



BIBLEWAY MINISTRIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—THE BIBLE WAY



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A Tribute to Moms and Their Influence

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

The Coronavirus pandemic has taught us the power of our ability to influence others. Each of us — whether we realize or intend it or not — affects countless others in small, often imperceptible ways. The mark we leave on others can linger long after our first interaction. This is why the role of parents, particularly mothers, is so important.

In the home much of the molding for life occurs. Here values are taught, modeled, observed, and replicated by young, impressionable eyes. Mothers play a unique role in the character-building process. It is their gentle touch which comforts; their cheery attitude which brightens the home; their understanding heart which encourages a child to talk about her problems; their wisdom which discerns just what to say and when; their nurturing spirit which is an outlet for venting the grievances of a typical school day.

According to the late financial analyst Sylvia Porter, a mother is a nursemaid, housekeeper, cook, dishwasher, laundress, food buyer, chauffeur, gardener, maintenance person, seamstress, dietitian, practical nurse, coach, teacher, interior decorator, religious educator, mediator, counselor, and child psychologist — all rolled into one.* A career with this job description could easily command a six-figure salary, yet most mothers do the job for little or nothing. Their reward is the satisfaction of making a difference in their child's life, one day at a time.

And so we say to moms, your influence is inspiring. Proverbs 22:6 is a reminder the toil and tears you sow in love while training your children right today

will reap a great harvest of character in the future. Your labor is not in vain.

Here's a poem in tribute:

"Mother's Work"

*Nobody knows of the work it makes,
To keep the home together;*

*Nobody knows of the steps it takes,
Nobody knows – but Mother.*

*Nobody listens to childish
woes,
Which kisses only heal;
Nobody pained by naughty
blows,
Nobody – only Mother.*

*Nobody knows of sleepless care
Bestowed on baby brother;
Nobody knows of the tender prayer,
Nobody – only Mother.*

*Nobody knows of the lessons taught
Of loving one another;
Nobody knows of patience sought,
Nobody – only Mother.*

*Nobody knows of anxious fears
Lest darlings may not weather
The storm of life in after years,
Nobody knows – but Mother.*

*Nobody kneels at the throne above
To thank the Heavenly Father
For the sweetest gift – a Mother's love.
Nobody can – but Mother.*

- The Sword Scrapbook

*Focus on the Family, January 1992, p.7.



Successful Marriages

Most of us have heard Charles Dickens' famous opening line to *A Tale of Two Cities*: "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." Often we feel the same way about marriage. When we are first married, it is the best of times. After the honeymoon, we often feel it is the worst of times. (There are married people reading this article who are saying, "You got that right, it is the worst of times!")

Others struggle with loneliness and are haunted by the desire to find the perfect mate who will come along, meet all their needs, and serve them! (At this point, our single readers are saying, "Yes, yes, that's what I want," while those who are already married are saying, "Dream on!")

And so I speak to those who may need a slight marriage tune-up, those who are enduring the worst of times in marriage, and those who are anxious to begin the venture and experience the best of times. The key to a great marriage is to have the right expectations.

Many marriages begin with bad ideals. Marriage was never set up to serve you or your spouse. It was set up to be God's gift to you in demonstration of Christ's love for the Church (Ephesians 5:31-33). If you are married, God chose you to be this marvelous example. But how does it work?

First it starts with having the right frame of mind. Successful marriages never begin and end with the noble desire to get married. The joy of marriage only takes place when there is a realization that the relationship includes work. No successful marriage ever works on its own. It requires hard work from both parties. You both made the decision to get married, and must both be willing to work towards your relationship's success.

Marriage also requires the realization that neither of you are perfect. It is the beauty and the challenge of your differences which illustrates the miracle of marriage. Opposites attract. Sometimes after you've said the magic words, "I do!" you find out just how opposite you are. The blessing of marriage is you each make up for the part that is missing in

the other person. Together, you are a great illustration of the relationship God has with the Body of Christ.

So how do we do it? Here are a few thoughts:

1. Always remember it is never all about you!
2. If you want to be served, then learn to serve your mate. If you make her your queen (and vice versa), she will likely want to make you her king.
3. Acknowledge your imperfections. Because each partner brings their own baggage of brokenness into the marriage, there will be problems.
4. Like every great building, your marriage must have a great foundation. It requires more than your pedigree, accomplishments in . . . >>> [Full Article](#)



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