

WHAT A MOTHER IS (Proverbs 31:10-31)

I. Manager.

- A. One of the hats that a mother wears is that of manager.
- B. Solomon spent a great deal of time speaking about this concerning the virtuous woman (vs. 15-16, 19, 21).
- C. She manages the household.
 - 1. Paul gave some instructions to women that Timothy was to preach (1 Timothy 5:14).
 - 2. Notice the phrase, “guide the house.”
 - 3. It means “manage the family affairs.”
 - 4. If your home is like ours, it functions well because mom is in control of it.
- D. A mother manages money.
 - 1. She keeps the family on track with finances.
 - 2. Of course, the father is to provide for the family and help manage money as well.
 - 3. But, more often than not, mom is buying clothes for the kids, things for the house, doing the grocery shopping and all those type things.
 - 4. She must do these well for the family to survive financially.
- E. A mother manages time.
 - 1. Think of all the places your family members have to be.
 - 2. More often than not, the mom is the one in charge of getting everyone to recitals, practices or wherever.
 - 3. It may not be her doing the actual taking but she is keeping everyone going to the right place.
- F. A mother manages egos.
 - 1. She knows her children and what they need.
 - 2. Romans 12:3.
 - 3. Moms know which children needs their ego massaged and which ones need knocked down a few pegs.

II. Observer.

- A. Another hat that a mother wears is that of observer.
- B. Notice what Solomon said about the virtuous woman (vs. 27).
- C. Mothers observe their children.
 - 1. In our day and age, they have to watch many things for their children.
 - a. They watch what is on their computers.
 - b. They watch what is on their iPads and Ipods.
 - c. They watch what they are looking at in entertainment.
 - 2. They also watch the lives of their children.
 - 3. Mary did this with Jesus (2:19, 51).
 - 4. Moms remember all the milestones of their children.
- D. Mothers observe their marriage relationship.
 - 1. They know best when things aren't right in their marriages.

2. Dads tend to go along and let things slide, while moms observe what the problems are and address them.

III. Teacher.

- A. Moms teach their children many things.
- B. The virtuous woman was a teacher (vs. 26).
- C. We know all the things in life that moms have to teach that their children need growing up.
- D. Moms teach many other things as well.
 1. They teach love.
 - a. There is nothing like the love of a mother.
 - b. They would and will do anything for their children.
 2. They teach honesty.
 3. They teach responsibility.
 4. They teach discipline.

IV. Hinderer.

- A. Moms are hinderers.
- B. You might think this is something awful but it's not.
- C. She hinders her children from sin.
 1. How many times have you been tempted to do something but thought about what your mom would say?
 2. Those lessons she taught us have kept us out sin and trouble more times than we would like to count.
- D. She hinders dad from doing things he shouldn't.
 1. Think of how many times a look from mom kept us dads from going overboard in discipline or some other area.
 2. Where dads react, moms are more thoughtful and that hinders dad from doing some dumb things.
- E. Notice what the children and husband of the virtuous woman said about her (vs. 28).

V. Enabler.

- A. Moms wear the hat of being an enabler.
- B. In know this has become a bad word in our society.
- C. However, it can be used in a good way.
- D. Moms enable their children to grow.
 1. Kids have to experience some tough times in order to grow and moms enable them to do that.
 2. Because of the equipping she does through her teaching, it enables the children to endure those hard times.
 3. Because of the biblical example she has set and the biblical teaching she had done, her children are enabled to deal with temptation.
- E. Moms enable dads to perform their roles.
 1. Knowing the home front is taken care of, fathers can provide for the family the way God intended.
 2. They can go to work and feel good about leaving the house because it is in good hands.

3. He knows he has a help meet that understands what the Bible says about the role she is to fulfill and does it because she wants to be pleasing to God.
4. This is seen in the virtuous woman (vs. 11-12, 23).

VI. Restorer.

- A. Moms are restorers.
- B. Such was the case with the virtuous woman (vs. 25-26).
- C. They restore calm in fearful times.
 1. How many times were you scared as a child and being held or hugged by your mom restored calm in your life?
 2. When you were sick, wasn't mom there to hold you against her or to lay down with you?
 3. She does these things to help bring calm into our lives.
- D. Moms restore hearts that are hurting.
 1. When you were little and a friend moved away or couldn't come over or didn't treat you the way that you thought you should be treated, who fixed that?
 2. As you grew and someone broke your heart, who was there to talk you off that ledge?
- E. Moms restore peace in the family.
 1. She is a mediator.
 2. She is a labor negotiator.
 3. She is judge, jury and executioner at times.