

A Mother With A Great Faith

Matt 15:21-28

Pressure On Moms Today

Have a Successful Career

Keep the House Spotless

Raise Perfect Children

Be a Great Cook

Look Like a Model

Be a Charming Hostess and Conversationalist

She cooked the breakfast first of all, washed the cups and plates.
Dressed the children thoroughly and made sure all socks had mates.
Combed their hair and made their beds, sent them out to play;
Gathered up their scattered toys, put some books away.
Dusted chairs and mopped the stairs, ironed an hour or two;
Baked a jar of cookies and a pie, then made a pot of stew.
The telephone rang constantly, the doorbell did the same;
A youngster fell and stubbed his toe and then the laundry came.
She picked up blocks and mended socks, then she polished up the stove;
And when her husband came home at six, He said, "I surely envy you!
It must be nice to sit at home without a thing to do!"

A study was done of the monetary value of a wife's services in the home.

Her various functions include:

Chauffeur	Gardener	Family counselor
Maintenance worker	Cleaning woman	Housekeeper
Cook	Errand runner	Bookkeeper
Interior decorator	Caterer	Dietician
Secretary	Hostess	

Using this impressive list of housewife's work in today's labor market, we come up with \$985/week.....That's \$51,220/year!

The University of Michigan conducted a nationwide survey several years ago in which they asked thousands of girls between the ages of 11 and 18 what they would like to be in adult life. A surprising 80% expressed a desire to be like their mothers!

It has been said that no other force in the life of a son is as strong as the influence of a mother.

A teacher had just given her 2nd grade class a lesson on magnets. Now came the question session. She asked the class, "My name starts with an M and I pick up things. What am I?" A little boy shot up his hand and said, "A mother!"

A Husband's thoughts on Mother's Day

M is for the mink coat you want, dear.
O is for the opal ring you crave.
T is for the tiny car you'd love, my sweet.
H is for the hat that makes you rave.
E is for the earrings you'd admire, love.
R is for the rug on which you'd tread.
Put them all together, they spell bankrupt,
So I'm giving you this card instead.

A little boy forgot his lines in a Sunday School presentation. His mother was in the front row to prompt him. She gestured and formed the words silently with her lips, but it didn't help. Her sons' memory went blank. Finally, she leaned forward and whispered the cue, "I am the light of the world." The boy's face lit up and with great feeling and a loud and clear voice he said, "My mother is the light of the world."

Mothers in the Bible

Eve Was blamed for original sin and she had one son who killed his brother.
Hagar Abraham's handmaiden, had a son by him. She was sent away by Abraham with her boy,
Ishmael—and they almost died in the desert.
Jochebed Was the mother of Moses; Egyptians were killing all male Hebrew babies to curb population; she placed Moses in a basket and let it lose on the river.
Mary Mother of Jesus: no room for her in the Inn; had to flee to Egypt to escape Herod's wrath; Jesus was missing; His trial and crucifixion.
Mother In our text: she had a daughter who was demon-possessed.

Matt 15:28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith:
Her only encounter with Jesus and He said this to her.
What did this woman do to deserve such praise from God?

1.SHE CROSSED GREAT BARRIERS

She was a woman
She was a Gentile
She was a Canaanite

This Mother was willing to cross any barrier to get to Jesus

Time Too busy to pay attention to the spiritual
Culture Does God really understand the problems I face in this society
Pride Greatest Barrier – I do not need help
Science The doubting Thomas syndrome

What exactly was it that drove this mother to cross her barriers and get to Jesus?	
Desperation	She knew that she wasn't doing all right by herself. She had tried other ways and they had all failed. Now she would seek help from Jesus, regardless of the cost.
Love	Love for her child. Love made her accept Jesus' silence and yet still appeal to Him Love made her suffer apparent rebuffs from the disciples.
Vision	She saw in Jesus a compassion that would not turn her away. She believed in His ability and willingness to help. The measure of our faith is conditioned by what we see in Jesus.

2. SHE WAS PERSISTENT

This mother refused to be put off or intimidated. She was not going to take criticism or silence as an answer.

Illus.: A teenager had decided to quit high school, saying he was just fed up with it all. His father was trying to convince him to stay with it. "Son," he said, "you just can't quit. All the people who are remembered in history didn't quit. Abe Lincoln didn't quit. Thomas Edison didn't quit. Douglas MacArthur didn't quit. Elmo Cringle didn't quit." "Who?" the son burst in. "Who is Elmo Cringle?" "See," the father replied, "you don't remember him because he quit!"

There were at least 3 intimidating factors that could have kept her from being persistent:

Silence of Jesus	<i>v.23 But he answered her not a word.</i>
Rebuke of the Disciples	<i>v.23 And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.</i>
Behavior of Jesus	<i>v.24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.</i>

"The love of a mother is never exhausted. It never changes—it never tires—it endures through all; in good repute, in bad repute, in the face of the world's condemnation, a mother's love still lives on."

3. SHE MADE NO CLAIM

Matt15:27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

She relied on the GRACE of Jesus. When our Lord told her that it didn't seem right to take bread from the children of Israel and throw it to the little dogs of the Gentiles, she didn't burst into tears and walk away. Instead, she gave Jesus an answer that must have excited Him!

She said, "True, Sir. I admit that I have no claim on You, but there must be some extra grace—some grace that I don't deserve, and I'm appealing to You for that."

Scholars were arguing about the correct translation...KJV, NIV, NASB
Finally 1 man said, "I like my Moma's translation best".
"My mom translated each page of the Bible into life. It is the most convincing translation I have ever read."