Biblical Encouragement for Moms May 5, 2013

"Intertwining prayer with God's Holy Word"

Do you feel defeated when it comes to learning and understanding the Bible? Do you give up easily?

If you really understand the power of God, you won't. You will work for months if you have to, in order to learn God's Word better. The Bible is given to us as a tool. It is called many things in the Bible. Each time it is described, we get a little more of the picture that God wants us to see. What you may not know is that the Bible is *everything* you need to keep you on God's path, and to bring glory to God in your home.

Amazingly, your abilities as a mom are not near as important as your walk with God. Allow God to supernaturally move into every area of your life. Read and reread His Word until it is what you breathe when you get up in the morning. It is what you think about in the middle of the night. It is what you write down on a pad of paper to remember, like you would your grocery list.

If the Word of God is always before you, you will be so much more in tune with God! Let's look at how the Bible is described. This will instill in us the supreme importance of the Bible as we are raising our children.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable *for doctrine*, *for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*" II Timothy 3:16

Now stop and think about this passage of scripture. Apply it to your home. The Bible will profit you in some very important areas!

Applying this scripture to your home, we see that the Word of God will guide you perfectly in <u>doctrine</u>, which means **teaching**. We are to be teaching our children, and His Word should be the greatest teacher. Read it and study it. Hide God's Word in your heart.

Applying this scripture to your home, we see that the Word of God is given to us for reproof, which means convincing a person of their sin. The Bible does this for me. I am convicted as I read it. Use God's Word as you train up your children. It will help you with behavioral problems. It will be the best method of convincing them of sin.

Applying this scripture to your home, we see the word correction in this passage. This is a step further than convincing your child of sin. <u>Correction</u> means **restoring** them. It means to correct wrong thinking, and restoring them to the truth. We have a tendency toward sin, so we need God to straighten us up again.

Applying this scripture to your home, we see that the Word of God brings instruction in righteousness. This means **training in right things.** Isn't this what we are called to do, Mothers? God's Word needs to be your handbook for child training, and for training yourself to do right!

If you were to read God's Word much more, and take notes, you would be better equipped in being a godly mother. It will guide you in every aspect of your child's life. In temperament, in following directions, in having a joyful attitude toward serving, in moral standards, in loving, in persevering, in patience, and the list goes on. Let's be sure we are reading our manual from God.

The very next verse tells us more of why we should be reading and applying God's Word.

Let's read both verses together.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect (or mature) throughly furnished unto all good works."

II Timothy 3:16-17

As this verse says, God's Word will furnish your child with everything they need for doing right - being a good, obedient child.

Get back to God's Word. Study it like you would for a college test. Bring it into every aspect of your home. It will profit you in every area and bring about needed changes that please God.

If God's Word is that powerful, we should be writing it out and memorizing it.

Take some time this week to find some scriptures for your family. Teach them to your children as they eat breakfast. Hang them around your house, pray them over your children.

As God's Word permeates your house with teaching, memorizing and prayer, you will find a lot of problems will be solved. Your children will have larger doses of God's Word and smaller doses of the world taking over their mind.

When you pray, your prayer will be more effective. God's Word will be a "lamp unto their feet" (Psalm 119:105) to keep them out of trouble. God's Word will "give them understanding" and cause them to hate the things God hates. (Psalm 119:104)

God's Word will be the "rejoicing of their heart." (Psalm 119:111) God's Word will give them good judgment. (Psalm 119:66) It is amazing what God's Word will do for their sinful hearts! As Mothers, we need to be faithful to keep God's Word before them, and they will naturally memorize it. Then, we need to saturate ourselves in God's Word.

Keep distractions down - like the tv, phones, games, loud music, and toys when you are wanting them to understand a Bible principle. Schedule times for teaching. Have a homemade snack available at that time. Make it a fun time. Take a family walk together afterwards, or something like that, where you can bond together. Maybe you could construct something together. Be prayerfully creative with your teaching. Now, let's read Psalm 119:24. Is this your prayer?

"Thy testimonies (The words of God) are my delight and my counselors."

You will have a more powerful prayer life, and good things will be happening in your home more and more as you *intertwine prayer with God's powerful Word*.

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