

May 14, 2023

The View

“Sirs, we wish to see Jesus.” – John 12:21

Welcome Visitors

Our goal at the Folsom church of Christ is to do everything according to God’s word, including respecting its silence. We are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church; we have no earthly “headquarters.” The five elders oversee this church and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily for the benefit of our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don’t understand something, please do not hesitate to ask the preacher or one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God’s word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

**Please fill out a visitor’s card and put it in the collection plate when is passed.
We do not solicit donations from visitors. See page 4 for more information.**

Remember to send in your photos for the picture board to FolsomCOCphotos@gmail.com OR if you prefer, Adam, Betsy & Lisa are available to take your picture after the morning services on the next few Sundays.

Schedule

The Lord’s Day

9:30 AM Bible Classes

Auditorium: “Love Your Bible” (Part II).

Young Adult Class (room 12): “A Study of Ruth, and 1 John: Trust & Love”

10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today

David Posey

“A New World Order”

Livestream at 9:30 & 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>

Bible Class: 5:00 PM @ the Building

“Praying the Psalms” (Auditorium)

High School Class @ 5 PM @ David & Christie Posey’s home

Middle school class: monthly (contact David Sanderson (david.r.sanderson@intel.com)

or Seth Reagan (sethreagan@gmail.com)

There are several on-going Bible classes in the homes of members. Check with David Posey or one of the other elders if you would like to join one of those classes.

Wednesday 7 PM @ Building

Bible classes for all ages

Auditorium: Love Your Bible, Part II

Room 12: Young Adults Class: “A Study of Ruth, and 1 John: Trust & Love”

Articles published in the View reflect only the thoughts and opinions of the author alone, not necessarily the editor, the elders or any member of the church at Folsom.

Mom

Today is Mother's Day, but you probably know that already. So, we honor our moms, our mommies, our mommas, our Mimi's, our grandmas, our grannies and nannies and nanas — and well we should. Mothers are special. But Mother's Day can be a bittersweet day, too. Unfortunately, for some children, "mother" does not conjure up sweet memories. Some mothers abandon their families or live self-indulgent lives, or spent their child's young life abusing drugs or alcohol. I'm aware of some who were jealous of their daughters and others who were so full of selfish ambition that their children were left to fend for themselves. I've even met so-called Christian moms who rarely smile and seemed to be in a dark place most of the time.

Of course, many of our moms have passed on so we have no mother whom we can honor in the flesh — just a memory. Memories of my mom are as warm as can be but it's hardly the same as seeing her and talking to her in person and these annual Mother's Days only reminds me of how much I miss her. She passed away at the age of 72, 3 ½ years before her first great grandchild was born. She would have been such an important influence on our grandchildren and I'm sorry they missed knowing her.

The Bible tells us that mothers are to be honored and that mothers are teachers and that they can be easily hurt by our actions. Fathers are often portrayed as instructing and leading and watching and are "proud" of their children. A mother's life, though, seems to be tethered to that of their children in a special way. There's a bond with a child that only a mother can have and understand. They brought the child into the world and that gives them a special place in that child's life. Elizabeth's Stone's observation has become a cliché by now, but it still rings true: *"making the decision to have a child is momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body."* Believe me, most fathers will tell you that feeling isn't limited to moms.

I wish I could impress upon every child old enough to "get it" just how important it is to honor his or her mother. When my mother died, I received countless cards and e-mails, full of kind words and encouragement. But one stood out. Bob Owen sent me an e-mail and it contained only three words:

"A mother's life, though, seems to be tethered to that of their children in a special way. There's a bond with a child that only a mother can have and understand. They brought the child into the world and that gives them a special place in that child's life."

"Only one mother!" It's possible, through death or some other circumstance, to have more than one spouse in your lifetime; most parents have more than one child and we all have many friends. But you only have one mother. Just one. Bob's comment comes from a poem by George Cooper:

Hundreds of dewdrops to greet the dawn,
Hundreds of bees in the purple clover,
Hundreds of butterflies on the lawn,

But only one mother the wide world over.

"Your children will never love you as much as you loved them."

I've repeated that line more times than I can count: We don't understand that completely until our kids are grown — and it's OK. We know

we cannot love our mothers as much as they loved us, no matter how much we try. That realization also contributes to the bittersweet feelings of this holiday.

Today — and every day — is not so much about how much we love our moms, but about how much we *appreciate* them. The word of the day, and every day, is *gratitude*.

dp

"The Best Translation"

There were once four scholars who were arguing over Bible translations. One said he preferred the King James Version because of its beautiful, eloquent old English. Another said he preferred the New American Standard Bible for its literal treatment of the text. A third man preferred a translation called the J. B. Phillips translation because of its quaint, penetrating use of words. After giving the issue further thought, the fourth scholar said, "I have personally always preferred my mother's translation." When the other scholars chuckled, he responded, "Yes she translated it. She translated each page of the Bible into life. It is the most convincing translation I ever saw."

