



## **The Power of a Noble Woman**

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*By Rev. David Koch*

### **Introduction:**

A teacher gave her class of second graders a lesson on the magnet and what it does. The next day in a written test, she included this question: "My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I pick up things. What am I?" When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost 50 percent of the students answered the question with the word Mother.

[Source Unknown.](#)

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 did not help. Her son's memory was blank. Finally, she leaned forward and whispered the cue, "I am the light of the world." The child beamed and with great feeling and a loud clear voice said, "My mother is the light of the world."

[Bits and Pieces, August, 1989.](#)

### **Proverbs 12:4**

A wife of noble character is her husband's crown, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.

### **Proverbs 31:10**

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

### **Proverbs 1:8**

Listen, my child, to what your father teaches you. Don't neglect your mother's teaching.

The first verse in Proverbs speaks of how the woman of noble character is the radiance and glory which her husband and family boast about and display for all to see. A crown shows authority, power, and wealth and is meant to be a display of beauty. A woman of noble character is like that to her family.

The second verse speaks of the value of a woman who is noble and how the worth of that woman can not be measured by the precious things of this earth.

The third verse encourages children to listen to the instruction that is given to them by both father and mother.

### **Power of a noble woman**

I. The noble woman has the power of influence

You have power to influence your husband. I find interesting what we read in 1 [Cor. 7:16](#)

<sup>16</sup>You wives must remember that your husbands might be converted because of you. And you husbands must remember that your wives might be converted because of you.

When I look at the stories of women in the scriptures, I see that many of the women were influencers. They risked their lives, they prayed, they loved, they made a difference by their example.

I think of Eve and the influence she was on Adam. In Genesis 3:6 we see Eve look at the fruit, eat it and give it to Adam. Adam likewise took the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil and ate. Women, you have power of influence. That power like all other power can be used for good or evil.

After all, woman was taken from man, and so even though there are biological differences, at one point in time, men and women were one. It is in marriage one experiences and knows the oneness that there was before God made woman.

Often in my years of ministry I have observed the family where after marriage, the wife comes to a decision to follow Christ. If she is faithful to God, by His grace, through her influence, her husband can come to make the same decision.

Again we see the influence that a wife can have on her husband. It is better than speaking any words to him. He can be won by accepting the authority of the husband, and won by watching his wife's godly behavior.

### **1 Peter 3:1-2**

In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands, even those who refuse to accept the Good News. Your godly lives will speak to them better than any words. They will be won over <sup>2</sup>by watching your pure, godly behavior.

I think of Esther who influenced King Ahasuerus of Persia. The story is that there was a plot to kill the Jews by Haman in the king's court. Because she was willing to risk her life, and was willing to serve God, Esther was influential in saving the Jewish people who were destined to be destroyed through Haman's plot. She was influential in uncovering the plot, exposing it to the king, and changing the course of history.

### **Esther 4:13-14**

Mordecai sent back this reply to Esther: "Don't think for a moment that you will escape there in the palace when all other Jews are killed. <sup>14</sup>If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives

will die. What's more, who can say but that you have been elevated to the palace for just such a time as this?"

You have power to influence your children. It is interesting to me that in Kings there are verses which indicate who became king. It tells the name of the king, and then it tells his mother's name and then it says, "he did what was right in the sight of God." Who do you think influenced him to do right in God's sight? I believe it was a godly mother.

## II. The noble woman has the power of example

An example is like a pattern. It is something that people can see. It is something that is obvious, something that others can look at and follow.

I think of the example of Mary – Jesus' mother. What an example for other mothers and women. When the angel of the Lord came to her to explain to her that she was going to conceive and give birth to the son of God, she simply said, "be it unto me as you have said. I am a handmaiden of the Lord."

The example she gave was to be a servant. However the Lord wanted to use her, she was OK with that. Her example was one that still speaks loudly to women today.

She devoted herself to her husband and to her children. I cannot imagine the task of raising God's Son. Yet she did it with grace and probably lots of prayer.

