

Precious is a Mother's Love

*So tender is a mother's love,
A love that can't be measured,
A love we know, without a doubt,
Is one that's to be treasured.*

*For God instilled this special love
Within a mother's heart
For all of her dear children,
Though near or far apart.*

*Unchanging is a mother's love
Throughout the fleeting years,
A love that's wrapped with gentleness
Which wipes away all tears.*

*How precious is a mother's love,
It lingers all the while,
And keeps alive that heavenly bond
Between a mother and her child.*

- *Loise Pinkerton Fritz*

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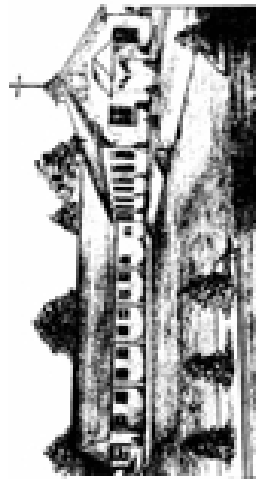
Rev. Matthew Ferguson, BD, Pastor – 330-755-7924/330-540-1225

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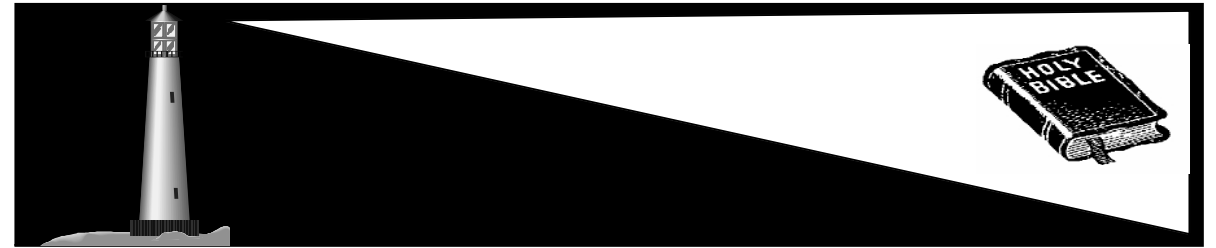
Sunday School 10:00 am – Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Sunday & Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm – Teen Insider 6:00 pm

“A Church That Bids You Welcome, Where Christ Is Made Known”



MESSENGER of LIGHT



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No. 9

A Mothers Prayer

I wash the dirt from little feet,
and as I wash, I pray,
“Lord, keep them ever pure and true
to walk the narrow way.”

I wash the dirt from little hands,
and earnestly I ask,
“Lord may they ever yielded be
to do the humblest task.”

I wash the dirt from little knees,
and pray, Lord may they be
The place where victories are won
and orders sought from Thee.”



Happy Mother's Day

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I scrub the clothes that soil so soon,
and pray, “Lord may their dress
Throughout eternal ages be
Thy robe of righteousness.”

Ere many hours shall pass, I know
I'll wash these hands again,
And there'll be dirt upon their clothes
before the day shall end;

But as they journey on through life
and learn of want and pain,
“Lord, keep their precious little
hearts cleansed from sin and stain;
For soap and water cannot reach where
Thou alone canst see.

Their hands and feet these I can wash.
I trust their hearts to Thee.”

- Author Unknown

Coming Events

Mother's Day: All mothers will be honored with a beautiful carnation. The oldest mother and the mother with the most children present will be honored with a special gift.

Church's 51st Anniversary: May 18th
This will be a very special day. Pastor Emeritus and Mrs. Patrick will be joining us, as Pastor will be our guest speaker. We are having dinner on the grounds and an afternoon service. Please join us for this wonderful day.

Memorial Sunday: May 25th we will be acknowledging those who served in our Countries Armed Forces. We will also recognize those who have served in our church in some way and have gone home to be with the Lord this past year.

Mission's Sunday: June 1st we will be having Missionary Sunday. Bro. Ray Dombeck will be our guest speaker. He will be doing a chalk sermon for us. You will not want to miss this Sunday. We will be collecting our Missionary banks.

Vacation Bible School: June 16th - 20th. Please remember this week in your prayers.

Only a Mother ...

Sees a Picasso in those scribbles decorating the fridge.

Can listen to the same knock-knock joke 27 times without hollering "Nobody's Home."

