

## Mothers Who Make a Difference

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AM Service

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Text: [2 Timothy 1:1-5](#)

### Introduction

On this Mother's day, it is only appropriate to give honor to whom honor is due and that is to all the godly Mothers and Grand Mothers here this morning. I would also like to **exhort and encourage** all mothers and grandmothers here this morning.

The importance of a godly mother's role in the life of a child **cannot be overemphasized**. A Jewish proverb goes like this, "*One mother achieves more than a hundred teachers.*" You and I must recognize the intrinsic ability of mothers to shape the minds and hearts of tomorrow's generation. **There is no greater potential influence** in the world than a mother's love and care.

While for some, motherhood is an accident, and not always a welcome one, **the Bible celebrates and honors motherhood**. This is not to say that being a mother is easy. It requires patience and commitment. It is a challenging responsibility and yet many times they are under-appreciated. Someone has said, "*To become a mother is not so difficult; on the other hand, being a mother is very much so!*" Another one said, "*The reason women are mothers is because men could not take the pressure.*" I fully agree with that statement.

Someone asked, "*What if the three wise men had been three wise women, what would have happened? They would have asked the way, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned up the stable by putting down fresh straw, brought practical gifts and made a casserole.*"

So to all the mothers and grandmothers here this morning, we salute you and thank you for all your love, commitment, and sacrifices.

I hope you realize that if you are a godly mother **you can turn the world upside down**. But if you do not do your responsibility as a mother you can also destroy a whole nation. That's how important the influence of a mother to her child's life. **You are not simply molding one life but a whole generation**.

The Bible tells several stories about mothers who made a great impact and influence in the lives of their children. Think of Timothy, for example, the young man the apostle Paul considered his spiritual son and a valuable partner in ministry.

[2 Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, 2: To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace,](#)

from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 3: I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; 4: Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; 5: When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

Here we are introduced to a young man named Timothy. Timothy is first mentioned in ...

Acts 16:1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

Timothy was a teenager when he met Paul. His family lived in Lystra so he was a Galatian. We do not know much about Timothy's father. What we know is that he was a Greek, that is, a Gentile. Perhaps he was an unbeliever or he already passed away. His mother was a Jewess named Eunice.

Paul described Timothy as "my dearly beloved son" not because he was his biological son but because he was his son in the faith that is he was converted through Paul's witness. Later, Timothy became Paul's assistant in missionary work. He helped Paul to establish churches at Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea (Acts 16:1 – 17:14). He traveled with Paul. He labored with Paul. He went in prison with Paul.

Then in this letter, Paul described Timothy's faith in ...

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

Paul described Timothy's faith as **unfeigned**, that is, **genuine**. Timothy had **sincere** faith. Timothy was **real**. His faith was genuine. He had a **deep love for Christ**. Timothy's faith was not an act but was completely genuine. His faith was without pretense or deceit. This for sure have brought great joy to Paul's heart to know Timothy was "the real thing".

**Paul was persuade of this.** O, what a blessing to see a teenager demonstrating real, genuine faith in Christ. I believe every godly mother wants their children to grow up with unfeigned faith. Every godly mother prays for their children to grow up with deep faith and love for Jesus Christ? Every godly mother desires for their children a deep conviction based on the Scriptures.

How did Eunice raise Timothy? What did she do to impact Timothy for God?

### **1. Eunice Taught the Scriptures to Timothy**

2 Timothy 3:14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; 15: And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Mother Eunice was a godly mother and being godly she taught her son Timothy the Scriptures. **This implies that she knew the Scriptures**, for we can only teach what we know. She was a student of the Scriptures first, then a teacher of the Scriptures.

If you and I want to raise a Timothy this is where it begins. Moms and Dads this is what we are called to do. This is our responsibility. We are ultimately responsible to teach our own children the Scriptures. Eunice did that. She helped Timothy know the truth, love the truth, meditate on the truth and obey the truth. She helped Timothy not only to believe the truth but also to live out the truth.

And **Eunice did not waste anytime** teaching Timothy the Scriptures.

2 Timothy 3:14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; 15: And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. She taught Timothy the Scriptures when he was really young and even some commentators believed that Timothy was taught the Scriptures from infancy.

And **Eunice was not alone**.