In His dying moments on the cross, Jesus loved His earthly mother so much that He made it the responsibility of John to look after Mary when He died (John 19:26-27).

Women, you have the power of example. You can show by your life that willingness to surrender to God. You can show by example your willingness to be used by God. You can show by example that regardless of what direction and path God has for you, you can follow His plan and He will use you.

## III. The noble woman has the power of Love

Women have a different kind of love that is needed than men do. There is a nurturing aspect to the love of a woman that a man doesn't have.

You may be saying, I don't have any children to love. I'm a single person, or maybe my children have moved out of the home, or maybe they died. I know it's not the same, but there are lots of children that need love. I don't think you can over-love a person. There are children at church that need the love of someone outside the family.

I think of Moses' mother. She loved Moses and wanted him to succeed, and wanted him to survive. She was willing to risk everything including her own life, for the love of her son Moses.

I am sure while she tended him, and nursed him that she loved him with a mother's love. She prayed for him, and held him close, and taught him principles that would stay with him the rest of his life.

We are instructed to honor our father and mother in many places in the scriptures. That means to place great value on them. If we do so, our days will be long. This commandment is one with promise.

I want to encourage you as you think about the special women in your life today to let them know they are appreciated, loved, cared about. I know that there are women who want to be mothers but all of us have or had a mother. Today is a special day set aside to honor them. We honor them for their commitment to be an influence, an example, and to show us love. We honor them for their sacrifices that we might be

### **Conclusion:** Mother reclassification

A woman named Emily renewing her drivers' license at the county clerk's office was asked by the woman recorder to state her occupation. She hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself. "What I mean is, explained the recorder, do you have a job or are you just a . . . . .?"

"Of course I have a job", snapped Emily. "I'm a mother."

"We don't list mother as an occupation. Housewife covers it", said the recorder emphatically.

I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our own town hall. The clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high-sounding title like, 'official interrogator', or 'town registrar.'

"What is your occupation", she probed. What made me say it, I do not know. The words simply popped out. "I'm a research associate in the field of child development and human relations."

The clerk paused, ball-point pen frozen in midair, and looked up as though she had not heard right. I repeated the title slowly, emphasizing the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pronouncement was written in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire.

comfortable, and cared for, and nourished. We honor them for their devotion to God and their family.

- I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the loving God, who was born of the promise to a virgin named Mary
- I believe in the love Mary gave her son that caused her to follow Him in his ministry and stand by His cross as He died.
- I believe in the love of all mothers, and its importance in the lives of the children they bear. It is stronger than steel, softer than down, and more resilient than a green sapling on the hillside. It closes wounds, melts disappointments, and enables the weakest child to stand tall and straight in the fields of adversity.
- I believe that this love, even at its best, is only a shadow of the love of God, a dark reflection of all that we can expect of him, both in this life and the next.
- And I believe that one of the most beautiful sights in the world is a mother who lets this greater love flow through her to her child, blessing the world with the tenderness of her touch and the tears of her joy.

[An Affirmation from John Killinger's Lost in Wonder, Love, and Praise.](#)

“Might I ask”, said the clerk with new interest, “just what you do in your field?”

Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, “I have a continuing program of research (what mother doesn’t) in the laboratory and the field (normally I would have said indoors and out). I’m working for my masters (the whole family) and already have four credits (all daughters). Of course, the job is one of the most demanding in the humanities, (any mother care to disagree?) and I often work 14 hours a day, (24 is more like it)”

There was an increasing note of respect in the clerk’s voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door. As I drove into our driveway, buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants – ages 13, 7, and 3. Upstairs I could hear our new experimental model (a 6 month old baby) in the child-development program, testing out a new vocal pattern. I felt triumphant! I had scored a beat on bureaucracy! And I had gone on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than just another mother.

Motherhood.....what a glorious career (especially when there’s a title on the door)! Does this make grandmothers Senior Research Associates Emeritus in the field of child development and human relations, and great-grandmothers Executive Senior Research Associates? I think so!!! I also think it makes aunts Associate Research Assistants.

Author unknown – passed along by Bernie Koerselman