

The Sterling Herald

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Church of Christ

5825 Sterling Avenue, Raytown, MO 64133

Elders: Jerry Vick 734-8879;

Norman Fultz 876-9174

Deacons: Gene McClung 737-0181;

John Frazier 510-7979

Evangelist & Bulletin Editor:

Eric T. Stauffer: 816-908-6779

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Mother Appreciation by Eric Stauffer

This Sunday we celebrate our mothers in this country. They deserve more than just a day of celebration, they deserve daily praise from husbands and children alike. It has always been a challenge to be a mother and it has become more so in the last few years. Why? The role of motherhood that God designed has been under attack for the past few generations and even more so today is that the case. Let us consider a few ways that is the case.

Submitting to one's husband. *In the time we live in the world does not want to exalt women who are good wives and mothers to their children. They want to exalt those who are career driven, who are looking to achieve in a "man's" world. Yet, what do we see encouraged in the New Testament? We see Paul encourage the Ephesian women to "submit to your husbands as to the Lord"(Eph. 5:22 CSB). We also see Paul encouraging the same thought in Colossae(Col. 3:18). What pleases God is this mindset because it is how He has designed the relationship. When wives and mothers fill this part of the role as God would have them He is pleased.*

The Proverbs 31 woman. When one reads that text they find a woman that is high in moral character, they find a woman that is shrewd in her business dealings, but not shrewd for herself, shrewd for her family. They find a woman that has sacrificed self for her family's benefit and she is praised for it by her family. The words she speaks are wise words and the instruction she offers is in a loving tone and from a loving heart. Everything about this woman declares her to be intelligent, industrious and one who looks out for the best interests of her family. How could anyone disparage this mindset? The world does daily with a movement to get women out of the house and focused on themselves not their family. The focus is what has changed today. Shame on the world for perpetuating a selfish mindset in our women today.

The teaching of the next generation. When Paul wrote to Titus he encouraged him to encourage the older women to teach the younger generation how to be godly women (Titus 2:3-4). The women of the world today do not want another generation learning this, yet it is what God wants done. When we have godly women teaching the next generation how to be godly what we are going to have is Christian homes for many generations to come. This was the design under the Old Covenant, but Israel failed. Let us make sure we are not failing our young women today so we do not have the same issues they had way back then.

Conclusion. What we see in the world is a depreciation of mother and wife in the world today and we, as Christians, need to make sure we are teaching the next generation as we should. We also need to make sure we

are encouraging both mothers and daughters to fill their role as God would have them so that we can have successive generations serving God and shining their lights in this dark world. What a wonderful world that would be. May God bless mothers in their efforts and may He also bless the rest of us to be the encouragers we need to be to allow this growth to happen.

Week 19 reading plan:

Monday: 1 Sam. 26-27; 1 Chron. 8; Acts 18

Tuesday: 1 Sam. 28-29; 1 Chron. 9; Acts 19

Wednesday: 1 Sam. 30-31; 1 Chron. 10; Acts 20

Thursday: 2 Sam. 1-2; 1 Chron. 11; Psalm 96, 106; Acts 21

Friday: 2 Sam. 3-5; 1 Chron. 12; Psalm 122; Acts 22

Family Matters

Prayer List: *Linda Adams; Roselle Grisham; John Frazier; Donnie Bunch, Howard Whittlesey, Elizabeth Matthews, Harold Whittlesey, Robbin Laffoon*

Out of town:

Sterling Avenue Church of Christ
5825 Sterling Avenue
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