

Biblical Encouragement for Moms

November 25, 2012

“Mother’s Toolbox of Attitudes”

God has so many “tools” or principles He desires to teach us. The Bible is like a tool box. Use these tools to make you a better Mother. May these reminders be tools in God’s Hands, to better equip you for long term success as a Mother.

The tools we will look at today have to do with attitudes. Moms can have bad attitudes or good attitudes toward what God has called us to do.



Be willing and obedient in living for God, and you will receive good in return.
Isaiah 1:19

Refuse and rebel against God - and receive destruction from God. Isaiah 1:20

“If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil.” Isaiah 1:19-20, Isaiah 1:16

When you begin to have a rebellious heart toward your motherhood, stop and pray to God. It takes hard work to be a Mother. Accept your many jobs at home. These are assignments from God! Proverbs 31 reminds us to “work willingly with your hands.” Do not expect an easy day. Be willing to do hard things. The opposite of willingness is to be obstinate and disobedient. If you carry around this attitude according to Proverbs 22:5, “thorns and snares” will describe your life. **Read Proverbs 22:5 now. The word “foward” means willfully contrary or disobedient. Does this describe you?**

Your first tool is **Willingness**. Open your heart to God’s will and follow Him in love.

Many good things in life require waiting, Isaiah 40:31

“But they that wait upon the Lord, shall *renew their strength*, they shall mount up with wings as eagles. They shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.
Isaiah 40:31

Waiting on God takes faith. The Bible says faith comes through God’s Word. “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” Romans 10:17

So, your ability to wait on God is directly connected with your reading and hearing God's Word!

When your faith is strong, you are able to wait patiently on your powerful God. You know that He will come through and meet your needs as a Mother. You trust Him. Be prepared to wait for His timing.

So... your second tool is **prayerfully waiting**. No more anger. Breathe easy.

Read Psalm 40:1-3. The promise of God's hearing and answering prayer comes after we have trusted and waited. The result of waiting on the Lord in this passage:

1. He meets with us.
2. He hears us.
3. He gives us stability.
4. He gives us a song in our heart.
5. He causes us to praise God.
6. Our testimony affects others, & causes them to trust in the Lord!

Read Psalm 27:14.

"Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart, wait I say, on the Lord."

Notice the result of waiting on the Lord in this verse: "He shall strengthen thine heart.."

Don't become impatient with God's timing. As we read our Bibles, we know that God's timing is always perfect. (The poor widow & her son were miraculously fed, Hannah had a long awaited baby, Jesus came as was promised, to die for our sins.) Concentrate instead on keeping clean in your life. Blessings will come to those who wait. Blessings and more blessings!

Our third tool is **appreciation**. Do not be an ungrateful person. Learn to praise God with your life. Ungrateful Moms affect their families. After awhile, everyone is complaining. When you express your thankfulness, it has a way of rejoicing the hearts around you.

Read Psalm 100:4

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name."

Notice the words **thanksgiving, praise, thankful, bless**. Does this describe you?

Appreciate God. Appreciate the fact that you have children. Appreciate the Bible.

Live a life of appreciation.

I Thessalonians 5:18 is sandwiched between “Pray without ceasing” and “Quench not the Spirit.” All three verses are intertwined.

“Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit.”

I Thessalonians 5:17-19

If we **pray** from our heart, and **give thanks**, we will **not quench the Spirit of God**. Let's remember this pattern as we raise our children. Appreciate what you have. As a mother, teach your children, by example, to appreciate the “everyday things.”

Always look for something to appreciate. We lived in a junky old house for seven years. Our children never once complained about it, maybe because we never complained about it. We kept it clean, kept the yard mowed nicely, used our small space creatively, and kept the front picture window covered by a curtain.

We chose to look out the windows on the back side of the house, because that is where the green hills could be seen. We talked about the beautiful pasture to the children, and the darling baby calves every spring. Across the street on the front side of the house was a big junky mess, made by a company selling sheet metal. On another side of the house was another big pile of sheet metal and old things.

We talked to the children about how nice it was to live in the country. We would take family walks, and mow paths for them in the tall brush. We called it nature trails. They rode their bikes and played in the trails. Inside our house was lots of love. We still showed hospitality to people in our little house of love. We truly appreciated what we had.

You would not have known that we were offered a new home, but we did not take it. The new Church would be built and that would be enough for us. We wanted to keep the Church debt free. Our children still talk of the fun they had there in the country.

What would have happened if we had complained and made life miserable for our children?

You set the tone for your home.

Be careful (anxious) for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication **with thanksgiving**, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep (guard) your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Be equipped with these three important tools: **willingness, prayerful waiting and appreciation.** *These will transform your home, Mother.*