

Instructions For Young Mothers

*"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. '**Honor your father and mother**'—which is the first commandment with a promise—so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Ephesians 6:1-3*

I. Introduction

"Mother is the name for God in the lips and hearts of little children." —William Makepeace Thackeray

"The influence of a mother in the lives of her children is beyond calculation." —James E. Faust

"All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." - Abraham Lincoln

II. God's Tips for Mother's---The Influencers of Generations

1. Ask God for _____ and a _____ heart.

*"(Solomon asked of God)...Please give to Your servant **a wise and understanding heart** to judge Your people, that I may **discern** between good and evil..." I Kings 3:9*

*"**Train** up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6*

Train="to prepare; to dedicate (e.g., as Solomon's temple was)

Note: A "**discerning**" heart is technically a "**hearing**" heart---one sensitive to the Holy Spirit's voice!

2. Never be too _____ or too _____ for the little things.

*"Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. **Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree**, so that the birds of the air come and take shelter in its branches." Matthew 13:32*

- Life's little things always become life's big things
- Never miss those unplanned-for opportunities to teach, to instruct, to model or to learn from

"Small" moments defined: These could be things that you may see, read about, hear in a sermon, observe others mothers doing (good or bad), or even something the Holy Spirit may have you overhear.

3. Live with awareness that your job of _____ is ongoing daily.

*"My son, hear the instruction of your father, and **do not forsake the law of your mother**; for what you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck." Prov.1:8-9*

*"My son, obey your father's commands, and **don't neglect your mother's instruction**. Keep their words always in your heart. Tie them around your neck. When you walk, their counsel will lead you. When you sleep, they will protect you. When you wake up, they will advise you." Proverbs 6:20-22*

*"My son, do not forget my teaching, but **keep my commands in your heart**, for **they will prolong your life** many years and bring you prosperity." Proverbs 3:1-2*

4. Always be diligent to discipline "_____." (whenever prudent and possible)

*"He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him **disciplines him promptly**." Proverbs 13:24*

*"Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; but **the rod of correction** will drive it far from him."*

Proverbs 22:15

*"**When a crime is not punished quickly**, people feel it is safe to continue to do wrong." Eccl. 8:11*

5. Live wisely before your children and always _____ what you want them to remember most.

*"Keep putting into practice all you **learned** and **received** from me (Paul)—everything you **heard** from me and **saw me doing**. Then the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:9 (NLT)*

Final thoughts to draw from going forward:

- Put God first in all things---**Proverbs 20:7**
- Model a healthy fear of God for your children---**Proverbs 14:26**
- Be honest---even about yourself (*using wisdom, of course*)---**Proverbs 28:13**
- Always teach and demonstrate a good work ethic---**Proverbs 12:11**
- Love the House of the Lord first, not your schedule---**Hebrews 10:24-25**
- Model submission to spiritual authority---**Hebrews 13:17**
- Teach your children to honor your spiritual leaders---**Hebrews 13:7; 1 Timothy 5:17**
- Never let your children hear you gossip about others---**Proverbs 6:19; 17:9**
- Always treat motherhood with dignity and with proper responsibility---**Psalms 127:3**
- Give your children the greatest gift—love your spouse in front of them!---**Eph. 5:22-29**
- If you're a single mom, trust God, get proper counsel, do your very best and never hide behind worldly excuses, and He will give you the victory with your children—**Psalms 68:5-6**

*"Parents rejoice when their children turn out well; wise children become proud parents. Make your father and mother happy; **give your mother a reason to be glad**." Proverbs 23:24-25*

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY 2020!

Answer Key:

1. wisdom-----discerning
2. busy---tired
3. nurturing and imparting
4. in the moment
5. strive to model