

Mother's Day

MESSAGE

PRECEPT

PROVERBS 31:25-26

²⁵ She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

EPHESIANS 6:2-3

² "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise: If you honor your father and mother, ³ "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."

PROMISE

Mother's day celebrates the women who gave birth to us, even fathers who take care of their children alone, aunties who is the caregiver for their nieces and nephews, and mothers who have lost their children at some point in their lives. Today, we honour these brave women whom God blessed us with, and we praise God all the more that they are given to us to reflect His love for us. We must know that mothers are under attack these days. They experience countless challenges that most of us are not aware of, and many mothers struggle alone. There is mom guilt, wherein the guilt of not being a good enough mom is felt. Insecurities creep inside our mothers' head and there can be social pressures from peers and the society. There is also sleep deprivation, which contributes to depression, anxiety, stress, panic attacks, and other health problems. A lot of mothers also have a hard time balancing family and work, and some even are going to school to provide a better future for their children. Mothers, most of the time, are the primary caregivers in the house, as fathers seek to provide for their family, they often neglect helping their wives with the household chores and many other things. Mothers are also the ones carrying the mental load in the family, getting everything planned out for everyone in the family. Imagine all of these struggles and many more, and still needing to deal with stubborn children and unhelpful partner. If you're a mother, be comforted and secured in the fact that God knows all your challenges and He sees you. Whatever you're going through, He recognizes all your hardships and they will not be in vain. There is a mother in the Bible who went through distressing situations and was uplifted by God, and her name is Hagar (Genesis 16:1-14), Abraham and Sarah's servant. She was asked to bear Abraham's child as a slave and was mistreated after doing so. In verse 11, the Angel appeared to her and comforted her, and in verse 13, the Lord showed to her that He is aware of her trouble and that He sees her. The Lord tenderly cares for you and your tears are not futile, and He offers His warm embrace to His children in times of hurt and pain. In Galatians 6:2 it says, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Let this be a reminder for fathers/husbands to be of help to your partner, showing love and care, and spending quality time with her. As leader of the family, think of ways how you can make things easier for her, and how partnership in the home can be exercised. For the children, remember Ephesians 6:2-3 saying, "² Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise: ³ If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth." Our mothers wear a lot of hats, and they certainly do a lot for us. The least we can do is to vocally and physically appreciate them, and to always honour and respect them. For the mothers, continue doing an amazing job with your family, discipling your children and directing them onto the right path, and the Lord will be your rewarder. You, mothers, are one of God's greatest gifts to us. We love and appreciate you!

PRACTICE

1. Loving Our Moms. How will you express your love and appreciation to your mother today? What practical steps would you make to show your love for her?

2. Godly Legacy. For mothers, how will you leave a godly legacy to your children? For fathers, how will you commit to love your partner and lead her in the ways of the Lord?

PRAYER

I. Worship Services

- Pray that our services will be meaningful and will lead people to come to Christ.

II. Life Groups

- Pray that all of our church members will seek to be part of a life group and be blessed by it.

III. Families

- Pray that families will continue to be a place of blessing, comfort, and love for one another.

IV. Leaders

- Pray that our leaders would remain above reproach, kept from temptation, complacency, & worldliness.

V. Life Link

- Pray that they may continue to be a blessing to the people worshipping with us on Sundays.

VI. Life Worship

- Pray for excellence and pure hearts as they lead our brethren in worshipping the Lord.

VII. Life Kids Ministry

- Pray for God's guidance so they can make a difference in the children's lives.