“...MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME”

PROVERBS 31:1 “THE WORDS OF KING LEMUEL, THE ORACLE WHICH HIS MOTHER TAUGHT HIM.”

Today is Mother’s Day. The day will be filled with a sweet thank you for all that our moms do. The restaurants will be filled. Cards will be given. Eight year old Billy gave his mother a box of chocolates. He proudly said, “It’s real good. I know because I already ate three pieces.” In another home, a brother and sister presented their mom with a house plant. The older said with a sad face, “There was a wonderful bouquet that we wanted to get you but we couldn’t afford it. It had a nice ribbon that said, ‘Rest in Peace.’ We thought you’d like that because you are always wanting some peace and rest.

Our verse today, leads into the section that we commonly know as ‘The virtuous woman.’ But it begins with an oracle that the king learned from his mother. Moms teach. A Spanish proverb states, “an ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy.”

Notice three things that flow from Proverbs 31:

First, Moms warn. That’s moms job and duty. It is driven out of love. The house may be clean, but if the hearts of the children are not, mom has missed her most important function. Raising children to be decent, hard working and loving the Lord changes the future and puts things in the right order.

In Proverbs 31, there are two warnings. First, about relationships (3). The influences of others can cause one to compromise their convictions and sell out what they believe in. Second, there is a warning about alcohol(4-5). “It is not for kings to drink wine,” the text says. Sober in mind, sober in heart and sober in conviction, is what this mom understood. A drunken fool will be taken advantage of. Alcohol changes a person and it’s not for the better. It affects our thinking, our judgment and our decisions. The mom of Proverbs 31 warned, “it is not for kings to drink wine.” I wonder how many moms are saying that today?

We need moms warning today. Social media, amount of time on video games, and friends ought to be on top of the list that moms warn about. If faith isn’t working at home, it’s not working anywhere. Who was there to tell the three Jewish boys in Daniel three not to bow down to Babylon’s idol? Who was there to tell Joseph not to fall into the temptation of his boss’ wife? They had no one. They had learned. They had developed their own faith. They had convictions upon which they would stand. Much of this points back to a mother and father who were on the same page spiritually and who invested in the spiritual lives of their children.

There are days Mom when you must be the bad guy. You may not be your child’s best friend. Best friends just want to have fun. Best friends often look the other way. You are the parent. You must establish boundaries, rules and expectations. And, mom, you must back up these things. Don’t cut corners because they whine, cry or are

unhappy. You don’t do them any long term favors when your words don’t mean anything.

Second, Moms volunteers you (vs. 8-9). The mom in Proverbs 31 expected her son, the king, to “fight for the rights of the unfortunate” and “defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.” Twice the text says, “Open your mouth.” Speak up. Stand up. The king would be in the position to do something and mom was saying, “Do it well and do it right.” “Don’t forget about the little guy.” Laziness, selfishness, indifference are the death to a society, a church and a family. The story of the rich man and Lazarus reminds us of this. The rich man isn’t painted as an evil or wicked man. Nothing indicates that he was dishonest. But when it came to helping someone who was ill and laying at his gate, he did nothing.

Mom, get the kids busy doing things for others. Get them making home made get well cards and cards of encouragement to send to others. Take them to someone’s home and let them help out. In our selfish times, it is important to show them how to put others first and to be servants of heart. They won’t learn that from social media.

Third, Moms want the best (vs 10-31). This is where the image of the virtuous woman is found. Mom was instructing her son, the king, on what type of wife to marry. She would be much more than the queen. She would be a partner in his life. Nothing is said about her schooling, what she looks like, or how rich her daddy is. The emphasis is upon her character. She is a type of person that would help, not hurt. She is the type of person that is not going to embarrass nor hinder her husband. She will be a benefit, not a liability. Mom was wanting a wife that would be good for her son. Mom knew. Mom knew what marriage does to a person. Mom knew how important it is to be on the same page spiritually.

It wearies me hearing God’s people describing future daughters-in-law or sons-in-law, as “good people,” when there is not any spiritual interest in them and in time they influence their mates to become weaker spiritually. Such is not a good person. A good person will admire, respect and honor the faith of another. Having a blast here, but losing your soul is not what any parent would want.

King Lemuel remembered the oracle of his mother. Maybe it’s about time that mothers in the kingdom started sharing their oracles with their sons and daughters.

What a blessing it is to be a mother. Do it well! What an advantage it is to have a godly mother. Honor her. Praise her. Thank her. Learn from her.

King Lemuel remembered what mom said.

Roger Shouse
Jump Starts Daily