



The Good News

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Mother's Day

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We have a holiday we celebrate in our society called Mother's Day. This is what Wikipedia has to say regarding the origin of the holiday: *"The modern holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908 when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in Grafton, West Virginia. She then began a campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States. Although she was successful in 1914, she was already disappointed with its commercialization by the 1920s. Jarvis' holiday was adopted by other countries and it is now celebrated all over the world. In this tradition, each person offers a gift, card, or remembrance toward their mothers, grandmothers, and/ or maternal figure on Mother's Day."*

It is with love and consideration that we consider our mothers (or other women) who hold special places in our hearts on this day. In addition, we never want to lose sight of what the Bible has to say about godly mothers, and what we can learn from them to help us in our own lives.

Qualities of godly mothers:

- o Godly mothers are mindful of the power of prayer, as we read about how Mary, the mother of John Mark, hosted the brethren in her home to pray for Peter as he was in prison in **Acts 12:12**.
- o Godly mothers are involved in reminding their children of God's word, as parents of the Old Testament were commanded to continually do in **Deut. 6:7**.
- o Godly mothers are involved in the training of her children, as Solomon commands parents to do in **Prov. 22:6**.

- o Godly mothers are commanded to love their children in **Titus 2:4**. The Greek term for "love" found here is "**philoteknos**" which means "to be fond of one's children, affectionate, showing love towards".
- o Godly mothers are careful to manage their homes as God would have them, keeping their character in line with God's word so as to "give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully". (**I Timothy 5:14, I Timothy 3:11**)
- o Godly mothers have a strong and enduring faith, trained by the Scriptures as Timothy's mother and grandmother had. (**II Tim. 1:5**)

We have numerous examples of godly women in the Bible. From Hannah, the mother of Samuel, to the mother of Moses, to Mary the mother of Jesus, we see the example that these women have set for God's people for thousands of years. The most important of these examples is that they gave themselves to do the will of God. Jesus identifies His "mother" and brethren" as those who do the will of the Father in Luke 8:21. He also reminds us in Matt. 10:37 that if we love father or mother or anything else in this world more than Him, we are not deserving of Him. Let us always remember the qualities that make for godly mothers and endeavor to have the same godly character in our own lives.