

#1



***Passing Your Faith Along
Happy Mother's day!
Mother's day Video
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Most of us know that being a Mother is a difficult task.

Parenting takes to task all of a person's skills, wisdom, and strength.

A first-time dad was taking a turn at feeding the baby some strained peas. Naturally, there were traces of the food everywhere, especially all over the infant.

When his wife came in she looked at the infant, then at her husband, shook her head and asked, "What in the world are you doing?"

He replied, "I'm waiting for the first coat to dry, so I can put on another."

We all know that the work of a Mother is very important.

An individual learns half of everything they learn in the first four years of their life.

Much of that comes from a Mother's influence.

#2



Napoleon said: "the fate of a child is always the work of his Mother."

Mothers have the greatest opportunity to mold the future.

Mothers teach us to believe in God.

Mothers teach us the power of words.

Mothers teach us to be responsible.

Mothers teach us to love ourselves.

Mothers teach us that it's never too late.

#3



George Burns used to say: "Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family... in another city."

In reality, we know that family is crucial to a child's development, and Mothers bear much of that load.

Deuteronomy 6:6-8 "These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

This is how 85% of born again believers come to accept the Lord between the ages of 5 and 10.

Children learn by your example and your words.

Charles Swindoll said: "If you were blessed with a good mother, you will reap the benefits the rest of your days. If your mother neglected your needs and failed to support your dad, unfortunately, much of what you suffered cannot be erased.

For good or ill, a mother's mark is permanent."

(Charles Swindoll, Family Life, Multnomah Press, Portland Oregon, 1988, pg. 69.)

We are talking about passing your Faith along...

Paul told Titus to encourage the older women to pass their faith along.

They were to encourage the younger women by living a virtuous life, and by instructing them in the faith.

Your strong faith must be passed down to the next generation.

#4



How do you pass your faith along?
1. Develop and maintain a good relationship with God.

You need to know that you are saved.
 Develop and maintain your faith every day.
 You need to be a woman of integrity and truth.

#5



2. Give your children prime time.

Make time each day for your children and God.
 Children learn by a consistent example, live the life before them.

#6



3. Pray for and with your children.

Your children need to see you and hear you pray.
 Teach your children to turn to God with life's problems, by demonstrating your faith.

#7



4. Develop an ear for your children's questions.

When they are babies, we listen for their slightest cry.
 It is easy to learn how to turn them off as they grow more independent.

#8



5. Maintain a loving relationship with your husband.

Children need to see and know family harmony and love.
 Children must learn what a successful marriage is from their parents

#9



6. Walk the talk.

Don't worry that children never listen to you, know that they are always watching you.

A major part of passing your faith along is being a Godly Mother in an ungodly world.

#10



Your demeanor stands in contrast to world.
 Your children will learn from you how to have a successful marriage and how to live strong in an ungodly world.

#11



A Godly Mother has developed a Christian Character
One of the components of that Godly character is Self-Control.

1 Timothy 2:9 "... women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control..."
(discreet KJV; sensible NASB; live wisely (NLT).

This means to be sober minded.

Think about what you are doing with your life.

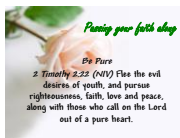
Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit.

It influences all we do.

It involves balance in movement.

As you move through life, you must learn how to stay focused and balanced.

#12



A second component of that Godly character is to Be Pure

2 Timothy 2:22 (NIV) Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

This is why everything you do is motivated and initiated from a pure heart.

#13



James 3:17 (NIV) But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

This relates to the image of purity.

Christian women are to be moral, modest, and pure in heart and mind.

Think in terms of speech, dress, and relationships.

You will impact the next generation by the way you live.

No group of women has a greater influence on society than Christian women.

#14



So, be pure in heart.

The third component of that Godly character is kindness

Be Kind

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV) Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Kindness is related to doing good, being benevolent toward others, or hospitality.

Sometimes it is easier being kind to people we don't have to live with.

As his dad was coming home from work, he noticed his son was sitting on his front steps with his face cradled in his hands, looking hopelessness. The little boy looked up and said, "Well, just between us guys, Dad, I'm having trouble getting along with your wife, too!"

No one said being kind is easy.

#15



Colossians 3:12 (NIV) Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

In the Bible kindness is always related to other aspects of the holy life.

The Greek word is chrestos /khrase-tos/ means fit for use, useful, virtuous, good, mild, pleasant (as opposed to being harsh, hard, sharp, or bitter).

These are wonderful characteristics to pass along.

We need more pleasant, kind, and benevolent people in the world.

#16



***A fourth component of that Godly character is to
Be Loving***

1 Corinthians 13:4 (NIV) Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

Each of us wants to experience that kind of love.

Be Loving

1 Corinthians 13:8 (NKJV) Love never fails...

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NKJV) Pursue love...

#17



Most children learn how to love and be loved from their Mother.

Most often, it is the Mother that watches after and takes care of a child.

Your children will watch how you express love to others.

They watch how you love your husband.

They see how you love them.

Every day they watch how you express love for other people, especially people who are hard to love.

Jesus said it is easy to love our friends.

The real test of our character is how we demonstrate love to those who are unlovable.

We are living in a generation where it is not easy to demonstrate love.

Our children need to see love modeled in their lives.

You may be the only model of love they will have.

#19



There are many Godly values we need to pass along.

We are talking about passing our faith along.

Your children learn about obedience to God from you.

They learn from your involvement in church.

You are their model of tenderness, kindness, forgiveness, and mercy.

***We all know how the family is under a great attack.
The attack is seen in our culture.***

Your children feel the pressures.

They face these pressures every day.

They want you to conform.

I hear Parents' concerns.

You are facing very difficult decisions.

Your decisions will impact your children.

No one has the unique position you have with your children.

God has some really good news for you.

You can still impact your children's lives.

You can pray for them every day.

You can ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in their lives.

You can live a life of faith as an example to them.

You can be faithful to God in all that you do and say.

God has given His promise.

Deuteronomy 11:18-21 (NIV) Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

#20



#21

