



Young Mothers 2018

October 7, 2018 | Lesson 05

Assignment:

Young Mother's SS on *Workers at Home*,
Betty Dahlhausen 2010, Jan Patterson 2014

Keepers at Home

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Memory Passage: Psalm 40:3

*He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
Many will see and fear and will trust in the Lord.*

Titus 2:5 workers at home . . . so that the word
of God will not be dishonored.

Our goal should be to keep the home in a way that will not
bring reproach to the Word of God.

- peaceful
- joyful
- Christian atmosphere
- right perspective
- a haven from the world

“The right thing is not always the easiest; but God has His
schools for training, and a life left in His hands will never
fail of its highest development here and hereafter.”

Hudson Taylor

Proverbs 31

- 10 An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.
- 11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.
- 12 She **does** him good and not evil all the days of her life.
- 13 She **looks** for wool and flax and **works** with her hands in delight.
- 14 She is like merchant ships; She **brings** her food from afar.
- 15 She **risers** also while it is still night and **gives food** to her household and portions to her maidens.
- 16 She **considers** a field and **buys** it; From her earnings she **plants** a vineyard.
- 17 She **girds** herself with strength and **makes** her arms strong.
- 18 She **senses** that her gain is good; Her lamp does not go out at night.
- 19 She **stretches** out her hands to the distaff, and her hands **grasp** the spindle.
- 20 She **extends** her hand to the poor, and she **stretches** out her hands to the needy.
- 21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household, for all her household are clothed with scarlet.
- 22 She **makes** coverings for herself; Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- 23 Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land.
- 24 She **makes** linen garments and sells *them*, and **supplies** belts to the tradesmen.
- 25 Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future.
- 26 She **opens** her mouth in wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- 27 She **looks** well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- 28 Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband *also*, and he praises her, *saying*:
- 29 "Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all."
- 30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, *but* a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.
- 31 Give her the product of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

She **delights** in her work.

She is **not afraid**.

She **smiles** at the future – those little ones.

She opens her mouth in **wisdom**.

The teaching of **kindness** is on her tongue.

Mom's Perspective / Attitude

- This is just a stage of life, and it too will pass and your kids will grow up – enjoy these little years. You are raising the next generation to glorify God.
- Work was not part of the curse, but our fleshly attitude and the thorns and the weeds are part of the curse.
- Beware of Satan and his devices for we are not unaware of his schemes. 2 Corinthians 2:11b
- Beware of contentment robbers – what makes your “wanter” wanting? (Facebook, twitter, instagram, pinterest, shopping)
- Beware of time robbers
- Beware of peace robbers

“Pride, he [Satan] presents to the soul under the name of neatness and cleanliness; Covetousness (which the apostle condemns as idolatry), to be but good husbandry [in a family].”

Thomas Brooks

- Keep eternity before you
- Thank the Lord for making you a mother
- Children are a blessing, they are a reward--do you believe it?

Psalm 127:3 *Behold, **children are a gift** of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is **a reward**.*

- Our house and all its possessions will pass away, but our children will live somewhere for eternity – ETERNITY – Keep home and family management in the right perspective to relationships in home and disciplining the children
- Keep outside the home activities / ministries in the right perspective
- Know limits / frustration points for you and your kids
- Control your thinking – What consumes your mind controls your life!

Proverbs 24:3 By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established.

- Pray for wisdom
- Be a problem solver
- Read books on managing a home, cleaning, child training.
- Attitude and actions are more important than the outcome.
- Ministry – home management is not an end in itself. It is a means to an end – ministry to people (Acts 20:35, Help the weak – our children)
- Survival days will happen – don't feel like a failure if nothing seems to be getting done. Kids get sick and need you! It is okay.
- Be flexible



Simplify – every area of your life – we are pilgrims.

- Schedule / activities
- Belongings
- Birthday parties / celebrations

Proverbs 15:16 Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and turmoil with it.

Form Habits. You and your children are forming habits – make them good ones. Forming habits can free your mind for other things.

“Laying Down the Rails” book by Sonya Shafer

“A time for everything, and everything in its time; a place for everything, and everything in its place. A habit of order may be fairly said to lengthen a man’s life, not by multiplying its hours, but by enabling him more advantageously to employ them . . . When a person has no one place for any one thing, but lays everything by just wherever he may happen to be, he is sure to spend his life in confusion. He never knows where to find what he wants. Let such a person conceive what an amount of time would be made up by all the minutes and hours that he has employed during his life in looking for misplaced articles; to say nothing of the mortification he has endured, and the inconvenience in which others have been involved . . . So much lost for want of order.”

John Angell James

I. Cleaning

Proverbs 31:27 She **looks** well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Mom's Perspective

- Keep eternity in mind
- Be careful of too high expectations
Proverbs 14:4 *Where no oxen are the manger is clean . . .*
- Do not compare
Romans 12:2 *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*
- Ask the Lord for wisdom
James 1:5 *But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.*

Simplify

- ☑ Keep cleaning supplies where they are needed
- ☑ Limit knick-knacks so dusting can be done easily
- ☑ Clean as you go
- ☑ Less is often better
- ☑ Set boundaries for food, drinks and toys
- ☑ Indoor rake
- ☑ Make it easy for little people

Form Habits:

- ☑ Putting away before getting something else out
- ☑ Don't put it down but put it away
- ☑ Pick up before meals
- ☑ Fill little time slots with small jobs
- ☑ Reward cleaning with a walk, reading, or time with mom
- ☑ Routine

You have heard it said he who takes care of the cents doesn't have to worry about the dollars but it could also be said he who takes care of the minutes doesn't have to worry about the hours or days.

