



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

May 10, 2020

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
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Elders:

Kendall Bear
Dana Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Larry Brackett
Aaron Evans
Larry Hill
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Todd Houston

Secretary:

Susan Chandler

Service Times:

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Email:

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A Mother's Steadfast Love

The love of a mother is one of the most powerful forces known to man. A beautiful Bible picture of motherhood is found in the woman named Hannah. In **1 Samuel 1**, we read of her faithful prayer asking God to bless her with a child. She promised God that she would dedicate him to the service of the Lord. When the child Samuel was born, Hannah kept her promise. Although she left Samuel in the service of the temple at around age two or three, she never forgot him. She continued to make him a robe to wear each year and delivered it to him herself (**1 Samuel 2:19**). One can only imagine the care she went through thinking of his needs as he grew, even though he wasn't with her. What a faithful mother!

By her faithful remembrance of Samuel, Hannah was exhibiting one of the characteristics of God. **Isaiah 49:15** says, "*Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you.*" God has such a powerful love for His people. He never forgets His children!

Your mother certainly loves you. But what great comfort we can take today in knowing God loves you even more! Let us be thankful for such steadfast love!

Matt Clifton

The Importance of Honoring Our Parents

Jesus' mother, Mary, witnessed the crucifixion from the foot of the cross. Despite His agony, Jesus told His best friend, John, to take care of His mom, and to His mother He said, let John stand in my place as your son. John lived a very long life, and I believe he took care of Mary until she went to heaven.

I find it important that while Jesus was bearing the weight of the sins of the whole world on the cross, He took out the time to make sure His mother was taken care of after He was gone! As God, Jesus was dealing with eternal matters. But as a man, He showed all of us how important it is to respect, care and love our parents! **(see John 19:26-27)**.

The fact is, we should honor our parents. This is a command of God **(Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:2)**. Honoring parents goes beyond just "doing favors." An element of honoring is to admire your parents and consider them to be eminent people. For example, if you hear someone speak negatively about your parents, you are required to speak up and defend their honor.

Likewise, our actions – how we conduct ourselves – either honors or disrespects our parents. For instance, I know a minister who was a hard working, good man. He and his wife had two sons. One became an honorable and good Christian man and father. But the other committed a horrible crime. In the end, the father had to leave his pulpit out of disgrace. The couple has had to move twice, and finally had to change their last name because the son's behavior has disgraced them and caused them harm wherever they went.

On the other hand, children have constantly honored their parents by their good behavior.

For those whose parents are deceased, we still have the obligation to honor them. This is what the Jews did when they transported Joseph's bones back to Israel. Joseph, their kinsman, had been dead four centuries **(Ex 12:40)**, yet they were still honoring their "father" **(Ex 13:19; Joshua 24:32)**. You can honor your parents, even after their passing, by your dedication to God.

Larry Fitzgerald