

**“A Mother’s Influence”
2 Timothy 3:12-15
Mothers Day May 14, 2017**

The 5th Commandment: Exodus 20:12.

The Context Of This Passage: The Apostle Paul is in prison (Rome), awaiting his execution; he writes this second letter to young Timothy. Paul tells Timothy how to behave as a church leader. Paul reflects on the mothers who made an impact in Timothy’s life.

2 Timothy 3:12-13

The American Family is under Siege today, through the liberal media, liberal judges, liberal politicians, liberal professors, and liberal Pastors.

2 Timothy 3:14

“You, however, continue in the things you have learned” – Timothy has already been practicing what he had been taught.

“and become convinced of,” – the word “convinced” – “inward certainty, to be assured, have confidence, obey, trust, yield.”

“knowing from whom you have learned them;” – 2 Timothy 1:5.

There are 3 passages that reveal a Mother’s influence on Timothy:

- 1. 2 Timothy 3:15 – A Mother’s Bible**
- 2. 2 Timothy 1:5 – A Mother’s Faith**
- 3. Acts 16:1-3 – A Mother’s Service**

1. 2 Timothy 3:15 – A Mother’s Bible:

2 Timothy 3:15

“childhood” – “infancy, a new-born child, a babe”; what this means is that Timothy was taught the Word of God from infancy.

“you have known the sacred writings” – “inspired by God, to be devoutly revered writings, documents.”

Society says, Truth is Unknowable: Existentialism – (Truth is Relative) based on the individual person and his or her emotions, actions, and thoughts.

The Bible is different from every other book – even books about the Bible – because it has been set apart by God for special sacred use. We must treat the Bible as the special book it is.

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

Starts with the parents! We have to revere the Word; we need to have a personal relationship with God ourselves.

Mother, do you make the time to be alone with the Lord?

Deuteronomy 6:7

What should a Mother teach her children? Loving God!

Deuteronomy 6:8 – Our Actions and our Thinking.

Deuteronomy 6:9 – The message of the Word of God is for the home and outside of the home.

“which are able to give you the wisdom” – “to give understanding, the application of the truth.” Street smarts, common sense that is not common.

Proverbs 3:21-26

“that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

The Bible and Jesus Go Together: That we love the Word, it leads to Jesus; love Jesus, it leads to the Word.

2. 2 Timothy 1:5 – A Mother’s Faith:

2 Timothy 1:5

“sincere” – “unhypocritical, unmixed, without wax.” With Timothy, it was real, without any pretense or facade.

“which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois, and your mother Eunice,”

Notice the spiritual chain here: Lois to Eunice to Timothy. Again, we don’t read of a grandfather or a father anywhere in this equation.

“and I am sure that it is in you as well.” – Even though Lois and Eunice were believers, Timothy needed to come to a point in which he placed his own faith in Christ.

Faith is not hereditary, it is a personal choice.

While it isn't in the text, a mother who passes along a faith that is authentic is without a doubt a praying woman. Psalm 127:1-5

Mothers, are you passing along a legacy of an Authentic Faith to your Children?

3. Acts 16:1-3 – A Mother's Service:

Acts 16:1

“Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra.” – Paul had visited a few years earlier on his 1st Missionary Journey.

3 things about Timothy that Paul notes:

- 1. Timothy Was a Disciple of Jesus:** “And a disciple was there, named Timothy,”

disciple – “follower of the teacher and his teaching”

“the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek,” – This is what we would call an unequally yoked marriage.

Acts 16:2

- 2. Timothy Had A Good Reputation:** “he was well spoken of by the brethren”

Acts 16:3

- 3. Timothy Was Willing and Available:** “Paul wanted this man to go with him; and he took him”

Paul loved Timothy: He had only good things to say about him.

1 Corinthians 4:17

1 Timothy 1:2 – “To Timothy, my true child in the faith:”

Philippians 2:20

We Need Disciples of Jesus Christ, Not Merely Good Citizens.

Mothers, Don't Get Shortsighted And Miss The Big Picture As To What Is Being Accomplished On A Daily Basis.

Application:

6 Parenting Guidelines That Helped Susannah Wesley As A Mother:

1. Subdue Self-will In A Child And Thus Work Together With God To Save His Soul.
2. Teach The Child To Pray As Soon As He Can Speak.
3. Give The Child Nothing He Cries For And Only What Is Good For Him If He Asks For It Politely.
4. To Prevent Lying, Punish No Fault Which Is Freely Confessed, But Never Allow A Rebellious, Sinful Act To Go Unnoticed.
5. Commend And Reward Good Behavior.
6. Strictly Observe All Promises You Have Made To Your Child.