THE GODLY WOMAN OF PROVERBS 31

John R. Rice



Virtuous Woman Priced Above Rubies

There are many things about this woman in Proverbs 31. First, she is virtuous. Virtue is commendable in a man, but there is something precious and very special about a virtuous woman. It is not surprising when we see Arab women with a veil over their faces, but that doesn't mean every woman ought to cover her face. God made women to be beautiful. It is all right to put on perfume and fix up to look and smell nice. But why look like someone gave you a black eye! God intended women to be pretty and attractive, but some of you go to extremes. When the bride comes down the aisle, people exclaim, "Isn't she beautiful!" All brides are. God put beauty in all good women. And he who findeth a wife findeth a good thing. "Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies." A man may be a statesman, a blacksmith, a farmer, a preacher. He may be in politics or run his own business. He has his work to do. But a woman has no greater work than to be a good wife and mother. She may work to help her husband. And she may sometimes be left on her own resources and have to work outside the home. But the highest ambition of any woman should be to be a good wife and mother. In some sense, that is your career, the highest point at which a woman can aim. So a virtuous woman is above rubies in price. Who can find a virtuous woman? A woman is more essentially feminine than a man is male, because a man has other duties and careers. That means a woman is more vulnerable. Because of that, you should be careful about your dress and your modest ways. So a woman, especially a working woman, needs to be careful. If possible, be a homekeeper. This woman worked at home and sold girdles. She had her candle lighted late at night and was up before dawn preparing food. She was thrifty and hardworking. With the labor of her hands she purchased a field. Sometimes good women may need to work out in the world. If so, there ought to be a holy fence around you, a certain modesty and reserve. There is a vulnerability about you, a beauty that you do not want to despise.

She Revered Her Husband and Was Subject to Him

Now the greatest virtue of this woman of Proverbs 31 focused on her husband. "The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her." She is a good wife, a virtuous woman, so her highest aim is to please her husband. Now there are many virtues in a good woman, but God puts this first. -Eph. 5:22-24. And then: -Vs. 25. That is putting a woman in a very sacred and holy place. And a man's love for his wife is not to be just infatuation. Normal sexual attraction is proper in husband and wife; but when the honeymoon is over there should remain a certain unity of heart,

an enjoyment of and a dependence on each other, a close friendship of heart, a oneness of mind. A husband is to love his wife when she is young and weighs 110, then he is to love her when she weighs 180 and waddles when she walks. He is to love her when her hair is unkempt, when she burns the bread, when her beds are not made and the dishes are in the sink. He is to love her as Christ loved the church, not because she is so lovable, but because he is a man of character. Christ loves us, not because we are good or worthy or beautiful, but He loves us because of His great character. You lament that your love has grown cold. Then warm it up. If God said for a man to love his wife, he can. In Titus 2 God commanded the aged women to "teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children." So, dear lady, if God said to love your husband, you can. If you loved him once, you can still love him. You are not to go by circumstances; you are to do right by character. Love abides and with it, happiness and joy. A wife is to be subject to her husband and make him a good husband. Every man ought to have someone who thinks him the smartest fellow alive. A woman ought to think her mate the strongest, the most loyal, the best looking. A man needs a wife who can say, "I can sure depend on my husband. He is the smartest fellow and the best one I know." A good man is a better, stronger man if someone admires, loves, trusts and follows him.

She Is Thrifty

The Bible says she is very thrifty. She saves money. Comic Art Buckwald in the daily newspaper was talking about a certain department of the government. Congress had voted to spend 31 billion dollars. The fellow in this comic telling the tale asked another, "How do we spend it?" "Build a building." "We have already built a building we didn't need which cost 3 1/2 million dollars. But we have to do something with that allotted money." The other said, "I don't know what to tell you." "Did you ever try to spend a billion dollars in a day?" he was asked. He answered, "No, but my wife has!" Thank God for a thrifty woman with a good husband! There is comfort and strength when a man has a wife looking after his happiness, after his bed, after his clothes, after his table, after his children. God bless good women! One virtue of hers is being a homekeeper, a homemaker.

She has a Kind Tongue

"She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness." Say, I like that woman! I guess the Lord made women to talk a great deal-but not to talk bad. Years ago my father said about a doctor's wife who lived near him in Decatur, Texas, "I never knew a woman to talk so much but never say evil about anybody." Can it be said of you: "A woman in whose tongue is the law of kindness"? Do you want to be queen in your home? Then curb your tongue. Let it speak only with love, grace, thoughtfulness, forgiveness and kindness. You may bring your tithe, go to prayer meeting, read the Bible, and seem religious; but a sharp tongue will pretty well nullify all that. God give to good women this virtue: "In her tongue is the law of kindness."