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

Grandma Lois helped Eunice teach Timothy the Word of God. Grandmothers can help to raise their children's children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. What an advantage a child has, when he or she has a godly mom or grandma who will from infancy teach them the Scriptures.

Someone asked a preacher, "At what age should we start teaching our children the Scriptures? Teenager?" The preacher responded, That's too late. Toddler? Earlier than that. Infant? Still not early enough? So when? **Start with the grandparents!**

**A child is never too young** to hear about creation, about God's love, about Jesus, about salvation, and about the many wonderful Bible stories. Because it is so important to shape and guide children, **God has given them the capacity to receive and understand spiritual truths from an early age.**

What a blessing to have a godly mother who is committed to teach the Word of God to her children. **What a double blessing** to have not only a mother but also a grandmother committed to teach the Scriptures to their children.

## **2. Eunice Lived the Scriptures before Timothy**

Why were Lois and Eunice effective in impacting Timothy for God? They taught Timothy Scripture with real and genuine faith.

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

Paul described Timothy to have an unfeigned faith, that is real, sincere, and genuine faith. As Paul described Timothy's faith as "genuine" and **he then pointed to his spiritual heritage**: the genuine faith of his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. Timothy's faith was unfeigned because **it first resided in Lois and Eunice**. One reason what mom and grandma taught Timothy stuck with Timothy was because he had a mother and grandmother that were real. **The genuineness of their faith** had a direct impact upon Timothy's life.

Teaching children from the Bible without living the Bible, would probably **do more harm than good**. It is wonderful to bring them to Sunday School and to church. I admonish you to do that. It is imperative that you do that. But if they come and listen and if we go home and they do not see us living what has been preached we have probably done more harm, than we have done good. O, remember, **character is caught more than taught**.

They watch you and see what you really believe by watching your life at home. Is it real. It is genuine. Your children know the answer to that question.

Every godly mother wants their children to be real. **The best way to teach them to be real is to be real ourselves.**

Do you want your children to grow up with deep love for Christ? Do you want them to have Biblical convictions? Do you want them to develop godly traits? Do you want them to be honest? Do you want them to be forgiving? **I am sure you do**. Then, instill in their young minds the Scripture. Teach them the Scripture and live the Scripture. Be consistent. **Have a faith worth imitating**. You and I have a major role in their lives. Your values will likely become their values. That is what happen to Timothy.

*Blest is the household where honesty reigns,  
Where dad and mom practice the truth;  
Blest are the children whom God leads and trains,  
And are taught His Word from their youth.*  
—Fitzhugh

### **Closing Admonition**

In closing, let me encourage all you mothers here this morning. **There is hope for the family** if the mother is a believer. **God does not call you to be perfect**. He calls you to walk in His perfection. It is not by might, nor by power, but by His Spirit – declares the LORD. So take time to sit at the feet of Jesus, take time to get into the Word of God. Read the Bible, study the Bible, learn the Bible, memorize the Bible and then teach it to your children.

Let me speak to the children here this morning, the Bible says,

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

A little boy was talking to the girl next door. *“I wonder what my mother would like for Mother’s Day.”* The girl answered, *“Well, you could promise to keep your room clean and orderly. You could go to bed as soon as she calls you. You could brush your teeth after eating. You could quit fighting with your brothers and sisters, especially at the dinner table.”* The boy looked at her and said, *“No, I mean something practical.”*

I believe the greatest gift and honor that you and I could give our mothers on Mother’s Day is to love them, to live honorable and godly lives. The greatest honor we could give our mothers is to be diligent, to strive to live a fruitful and productive lives. And this should be true not only on Mother’s Day but all the days of our lives.

Proverbs 6:20 My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: 21: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. 22: When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. 23: For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: 24: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.

There is a word here for the fathers among us. Thank God for your wife. Fathers, the greatest gift you could give your children is to love your wives. Be sure you are not an absentee father. Be home fathers. Be home with your wife. Be home as parents with your children. And fathers, walk in faith and love and holiness with your wife before your children.

Let me speak now to those among us who do not not know the Lord in a personal way. The One who gave you a loving mother is calling you this morning to trust Him. Will you come this morning and call upon Him to save you. O, come to Jesus. Come to Jesus and He will save now and for eternity!

**AMEN!**