

THE ENDURING LEGACY OF GODLY MOTHERS

(2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-15)

God calls mothers to be the shapers of the next generation. To live to see the lives of your children and your children's children changed by the gospel of Christ and committed to the gospel of Christ is the enduring legacy that you could pass on to the next generation. **Mothers, the greatest legacy of your life is to influence your children with the gospel of Christ for the glory of God.** Our passage introduces us to two godly women who had carved the name of Jesus and the gospel of Christ on the heart of their son and their grandson Timothy. Their own lives and example provide us with three necessities for imparting an enduring legacy.

1. Godly mothers need _____.

In affirming the genuineness of Timothy's faith, Paul emphasizes the sincerity of his faith and the spiritual heritage of his faith (2 Timothy 1:5). Paul describes the faith of Timothy as sincere which means without hypocrisy, pretense or deceit. In other words, Timothy's faith was not phony. It's a real, authentic and firm trust in Jesus Christ as one's Savior and Lord - a genuine faith rooted in the Word of God which resulted in a changed and transformed life. Furthermore, Timothy's faith can be traced back through the spiritual heritage he had received from his own grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. These two devout Jewish Christians were instrumental in leading Timothy to saving faith in Christ through their gospel witness (Acts 16:1). Sincere and authentic faith rooted in the gospel of Christ is powerfully influential and life-transforming (Romans 1:16).

2. Godly mothers need the _____.

When Paul encouraged Timothy to continue in the faith and to persevere in the gospel ministry in the midst of difficult times and severe persecutions, he urged Timothy to remember his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois who taught him the Word of God and the way of salvation (2 Timothy 3:14-15). The most important mandate for every Christian parent is to raise and disciple their children in the instruction of the sacred Scriptures. God has called Christian parents during this challenging and critical time to stand for Christ, to safeguard and secure the truths of God's Word in the hearts and minds of their children (1 Peter 1:25). In order to be effective in influencing your children with God's Word, you yourself must grow in your own love for God's Word (Psalm 119:97).

3. Godly mothers need _____.

The aim of your motherhood is to pass on the good news of Christ to the next generation. Influencing your children to become believers and disciples of Christ is your main mission (2 Timothy 3:14-15). Mothers have no enduring legacy apart from the saving message of the gospel of Christ (Ephesians 2:5; 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 10:9,13). Mothers, you are God's chosen vessels to bring forth a generation of men and women for the kingdom of God and the fame of the name of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:58).
