

The Power of Mothers

God designed women to reflect the “Mother’s Heart of God”. Women carry a powerful influence upon their husbands and children. Though it is true that you cannot change your man, it is also true that God can change him. And one way He can do that is through the woman allowing the Spirit of God to heal the wounded areas in her husband.

A mother’s love instills confidence in her children. She sees the potential, the talents, gifting, and passions in them that dad may not notice. She encourages them, believes in them, even sacrifices to provide whatever they need to develop that potential.

A mother comforts her children when they are hurt (whether it is physical or emotional hurt). She feels their pains and weeps before God to see their healing and restoration.

A young man is strengthened as he is appreciated in the little, helpful things he does in the home. Mom makes him feel like her hero as she shows excitement about his accomplishments.

Our children will live up to what we believe and speak into them. They will also live down to the criticism and complaining they hear.

Now consider the powerful way those same influences can have on your husband. He may lack in some areas that still need strengthening. You cannot instill what is missing in him, but the power of the Holy Spirit can miraculously do just that through you...if you will allow Him to.

It sounds good, right? But, what if you did not receive all you needed in the area of mothering? Yes, we females need so much too. I believe that God wants to meet our needs first. He wants to heal and love us too. We will talk about that after we read the story of Deborah, and see how mothering saved a nation.

The Story of Deborah

You can read Deborah's full story in the book of Judges. I want to share only a little of that story to point out the power of the Mothering Spirit that God put in this brave woman.

Judges 4:4-5 says that Deborah was a Prophetess, a married woman, and a judge. People came to her to be judged! This is not the picture many of us have of women of the Bible. We seem to think of them as 'stay at home moms'. We view them as the weaker sex. The old-fashioned view of women was a female wearing a bib apron and making cookies.

Deborah spoke to one of God's military leaders. She reminded him that God told him to take 10,000 men and go to war. The Lord had assured Barak that he would win the battle. Yet, this man of God would not go unless Deborah went with him. He had definitely heard from God. He knew what he was called to do, and had God's word of victory. Yet, he still did not feel capable of doing it. He needed something from a woman. He needed confidence. He needed her to fully believe in him. So she went to war with the men. Can you imagine the support that had to be in her husband to release her to the ministry that God had called her to do? She came home to inform him that she was going to be gone for awhile, as she had to go with the soldiers to war. How many husbands would have agreed to let their wife go to war with all those men? Perhaps her was even one of those soldiers. But, he believed in her and did allow her to go. I'm sure it was with his blessing since she had the power of God on her to do it. God does not bless rebellion.

In Judges 5:7 Deborah sings a victory song. The war is over, and Israel won the fight. Deborah says that "the inhabitants of the villages ceased, they ceased in Israel until that I Deborah arose, **that I arose a mother in Israel.**"

The word 'ceased' means that they quit, rested, gave up. There were 10,000 men that would not rise up and fight. Men who had the call and ability of God, yet had no confidence to move forward until a mother encouraged them that they could do it. There is the power of mothering in full action.

In verse 12 Deborah sings the Mothering Song to this weak man. "Awake, awake, Arise Barak, and lead they captivity captive. "

The mothering voice can call others to arise and fulfill what God has called them to do.

There is so much power in this gift that God has placed in women. You can call your sons and husbands to arise and fulfill their purpose in life. You are equipped with the heart and Spirit of God. He is reflected in you to do this.

Why do we not do it? We need our own healing too. God does not use people. He lives in and through them. He desires to heal our wounds, and strengthen our weaknesses. He will Father and Mother us in every area we are lacking. Girls need mommy's too.

Attributes of Mothers

To understand what may be missing in our own lives, we need to list some of the attributes of a mother. As we do that you can make a list of the things you felt you did receive in your own life. Also make a list of the areas you feel you were weak in. Even if you are no longer weak in some of those areas, list them anyway.

I'll share my list as an example.

The Word tells us to honor and respect our mothers. I want to do that by sharing the many wonderful things my mother exemplified and taught me.

Strengths My Mother Taught Me

Mercy

Sacrifice

Providing for my needs

Physical care

Honesty

Giving

Morality

Consistency

Faithfulness

Hard Work

Stability

Strength

Determination

Some areas Lacking

Discipline

Responsibility

Humor

Affection

Respect

Courage

Confidence

Boldness

Faith in God

Insecurity

Comfort

I was very excited as I went through my 'Lacking List" and checked off the many things that God has healed me in, and things He has taught me. I actually only realized two areas that still need more healing. God has done a miracle of mothering in me through the years. I am confident that He now wants to bring healing and strength to these last two areas.

I hope your lists were revealing to you. I pray that you see where you still need help. Our ladies team shared their needs so that we could pray for one another. If you would like to do that, please email them to us at the Burning Bush address. We would love to pray for you. If you live in Grand Rapids area

you can join us on Sunday nights and be a part of our team. Check our website for directions to the church.

Conclusion and Homework

Judges 5:31 “ So let all your enemies perish, O LORD, but let them that love You be as the sun when it goes forth in his might. “

We want to get rid of every lie of the enemy that was planted in us. Insecurity, fear, self hatred, and all of the other things that hinder our ability to rise up in who God made us to be. We want our freedom and healing to discover who we are, and what we are here to do.

Another woman in Deborah’s victory story was Jael. Deborah said that Jael was blessed above all the women in the tent. Why? What did she do in the war? Well, she offered comfort and rest to the leader of the enemy army. After he drank the milk and fell asleep, this kind woman took a nail (stake) from his tent and hammered it through his temples to kill him. She helped win the war by killing the enemy.

Women, we are warriors of God. Let’s not fight our mates, let’s kill his enemies (in the spirit). He, your husband, is not the enemy. Anger, fear, depression, ...whatever you see as his weakness, that is the enemy. Let us rise up, like Deborah, as a mother in our homes and win the war for our husbands and our children.

There is so much more to be said. There is so much more to be done. I pray you can join us at Burning Bush Church for this series on ‘The Power Of Mothers’. It is good to read these lessons, but even better if you can come and take part with us.

We pray that the Lord will open your eyes to see who you are in Christ.

Pastor Sue Hampton