 Wherefore **I put thee in remembrance** that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

A. The Display of Thoughtfulness – “...I put thee...”

Is there anyone more thoughtful than a mother?

Did you wash your ears and elbows?

Did you do your homework?

Did you take your vitamins?

Am I talking to a brick wall?

Are you deaf or something?

Are your hands broken? Pick it up yourself! I'm not your maid!

Did you brush your teeth?

Did you comb your hair?

Do as I say, not as I do.

Do you think I'm made of money?

Do you think your socks are going to pick themselves up?

Don't pick your nose in public.

Don't run in the house.

Don't sit too close to the television; it'll ruin your eyes.

Don't talk with your mouth full!

Don't walk away when I'm talking to you!

Don't you roll your eyes at me!

Eat your vegetables; they're good for you.

If you don't stop crying, I am going to give you something to cry about!

If you're too full to finish your dinner, you're too full for dessert.

Did you put on clean underwear? What if you have to go to the emergency room?

B. The Discipline of Thinking – “...in remembrance...”

Jn. 5:39 **Search the scriptures; for in them ye think** ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Rom. 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think**; but **to think soberly**, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Phil. 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **true**, whatsoever things *are* **honest**, whatsoever things *are* **just**, whatsoever things *are* **pure**, whatsoever things *are* **lovely**, whatsoever things *are* of **good report**; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, **think on these things**.

III. THE PRACTICAL ENRICHMENT

2 Tim. 1:6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance **that thou stir up the gift of God**, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

A. The Emphasis on God

= SALVATION

B. The Encouragement toward “the gift”

= STEWARDSHIP

Mothers are molding adults when rearing their children.

My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her.

— **George Washington**

How vital are mother's influence and teaching in the home—and how apparent when neglected!

— **Ezra Taft Benson**

IV. THE PROXY OF ETERNITY

2 Tim. 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

A. Confidence – “...not...the spirit of fear...”

Original Word: δειλία

Transliteration: deilia

Definition: cowardice, timidity.

deilia – timidity, reticence (used only in 2 Tim 1:7).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1167.htm>

deilos ("fearful of losses") refers to an excessive fear (dread) of "losing," causing someone to be fainthearted (cowardly) – hence, to fall short in following Christ as *Lord*.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1169.htm>

B. Capacity – “...but of power...”

Original Word: δύναμις

Transliteration: dunamis

Definition: (a) physical power, force, might, ability, efficacy, energy, meaning (b) plur: powerful deeds, deeds showing (physical) power, marvelous works.

Properly, "*ability to perform*"; for the believer, *power to achieve by applying the Lord's inherent abilities*. "Power through God's ability"

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1411.htm>

C. Compassion – “...and of love...”

Original Word: ἀγάπη

Transliteration: agapé

Definition: love, benevolence, good will, esteem; plur: love-feasts.

In the NT, (*agápē*) typically refers to *divine love* (= what *God prefers*).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/26.htm>

D. Composure – “...and of a sound mind.”

Original Word: σωφρονισμός

Transliteration: sóphronismos

Definition: self-control, self-discipline, prudence.

Properly, safe-minded, issuing in prudent ("sensible") behavior that "fits" a situation, i.e. aptly acting out *God's will* by doing what *He* calls sound reasoning (used only in 2 Tim 1:7). <http://biblehub.com/greek/4995.htm>

Summary

Being a proxy for eternity is what makes motherhood so valuable.

The word “proxy” means “the agency, function, or power of a person authorized to act as the deputy or substitute for another; the person so authorized; substitute; agent.”

<http://www.dictionary.com/browse/proxy?s=t>

- Confidence – “...not...the spirit of fear...”

How often has a mother calmed the fearful moments of her child to give confidence in so many areas of life!

- Capacity – “...but of power...”

How often has a mother told her child: “You can do anything you set your mind to do!”

- Compassion – “...and of love...”

No one can love like a mother!

- Composure – “...and of a sound mind.”

In the midst of a hectic schedule, including the work of a housewife and/or a working Mom, somehow a mother tries to keep “a sound mind” and “keep it all together.

When a mother is showing such gracious attributes, like a proxy, she is God’s substitute in the home, pointing her precious children toward the Savior!

Conclusion

Mt. 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, **how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!**

Isa. 66:13 **As one** whom his **mother comforteth, so will I comfort you**; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

2 Thess. 2:16 Now **our Lord Jesus Christ himself**, and God, even our Father, **which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,**
17 **Comfort your hearts,** and stablish you in every good word and work.

