What Are Mothers Made Of?

Intro: We have heard the ditty:

What are little boys made of?
Snips and snails
And puppy-dogs' tails,
That's what little boys are made of.
What are little girls made of?
Sugar and spice
And everything nice,
That's what little girls are made of.

But what are mothers made of?

I. A Teacher’s Questions
A. To prepare the children in her elementary class to make Mother’s Day cards, the teacher asked:
B. “What are some ingredients mother’s are made of?”
   1. Debbie (age 5) said, “God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world… and one dab of mean.”
   2. Jeffery (age 6) said, “What are some ingredients that mothers are made of? They had to get their start from man's bones. Then they mostly used string and duct-tape. I think.”
C. She then asked: “What kind of little girl was your Mom?”
   1. Luke (age 6) said, “My Mom has always been my Mom… and none of that other stuff.”
   2. Sarah (age 7) said, “I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.”
   3. Greg (age 5) said, “They say she used to be nice.”
D. Not getting the results she wanted, she asked, “Why do you love your mom?”
   1. Aden (age 8) said, “I love my mom because she let me get a dog and then she let me sleep with it. I hope she lives forever.”
   2. Brianna (age 6) said, “My mama is the best mama in the world. She lets me share the chocolates in her lamp table drawer. She reads to me, and we sit on the porch swing together.”
   3. Ethan (age 7) said, “I love my mom cause she lets me read my book under the covers with a flashlight and gives me lots of chances to pick up my toys.”
   4. Jonathan (age 8) said, “My Mom—nice, beautiful and pretty as a butterfly. That’s my mom. Clever as a whale, warm as a fuzzy bear. That’s my mom. Soft as a pillow; she laughs like an angel. That’s my mom. Caring, cool, and clever; she’s the best! That’s my mom!”

II. Some Bible Women Who Show In Their Nature Motherhood.
A. Jochobed (Moses’ mother)
   1. Exo. 2-3
   2. She broke Pharaoh’s law to keep Moses safe.
3. She also taught him faith in God after becoming his nurse.

B. Anonymous mother
1. 1 Kin. 3:16-27 “Then came there two women, that were harlots, unto the king, and stood before him. 17 And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house. 18 And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house. 19 And this woman’s child died in the night; because she overlaid it. 20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom. 21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, which I did bear. 22 And the other woman said, Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son. And this said, No; but the dead is thy son, and the living is my son. Thus they spake before the king. 23 Then said the king, The one saith, This is my son that liveth, and thy son is the dead: and the other saith, Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living. 24 And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king. 25 And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other. 26 Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it. 27 Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof.”

2. She was willing to give her child up forever rather than see any harm come to him.

C. The mother of James and John.
1. Mat. 20:20-21 “Then came to him the mother of Zebedee’s children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. 21 And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.”

2. She loved her sons so much she wanted the best for them.

3. While she failed in having a proper understanding of the kingdom, her desire for her boys shows the true attitude of a mother.

D. Mothers are not sinless; they make mistakes (as all people do).
1. James’ and John’s mother made a mistake in her request.

2. The Scriptures present a practical picture where we learn valuable lessons from their examples.

III. Mothers Possess A Powerful Influence.

A. There is little that compares with the influence of a mother.
1. Politics, education and teachers, peers, et al. are all lacking when compared with the influence of a mother.

2. There are few if any roles assigned on earth as important as the role of a mother.

3. Adage: The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.

4. Wise men have always realized the important part women played in their lives.
   a. It is sad that some do not respect good and godly women as they should (one of the problems with pornography is they objectify women).
   
      1. It is through woman that humanity has been built.
      2. 1 Cor. 11:11-12 “Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.”

   b. To think poorly of womanhood is to think poorly of mankind in general.

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B. Some lessons:

1. Tit. 2:3-5 “The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.”
   a. Paul is not instructing women:
      (1) To be a business owner or executive
      (2) To become a socialite
      (3) How to be a good employee at work
      (4) How to be loved and adored by the world
   b. He is instructing women as to what makes a godly wife and mother so God’s Word is not blasphemed or reproached.

2. 1 Pet. 3:3-4 “Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaighting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.”
   a. Beauty comes from the inside out.
      (1) Without inner beauty, any outward beauty is “as a ring of gold in a swine’s snout.”
      (2) Too many young people think they are nothing because they have never been taught their true beauty is their inward beauty!
      (3) When planning on what to wear, remember: your beauty does not come from outward adornment.
   b. The important quality is the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit.

3. 2 Tim. 1:2-5 “To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.”
   a. Timothy’s mother and grandmother influenced his life for God.
      (1) His genuine faith came because of them.
      (2) Paul saw a man of potential in Timothy; 2 Tim. 1:7-8 “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;”
   b. Lois and Eunice (his mother and grandmother) left Timothy a legacy to be remembered and followed.
      (1) What memories will your children and grandchildren carry of you?
      (2) Will they remember your faith?
         (a) One put into practice every day (not just Sundays)
         (b) A faith put into practice during good times and bad times.
         (c) A faith put into practice during difficulties or hardships as well as prosperous times.
   c. While faith is not inherited, it is passed from one to another by the godly influence of parents and their teachings; 2 Tim. 3:14-15 “But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou
hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

C. The woman’s power is her influence in the home; it is the woman’s power to shape lives.

IV. The Privilege Of Motherhood.
   A. Story of a mother of a large family of children who was successful in her training:
      1. Her secret was that she gave herself.
      2. She said: “When my children were young I thought the very best thing I could do for them was to give them myself. So I spared no pains to talk with them to teach them and be a loving mother to my children. I had to neglect my house many times. I had no time to indulge myself in many things which I should have liked to do. I was so busy adorning their minds and cultivating their hearts’ best affections that I could not adorn their bodies in fine clothes, though I kept them neat and comfortable at all times. I have my reward now. My sons are ministers of the Gospel, and my grown-up daughter is a lovely Christian woman. I have plenty of time now to rest, plenty of time to keep my house in perfect order, plenty of time to indulge myself in many ways, besides going about my Master’s business, whenever He has need of me. I have a thousand beautiful memories of their childhood to comfort me. Now that they have gone out into the world, I have the sweet consciousness of having done all I could do to make them ready for whatever work God calls them to do. I gave them the best I could, myself.”
   B. Husbands continue to love and appreciate your wife and let her know about it.
   C. Young people:
      1. Recognize your mother loved you enough to sacrifice for you.
      2. She was there when you needed her.
      3. Let her know how much you appreciate(d) it.
   D. Praise from her family is the payment for her work.

Conclusion: We are thankful and better because of godly mothers. Pro. 31:27-30 “She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. 28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. 29 Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. 30 Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.”