

A Woman Who Fears The LORD . . .

(A Study on Proverbs 31)



Instructs Her Children In the Word of God

INTRODUCTION

The Bible declares that children are a gift from the LORD, lent to parents for just a short time that they may lay a foundation of faith in God. Parents are to teach their children the Word of God and live godly lives before them, honoring Jesus, and undergirding them with prayer. The Scriptures are filled with teachings and living examples of the wisdom of God concerning children. In Proverbs 31, the Holy Spirit recorded a clear picture for us of a wise and godly queen mother who instructed her son, King Lemuel,¹ in God's ways. She begins her teaching by confidently asking him: *What my son? And what, son of my womb? And what, son of my vows?* Because she knew God and His Word, she had the answers available for any question her son might have regarding the issues of life.

THEME SCRIPTURE

The words of King Lemuel, the prophecy² which his mother taught him (Proverbs 31:1).

MEMORY VERSE

Train³ up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).

¹ Lemuel: belonging to God, unto God, dedicated to God. Solomon was called Jedidiah, beloved of the LORD, from infancy; a symbolic name of Solomon.

² *prophecy*: inspired words from God; an utterance from God to man to bring comfort, exhort, encourage, and instruct.

³ *Train*: to narrow, discipline; dedicate.

II. THE FATHER'S COMMAND

1. READ Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

What command did God the Father give to His children, the nation of Israel, concerning teaching the Word of the LORD to their children?

How were they to love the LORD? _____

What were they to put into their hearts? _____

How were they to teach His commandments to their children? _____

2. READ Ephesians 6:1-4.

WRITE God's command to children, the reason for it, and the promise if they obey it (vv.1-3).

What are fathers and spiritual fathers warned not to do and what are they to do instead (v. 4)? _____

5

⁵ provoke: to anger along side; enrage.

PERSONAL

How has someone who was supposed to be caring for you provoke you to wrath as a child?

How can a child be provoked to anger? _____

III. PARENTAL DUTIES

What are the parental duties according to the Word of God? WRITE out the verse(s).

to rehearse God's acts (Deuteronomy 4:9): _____

to lead in serving the LORD (Joshua 24:14, 15): _____

to teach God's truth (Isaiah 38:19b): _____

to correct (Proverbs 22:15): _____

⁶ training: nurture, education, disciplinary correction, chastening, instruction.

⁷ admonition: calling attention by mild rebuke or warning.

to provide for (II Corinthians 12:14b): _____

to rule well (I Timothy 3:4): _____

to train (II Timothy 1:5): _____

to love (Titus 2:4): _____

IV. THE HERITAGE OF THE LORD

READ Psalm 127:1-5.

What does the LORD do to care for His children and what is man's vain effort (vv. 1, 2)? _____

What are children (v. 3)? _____

How will children bless their parents (vv. 3b-5)? _____

⁸ rod of correction: a branch for punishing.

⁹ heritage: a possession, portion.

¹⁰ gates: the main entrance to the city where all the business and legal transactions took place.

PERSONAL

How have children brought blessings into your life? _____

V. THE OBJECT OF HIS LOVE

1. READ Mark 10:13-16.

When little children were brought to Jesus that He might bless them, what did His disciples do (v. 13)?

Jesus was moved with indignation toward His disciples. What teaching and warning did He give to them (vv. 14, 15)?

¹¹

In what ways did Jesus show His tenderness toward little children (v. 16)? _____

2. READ Isaiah 40:11.

How does our Great Shepherd tend to His little sheep? _____

¹¹ let: suffer, to send away, hinder them not, let alone.

PERSONAL

What have you learned that you can put into practice to guide children in the Word of God?

3. READ Matthew 18:1-6, 10. What did Jesus teach in each verse?

v. 2 _____

v. 3 _____

v. 4 _____

v. 5 _____

v. 6 _____

What other warning does Jesus give concerning His little ones (v. 10)? _____

*Her children rise up and call her blessed . . .*¹²

Proverbs 31:28

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Due to the holy nature of God, the first letter of all references to Him,
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¹² blessed: to be straight, level, right, happy; to be honest; prosper.