



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

May 13, 2012

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
865-354-0855

Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Bobby Bear
Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary
Don Wicks

Minister:

Kirby Hinds

Secretary:

Susan Chandler

Service Times:

Sunday

Bible Study 10 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Worship Service 6 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:30 pm

Monday

Ladies Class 10 am

Email:

rockwdcc@earthlink.net

Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

THE NEED FOR GODLY MOMS

If there is one thing this world needs is more godly mothers. The apostle Paul wrote to the young preacher Timothy and reminded him of the godly mothers' that were in his life: *"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"* (**II Timothy 1:5**). I believe there are three reasons why we need more godly mothers today.

First, we need moms who teach the word of God to their children. In **II Timothy 1:5**, Paul credits Timothy's upbringing and religious training to a mother and grandmother (notice he says nothing of his father teaching him the word of God, he was a Greek, **Acts 16:1**). We have had Christian women who have taught us in Sunday school for years. Those of us who are Christians owe much to these Christian ladies. Paul also charged Titus to instruct the older Christian women to teach the younger ones how to live a Christ-like life (**Titus 2:3-5**).

Secondly, we need moms who lead by example. While it is one thing to teach by word of mouth, but teaching by example is equally important. There were women during the earthly ministry of Jesus who led by example. Luke records, *"and certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven demons, and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto Him of their substance."* (**Luke 8:2-3**). These women probably helped support Jesus and the twelve financially and may have even prepared meals for them (as needed). Lydia and the women Paul met at Philippi also supported him during his stay in their city (**Acts 16:11-15, 40**).

Thirdly, we need moms whose hands are diligent about doing good works (**Ecclesiastes 9:10**). In **Proverbs 31**, we read about the "virtuous woman." The writer describes the many wonderful works of her hands (**vv. 11-31**). She is one whose *"candle goes not out by night"* (**vs. 18**). Her good works *"praise her"* (**vs. 31**). Yet, not only is she diligent around the house, but her life is full of spiritual fruit. She is full of wisdom (**vs. 26**), she speaks kindness (**vs. 26**), and she fears the Lord (**vs. 30**). If there were ever a time when we needed godly mothers now is definitely the time.

Oneida Church of Christ

A MOTHER'S LOVE

Jesus thought of his mother, Mary, as he hung on the cross in the final moments of his life. The love Jesus had for Mary is obvious. He took a few moments to ask John to take care of his mother and for Mary to know that John would take care of her (**John 19:26-27**). According to church history and tradition, he did.

As a nation, today we honor our mothers. Of the many national observances we make throughout the year, this is one of my favorites. Mom's, in most cases, have a special place in our hearts. They serve as psychologist, nurse, counselor, cook, educator, taxi driver, and theologian among other things.

Mothers are able to carry out their duties with grace and passion. They are able to balance the many duties or hats they wear with apparent ease. This can't be said of fathers, at least not this one. How grateful I am for my wife and the amazing mother she is to our children.

A mother's love as well as a father's love is critical in the development of a child. But let me mention the important role mom's play in the early development of infants. Mary Carlson, a researcher from Harvard Medical School, studied the overcrowded nature of Romanian orphanages. Row after row of babies are typically lined up in their cribs with little care. An overworked staff is just unable to touch the babies very much, even during times of feeding. What amazed Carlson was the overwhelming silence in the nursery. There was no babbling, crying or even a whimper. At age two the babies had physical examinations where it was discovered they had large amounts of stress hormone in the blood called cortisol. It is known to damage the brain in high amounts. Growth was actually stunted in these infants and the children acted half their age. Bonding between mom and child at an early age is critical in the development of the child for the rest of his or her life.

Harvard conducted another study where it was found that 91 percent of college men who said they had not enjoyed a close relationship with their mothers developed hypertension, coronary artery disease, duodenal ulcers, and alcoholism by the midlife years. Only 45 percent of the men who said they experienced warmth and closeness with their mothers had similar illnesses. 100 percent of the participants in the study whose parents were distant and cold went on to suffer numerous diseases in the middle years of life (studies cited in *Bringing Up Boys* by James Dobson, 2001).

Wow. Mothers, your role in the life of your children really is critical. So keep on nurturing and loving your children, grandchildren or great grandchildren. God is using you in ways you will never know until eternity. May everyday be a happy mother's day to you!

Revised