

MOTHERS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE AND MAKING HISTORY

Intro – One brisk morning back in early October, I was having my morning devotions with K-LOVE playing in the background. It was the “John & Sherry Morning Show” and they were interviewing Steven Curtis Chapman. Not a huge fan of his, I was able to pretty much stay focused on my devotions until they played a new song off his album to be released later that month. It was a song about “MOMS”. I was suddenly spell bound, listening intently. Afterwards, my mind was flooded with memories of our children with Linda, and my own childhood with my mom. I made a note to purchase that song when it became available, and to play it on this very day in honor of all the moms in attendance. Furthermore, I dedicate this morning’s message both to my mom (one of the best ever) and to Linda, the incredible mother of our three children. To both I say, YOU DID MAKE A DIFFERENCE. IN FACT, YOU MADE HISTORY!

1 Samuel 1:27-28a – “I asked the Lord to give me this child, and He has given me my request. Now I am giving him to the Lord...”

1. GIVE TO THE LORD (DEDICATE)

Luke 2:22-23(N.L.T.) – “...so his parents took Him (Jesus) ... to be presented to the Lord. The law of the Lord says ... he must be dedicated to the Lord.”

Further Discussion:

1. What does the Word of God say about infant baptism?
2. How about dedicating our children to the Lord?
3. What do you think it means to dedicate someone to the Lord?

2. NURTURE (LOVE)

Further Discussion:

4. What is one of the meanings of the word, “nurture”?
5. Generally speaking how do moms and dads differ in this area?

3. WORDS

Psalms 19:14(K.J.V.) – “Let the words of my mouth ... be acceptable...”

Further Discussion:

6. Why are the words we speak before our children so important?
7. What kind of words did you hear growing up and how did it affect you?

4. EXAMPLE (ACTIONS)

1 Tim 4:12 – “...set an example...”

Further Discussion:

8. What is meant by a “most life lessons are caught rather than taught”?
9. Why is a picture worth a thousand words? What does this have to do with example?

5. TRAIN (HOME / CHURCH)

Prov 22:6 – “Train a child in the way he should go...”

Further Discussion:

10. Training needs to be a “joint effort” by who when it come to spiritual matters?
11. What do the stats say about attending church?
12. Discuss what it means to “train”.

6. ENCOURAGE (GIFTS / DESTINY)

Heb 10:24 – “...Let us encourage...”

Further Discussion:

13. What does it mean to encourage?
14. What can encouragement do for a child?

7. RELEASE & SHOOT (ARROW)

Psalms 126:4 – “Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one’s youth.”

Further Discussion:

15. What’s the connotation of children being “arrows”?
16. What are two things you must do with an arrow?

1 Samuel 2:20-21 (N.L.T.) – “Before they returned home, Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, ‘May the Lord give you other children to take the place of this one she gave to the Lord. And the Lord gave Hannah three sons and two daughters.’”