SHE BROUGHT LIFE TO HER VILLAGE  
(Judges 5:7)

I. A mother must bring word from the Lord.
   A. A prophetess was a mouthpiece for the Lord.
      1. She would receive the word of the Lord and deliver it to the people.
      2. I believe this indicates that there was a tremendous lack of male leadership in Israel at this time because you rarely read of a woman being a prophetess in the Old Testament.
         a. Only five prophetesses are mentioned in the Old Testament.
         b. The times they occur are at the beginning of the nation of Israel and when the country was in moral decline.
         c. These women, just as in today’s world, were being strong and doing the Lord’s will.
   B. Deborah would receive word from the Lord and the people depended on her for this.
   C. Today, mothers must bring the word of the Lord to their children.
   D. Not one mother wants something second-rate for her children.
      1. They want to give them the best shoes, clothes, toys or whatever.
      2. But what is being worn or played with today is being picked up and moved out of the way tomorrow.
   E. The words of Jesus will never pass away (1 Peter 1:24-25).
   F. Matthew 24:35.
   G. Timothy was one of Paul’s faithful companions.
      1. Paul had a tremendous influence on Timothy and even referred to him as his son in the faith.
      2. But Timothy’s faith did not begin with Paul, but with a loving mother and grandmother who taught him the word of God (2 Timothy 1:5).
      3. Two generations of mothers that brought word from the Lord are mentioned in this verse.
   H. Who do mothers bring word from the Lord in 2009?
      1. The same way they did in the first century.
      2. Lois and Eunice took their son and grandson to worship and we must as well.
      3. They gave Timothy the Old Testament, they only Bible they had, and we must give our children the Bible today.
      4. They read to Timothy and our children need to hear their mothers and fathers reading to them.
   I. Why is it important for them to have a word from the Lord - Psalm 119:9?
   J. Also, all scripture comes from God and only that scripture can bring about faith in Jesus as the Son of God.
   K. A relationship with Jesus is the most important thing your child will ever have and that is why mothers must bring word from the Lord.

II. A mother must give her children encouragement.
   A. Deborah, upon receiving word that God had chosen Barak, gave Barak some needed encouragement.
B. She encouraged him by being with him and with her words.
C. Encouragement is one of the greatest tools known to man.
D. Mothers, do your children have your encouragement?
E. You need to encourage them with your presence.
   1. Nothing is more important to a child than a hug from mom.
   2. Children feel they can do anything with mom near.
F. Do you encourage them with your words?
   1. Do you know that it takes ten positive comments to overcome 1 negative comment?
   2. I believe that is why the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to pen Ephesians 4:29.
G. Mothers should use their words to show they care and they should use God’s word to show them He cares (Jeremiah 29:11).

III. A mother must hold her children accountable for their actions.
A. When Barak said he would not go unless Deborah went with him, she said that the glory would go to a woman (Judges 4:8-9).
B. She held him accountable for his lack of faith in God.
C. Another name for this is discipline.
D. We need mothers who are willing to discipline their children.
   1. I don’t mean holler and scream at them.
   2. Discipline them out of love and concern for their spiritual well-being.
E. If God disciplines His children, which He does, why should we not discipline our children (Hebrews 12:6-8).

IV. A mother must remind her children of God’s power.
A. All of chapter five is a song sung by Deborah and Barak after the victory.
B. The theme of the song is that God has the power to give them victory.
C. Notice the way she closes out the song (Judges 5:31).
D. Our children face an enemy who is seeking to devour them.
E. We must let them know that “He who is in us is greater than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4).
F. Ephesians 3:20.