


Happy Mother's Day!

***God Selected You
As A Vessel to Bring
Children in the
World to be His!***



**Mothers
Handing Down
Their Faith
2 Timothy 1:1-5**

Observations

- ▶ The life of Timothy has always intrigued me because his faithfulness can be traced from his childhood
- ▶ The great Apostle Paul commends this young man's faith, and his commitment to God, which he received from his mother's side of the family

“Then he (Paul) came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek.” Acts 16:1

Observations

- ▶ We therefore have reason to believe that Timothy had no Christian example or Christian instructions at all from his father
- ▶ Timothy's mother was married but "*living single*" in fulfilling her religious role, as her husband was not modeling or instructing his child, Timothy, in the ways of the Lord
- ▶ Eunice, his mother therefore, was a Christian woman with no male religious help in the home
(Training Timothy, emotionally and educationally, with a spiritual perspective was all on her)

There are Many Godly Women Who Have to Raise Their Children Religiously By Themselves (for various reasons)

- ▶ Perhaps the children are not his, and he only wanted a wife
- ▶ Perhaps they are his; but he worked out a deal that she nurtures the children alone, and he provides a little financial assistance
- ▶ Perhaps the mother was overbearing at the beginning and the father was not allowed to participate in raising the child during his/her formative years; and now they are both dissatisfied with the arrangement and don't know how to rectify the situation—but the fact remains (regardless of the pros and cons) that momma is still the stable haven of refuge for the children's future, whatever it may be
- ▶ Perhaps the child was adopted, God blessing him/her with a faithful mother, when the birth mother or father wasn't looking at the ramifications of bringing a child into the world

There are a Lot Of Mothers With That Same Challenge Today!

- ▶ Momma sends the kids to church
- ▶ Momma takes the kids to church
- ▶ Momma gets bombarded with all of the emotional problems
- ▶ “Get Momma to pray for you!”
- ▶ Mothers are the *homework checkers* and *carpool drivers*
- ▶ The fact is, that many mothers are saddled with training their children, in the Lord, without a partner in the process—a co-trainer, a mate to help shoulder the operation

The Good News Is That Eunice and Lois Showed That It Can Be Done!

How Did They Do It?

#1 They Started Early With Timothy

“And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise (give you wisdom) unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 3:15

- ▶ Eunice started Timothy off as a child with the scriptures (the stories and principles are so important)
- ▶ She knew that she wouldn't be with him always, but the scriptures could (Psalms 119:11, 119:105)

With God's word you see where you are going before you get there (you can make better choices)!

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

- ▶ Instruct children in the word “in season and out”
2 Timothy 2:2
- ▶ My mother put Philippians 4:13 on my apt. wall in medical school

What Paul Saw In Timothy, He Had Already Seen In Timothy's Mother and Grandmother!

"When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith (honest, rich, genuine) that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also." 2 Timothy 1:5

- ▶ The women were converted on Paul's first trip (Acts 14:6-23)
- ▶ The church had a tough time in Timothy's hometown of Lystra. The apostle Paul had been beaten, dragged out of the city and left for dead (Acts 14:19-20). But Paul, the church, and the women, survived.
- ▶ Timothy, no doubt, had seen his mother's faith pass many tests, which galvanized her commitment during the church's persecution

#2 Good Christian Mothers Pass Religious Tests That Their Children Will See and Emulate!

- ▶ The first test for Eunice was at home. The phrase, in Acts 16:1, “*But his father was a Greek,*” was added for a reason by the Holy Spirit. This means that Timothy’s home was divided philosophically (their goals for Timothy were different)
- ▶ Greeks emphasized the physical (beauty, brains, earthly wisdom) 1 Corinthians 1:22,23; “Jews request a sign, Greeks seek wisdom,” (or *an earthly rational for every thing that happens*) Paul says “but we preach Christ and Him crucified” (*who can’t be calculated*)
- ▶ The father, not being a believer, had to have had a negative effect on Timothy’s upbringing; but this didn’t stop Eunice, who had her eye on the prize

Eunice had to adapt to “*living without*” *spiritual affection, conversation, honesty and openness, and spiritual family support.* Timothy learned survival skills from his mother and the Apostle Paul; Philippians 4:19

Eunice's Goal Was the Goal That Every Mother Should Have

*Take Timothy From God, Whom She
Recognized Had Given Him To Her; Raise Him
Up In The Nurture And Admonition Of The
Lord; And Then, Give Him Back To God, With
Or Without Her Husband's Religious Help!*

(The Cycle of Love)

*She Didn't Divorce Him, But She Modeled
a Different Direction for Her Son, Which
Timothy Grasped!*

Timothy Integrated His Mother's Example Into His Own Life!

"I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel."

Philippians 2:19-22

- ▶ Remember, Timothy's mother, along with Timothy's grandmother, helped her raise Timothy religiously

Grandmother's can help you to avoid her mistakes in raising you!

- ▶ The grandmother that helped YOU navigate through life may providentially help YOU raise your children in the Lord (some of my best lessons were the ones my grandmother taught me)
- ▶ So this child of a single religious parent was the great Apostle Paul's choice to assist him on the greatest missionary journeys in which any disciple of Christ ever participated (2 bible books named after him) Who was his daddy?

Observations

- ▶ Christians may not be physically tortured in the U.S. today like Paul was; but Christianity is under attack, especially on our teens and young adults
- ▶ Go to most any college campus today. Different clubs and organizations are vying for your child's membership
- ▶ There's the atheist society that boasts freedom without God
- ▶ There is the undercurrent of secular humanism that claims "man *IS* God," and is the master of his own fate
- ▶ There is encouragement to explore your sexuality, to question your gender and rebel against authority
- ▶ College professors will target Christian young people, attempting to embarrass them, calling Christianity out of date, calling it repressive, and even dangerous
- ▶ Singer Donnie McClurkin, several years ago, was UNINVITED to a concert in Washington D.C. commemorating the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's march on Washington because of his biblical views on homosexuality

What Legacy Did Eunice and Lois Leave With Timothy For the Rest of His Life?

Scripture!

Known Since a Child!

The scriptures tell the truth as to who God is and who we are


The scriptures are real, identifying the depth of sin and its effect on the world in which we live

The scriptures don't paint unrealistic pictures of the heroes highlighted in them (e.g., David, Solomon, Peter, Thomas)

The scriptures identify the cause of pain and suffering, death and disappointment around the world

The scriptures show God's solution to the guilt of our sin, and that is Jesus Christ

The scriptures show how God loved us so much that He put our personal interest over His own



***MOTHERS, HAND
DOWN A
SCRIPTURAL
LEGACY FOR YOUR
CHILDREN TO
FOLLOW!***

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Hebrews 11:6

Repent Of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Matthew 10:32

Be Baptized

Acts 2:38