

Life Group Notes 5/14/2023  
Pastor Mark Warren on Mother's Day

---

If you have observations or questions feel free to send me an email with your comment or observations at [tbeachhead@comcast.net](mailto:tbeachhead@comcast.net). -Pete Mehegan, the Scribe.

(This is written to give you good things to enjoy, because look again at what Paul told Timothy (1 Tim 6:17-18) **17 Instruct those who are rich in the present age not to be conceited and not to put their hope in the uncertainty of wealth, but in God, WHO RICHLY PROVIDES ALL THINGS TO ENJOY. 18 Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, and to be generous and ready to share...**)

Note: Be good to one another. Be sensitive and kind. Let God heal our hearts...and guide our discussions. **PLEASE PRE-READ THESE NOTES AND CHOOSE THE DIRECTION THAT IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR GROUP. The purpose is to unite, not divide; to proclaim fearlessly the freedom the gospel brings. Any part of these notes might be appropriate as a crowd breaker for your own group. The goal is to create memories from Sunday that will serve for a long time. BE COGNIZANT OF YOUR GROUP'S TIME AND BE SENSITIVE! Some groups would like to dwell on a single idea. Let the Spirit be your guide. Never feel obligated to complete this study. This study is also a great devotion, taken slowly through the week.**

---

Note: I have highlighted suggested discussion questions Pastor Mark has raised this week, 5/14. Let's allow the Holy Spirit to guide all our discussions, using the highlights as trail blazes. **The purpose is to minister to one another.** Do not be daunted by the number of pages. As an editorial decision, I include each of the passages mentioned in full to facilitate the enjoyment of these notes, rather than having you, the reader, look up each reference. If your Bible is open beside you, you can transfer and annotate from these pages with ease.

---

Pastor Mark begins by saying to Moms, "You are enough, and you do measure up." **How often have you wondered if you do measure up? A mom in a life group last week said, "We never asked for this. It is not our fault." How does that observation change perspective for the challenges you've faced. Look up Proverbs 31:10-31. How does this list of "dos" make you feel? Look at this:**

- 25** Strength and honor are her clothing,  
and she can laugh at the days to come.  
**26** She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

**Now is it about what she does? Or what she says? Look closely at the last verses of the chapter:** **30** Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting,  
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

<sup>31</sup>Give her the fruit of her hands,  
and let her works praise her at the gates. **Why?**

**Compare these verses to the “key” to Ecclesiastes given to us in the last chapter of that book:** <sup>13</sup>When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is this: Fear God and keep His commandments, because this is the whole duty of man. <sup>14</sup>For God will bring every deed into judgment, along with every hidden thing, whether good or evil. **How much of this do you see in Proverbs? Is this, “the duty of man...” exclusively? How much of what the woman does in Proverbs 31 is an expression of love for God, for her family and for her neighbor? How much is the chapter designed to shame and bring guilt? Husbands, how much of this godly woman do you see in your wife? Have you called her blessed? Look up Micah 6:8** <sup>8</sup>He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you but to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God? **How does this compare with the Proverbs Woman and Ecclesiastes**

**What matters most? What you do? Or what the LORD does in you? Look up 1 Thessalonians 5:24** <sup>24</sup>The One who calls you is faithful, and He will do it. **Now look up Philippians 1:** <sup>4</sup>In every prayer for all of you, I always pray with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup>being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus **Whose is the work, in the end? How is He doing it? Do you have a testimony? Are you able to do things now that you have never been able to do? Now how do you measure up?**

**What about your children? What promises for them and on their behalf has God made? What fears do you have for your children today? How do you deal with them? Do you have insight you can share? Look up Isaiah 44:** <sup>3</sup>For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and currents on the dry ground. I will pour out My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring. **Who gets blessed when we do right? What role do our children play in the days ahead? Do you have scripture pertaining specifically to our children? Look up Joel 2** <sup>28</sup>And afterward, I will pour out My Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your old men will dream dreams,  
your young men will see visions.  
<sup>29</sup>Even on My menservants and maidservants,  
I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

**What role do our children play? What does this prophecy foretell in your family? Have you seen it happening yet? Describe what we have**

**to look forward to. If Jesus is walking with you, as Pastor Mark says, how does His Word help to give you hope and remove all shame?**

**Look up Proverbs 30:** “I am weary, O God,  
and worn out.

**2** Surely I am the most ignorant of men,  
and I lack the understanding of a man.

**3** I have not learned wisdom,  
and I have no knowledge of the Holy One.

**4** Who has ascended to heaven and come down?  
Who has gathered the wind in His hands?

Who has bound up the waters in His cloak?

Who has established all the ends of the earth?

What is His name, and what is the name of His Son—  
surely you know!

**5** Every word of God is flawless;  
He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him.

**6** Do not add to His words,  
lest He rebuke you and prove you a liar.

**7** Two things I ask of You—  
do not refuse me before I die:

**8** Keep falsehood and deceitful words far from me.  
Give me neither poverty nor riches;  
feed me with the bread that is my portion.

**9** Otherwise, I may have too much  
and deny You, saying, ‘Who is the LORD?’

Or I may become poor and steal,  
profaning the name of my God.

**How does the writer handle his own shame? Do you know the name? Do you know His Son’s name? What is the writers next step? How important is it to know the Lord? How does walking humbly help vanquish shame?**

Three things to remember, the superpowers of a Mom: **Look up Matthew 11:**

**27** All things have been entrusted to Me by My Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him. **28** Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. **29** Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **Do you see how this connects to Proverbs 30 above? What happens when you come to the Word? What does the revelation of the Son and of the Son’s Name do to help in times of trouble? Do you have a testimony? Remember what God told Paul when he was struggling with Satan’s angel sent to buffet him in 2 Corinthians 12:**

**9** But He said to me,

**“My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness.” What does that perfected strength do to help you? Survive? Or conquer? Does it ever abandon you in your weakness? Are we called to survive? Or are we called to conquer? (Remember in Revelations 2 and 3, promises are made to the OVERCOMER.)**

1. The power of being present...(allows kids to be seen, heard and understood.) “Tell me about your day...” instead of “how was your day.” “Good.”
2. The power of the empathetic Mom. (Review last week: Sympathy sees the misfortune of man stuck in the ditch. Empathy gets into the ditch and brings practical help, sharing the misfortune, and lifting the burden.) Sympathy reacts from a distance. Empathy relates and responds. **Look up Ephesians 4: 32 Be kind and tenderhearted to one another, forgiving each other just as in Christ God forgave you. Describe how this works.**
3. The power of the praying Mom. Psalm 46:1 **God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble.** <sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth is transformed and the mountains are toppled into the depths of the seas... **What changes in your circumstances when you know God is EVER present? What changes when disaster strikes and mountains are toppled if you know this truth?**

**Take the time to pray.**

---

**The Follow-up Application**

1. Pray for your children. Pray for their children. And their children.
  2. Write down answers to prayer for your sake, and the sake of your testimony.
  3. Review the promises highlighted in this message.
  4. Remember Who began the work in you. Remember what that means.
-