

A MOTHER OF EXCELLENCE
PROVERBS 31:10-31

INTRODUCTION:

Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers. Today is the day we set aside to honor our mothers, to celebrate our mothers. This is good, but it should not just be for one day a year, we need to honor our mothers every day and appreciate them and show our gratitude for all they do.

This morning I want to look at a passage of Scripture that describes a mother of excellence. It is an important passage for us all as we each should desire to excel in our God-given gifts and talents. This passage will teach men what kind of woman they should seek for a wife and the mother of their children. This passage gives ladies a standard of excellence to strive for so that they can be the wife and mother that God wants them to be.

I. A MOTHER'S LOYALTY (Proverbs 10:10-12)

- a. If we understand the institution of marriage given by God in Genesis 2:24, then we understand that every _____ should be a wife before she is a mother.
- b. As I said, this term excellent speaks of the woman's worth and her _____ to those with whom she has a relationship. (Genesis 2:24)

II. A MOTHER'S HARD WORK (Proverbs 31:13-22)

- a. Next the author of this passage describes how this woman is an excellent wife and mother because she believes in hard _____.
- b. The excellent wife and mother is a person who saves and is always looking forward to the _____ and the needs of her family.
- c. This excellent wife and mother also shows _____ and love by reaching out to the poor and needy with gifts of food and clothing.

III. A MOTHER'S MODESTY AND SPEECH (Proverbs 31:23-26)

- a. Again, we read of the excellent wife's husband, because of her capability of managing the home, because of the good that she does for her husband, he is able to _____ at the city gates and he is respected and has a seat among the elders who govern the city. (1 Peter 3:1-4)
- b. The excellent wife and mother is not a nagging wife, but rather is one who _____ her husband and seeks to encourage him in all that he does.

IV. A MOTHER'S PIETY (Proverbs 31:27-31)

- a. Maybe as we have gone through this passage you have asked yourself, what is the _____ of this woman's excellent character?
- b. The author has saved that information for the last couple of verses and it has to do with this woman's _____.
- c. Notice verse 30, "*Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman who _____ the LORD, she shall be praised.*" (Proverbs 31:30, NASB95)
- d. This reverence for God, this pious living causes this woman to watch over the affairs of her household trusting in God and not _____ her time in idleness.

V. RESULTS (Proverbs 31:28-29, 31)

- a. In verses 28-29 and verse 31 we are told what our _____ is to be as husbands and children of this woman of excellent character.
- b. Children, Proverbs 31:28 says that you are to rise up and call your mother _____.
- c. Husbands our words of _____ are to build her up.
- d. The final verse in this passage jumped out at me as I read it. It says, "*Give her the product of her hands, And let her works praise her in the _____.*" (Proverbs 31:31, NASB95)

CONCLUSION:

Wives and mothers, you have quite a passage of Scripture to live up to if you are to be the woman of excellence described here and

it begins by faith in Jesus Christ. You cannot begin to be this type of woman unless you have been transformed by the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. You must deal with the sin in your life before you can be the woman described here. The only way to deal with sin is to agree with God that you are a helpless sinner with no way to make yourself right before God, but you believe that Jesus Christ can make you right before God, that His death on the cross paid the penalty for sin and that he was buried and rose from the dead on the third day showing by His resurrection that sin was fully paid for and death was conquered. When you believe this your sins are forgiven and you are made new in Christ and declared righteous before God and the Holy Spirit comes in and dwells in you and through His power in your life you can become the wife and mother described in this passage of Scripture.

Husbands and children, we have a huge responsibility given to us in this passage to be supportive and thankful and to honor the wives and mothers God has given to us and not just on Mother's Day, but every day of the year. Again, Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers!