



# MOTHERS

What Does God Tell Us About Mothers  
Ephesians 6:1-3; Titus 2:3-4  
May 10, 2020

God designed people to come into the world in families. But like many other things, humans have gone in our own way and ruined God's design. Family can be an awesome experience or a horrific one or any point in between. Whichever it is, it will profoundly shape the children for the rest of their lives. The quarantine has made family life worse for many, but it is also an opportunity for it to become better. Now and always, we need to listen to the guidance of God on every aspect of family.

As far as moms (and dads), we are told repeatedly to honor them. This is the most common instruction in the Bible concerning mothers (Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 5:16; Matthew 15:4; plus 5 more times). There are three main times when we need to do this: during our Mother's Day service, all day long on Mother's Day, and all the rest of the days in the year! Let's take a few minutes and honor mom right now.

Children, God wants you to obey your mothers (and fathers) (Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20). Their job is to teach you how to live well. So it is right to obey them. It also makes God happy when you do. In fact, God promises that you will have a long life if you obey your mother.

The responsibility of children to obey implies that God wants mothers to teach and guide them. This is also stated directly (Proverbs 1:8; 6:20). Moms, you have the wonderful privilege and

awesome responsibility of shaping a human life! It is imperative that you be a faithful steward of the amazingly valuable human being(s) God has entrusted to your care.

Moms are to love their husbands and children (Titus 2:3-4). Older women are to urge them to do so. The word urge here has to do with restoring them to a right mind! It entails steadying them by guidance and exhortation. The words in this verse for the kind of love mom should have indicate kindness, affection, delight, and cherishing (*phil-andros* and *philo-tekno*s).

Still, all of us are taught to love everyone with sacrificial, "regardless" love (agape) too. This includes how moms love their children. Jesus enables us to love this way (1 John 3:16).

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, who was born of the promise to a virgin named Mary.

I believe in the love Mary gave her Son, that caused her to follow him in his ministry and stand by his cross as he died.

I believe in the love of all mothers, and its importance in the lives of the children they bear.

It is stronger than steel, softer than down, and more resilient than a green sapling on the hillside.

It closes wounds, melts disappointments, and enables the weakest child to stand tall and straight in the fields of adversity.

I believe that this love, even at its best, is only a shadow of the love of God, a dark reflection of all that we can expect of him, both in this life and the next.

But I believe that one of the most beautiful sights in the world is a mother who lets this greater love flow through her to her child, blessing the world with the tenderness of her touch and the tears of her joy.

--John Killinger