Hudson Taylor's mother had a shelf that she reserved for emergencies if visitors came. "One shelf behind the crimson curtain was unappropriated. Clean and empty, it stood ready for emergencies . . . The work in hand, whatever it might be, was laid away without embarrassment and just as easily brought out again . . . But whatever its uses in the day-time, it was always cleared and dusted before night. Simple as such a plan may seem, it was effective because of the orderly mind that carried it out, and went far towards solving the problem of how to turn one room to so many uses without litter or confusion." Dr. & Mrs. Howard Taylor

II. Shopping

Proverbs 31:14-16 *She is like merchant ships; She brings her food from afar . . . [She] gives food to her household . . . She considers a field and buys it.*

Mom's Perspective

- Joy
- Look at this as a training time. If you take your children shopping, talk to them before you enter the store and tell them what you expect of them.
- Remember others are watching your testimony
Proverbs 31:26 *She opens her mouth in wisdom and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.*
- Pray before you enter the store.
- Ask for wisdom

Simplify

- ☑ Shop only one or two grocery stores. This way, you know where everything is, you know when and where the markdowns are, and prices etc.
- ☑ Simplify your menu, your clothes
- ☑ Keep a well-stocked pantry if possible
- ☑ Shop online and store pickups – Amazon, Walmart, Home Depot, Lowes, Staples, Kohls, Sears, Advance Auto, etc.

Form Habits

- ☑ Same day, roughly the same time.
- ☑ Same direction through the store.
- ☑ Same parking spot.
- ☑ Have a list – plan ahead.
- ☑ Avoid running out of essentials.
- ☑ Everyone helps bring in the groceries.

III. Meal Preparation

Proverbs 31:15 *She gives food to her household.*

Mom's Perspective

- You are the nutritionist!
- It is blessing to feed them and to have so many good choices in America.
- Let the children help.

Simplify

- ☑ Keep your meals simple.
- ☑ Fewer dishes
- ☑ Think food groups
- ☑ Picnics
- ☑ Soup / salad and sandwiches
- ☑ Crockpot – use crockpot bags.
- ☑ Cups with names

- ☑ Washcloths for little hands and faces
- ☑ Frozen grilled chicken

Form Habits

- ☑ Think about replacing dessert with fruit.
- ☑ Cook two / three desserts at a time using the same mixing bowl and hot oven.
- ☑ Plan your dinner at breakfast.
- ☑ Brown large batches of hamburger and freeze.

Example week at our house:

- **Sunday:** hunk of meat in the crock pot. Take out of the freezer on Saturday, put into the crockpot Sunday morning (bags); Meat, salad, fruit or fruit salad, rice or potatoes / gravy – cooked before we leave for church and it stays warm.
- **Monday:** piggyback meal – leftover meat with rice or potatoes – make fried rice or soup or ? or just salad with leftover meat chunks. Meat from Sunday must be gone by Wednesday and meat from Wednesday must be gone by Sunday – 3 day life)
- **Tuesday:** beans and rice with any leftover meat
- **Wednesday:** We have Released Time so chicken in the crockpot (comes out of freezer on Tuesday afternoon) This is frozen for the entire semester. Add a salad.
- **Thursday:** ?
- **Friday:** fish
- **Saturday:** homemade pizza.

Lunch – Keep it simple. This was usually a fun meal where ants were put on the log (raisins on celery) or a smiley face was made out of the ketchup. The food was arranged in a playful manner. Feeding them outside was always nice on cleanup. Paper plates or paper towels, parchment squares work great.

IV. Laundry

Proverbs 31:21 *She is not afraid of the snow for her household, for all her household are clothed with scarlet.*

Mom's Perspective

- Allow helpers
- Be willing to train and turn the job over to them
- Work yourself out of a job

Simplify

- ☑ Teach kids the difference between play clothes, “to store” clothes and church clothes and shoes.
- ☑ Church clothes don't need washing every week if they are hung back up
- ☑ Keep the number of clothes to minimum.
- ☑ Towel racks – everyone has their own.
- ☑ Bedding – wash and back on bed the same day – no need to fold
- ☑ Sticky note or tape arrow on the washer and dryer settings.
- ☑ Teach them to empty the lint
- ☑ Choose clothes that are easy for kids to put on and take off
- ☑ Choose clothes that don't need ironing or dry cleaning or special care.
- ☑ Small children can stand on a chair and load the washer.

Form Habits

- ☑ Teach children to put dirty clothes in the hamper - It is inconsiderate to leave dirty clothes for others to step over.
- ☑ Hampers for dark, light, and Sunday clothes.
- ☑ Labeled dishpans for each child's clothes

Socks – Buy matching socks. There is a brand that adds a stripe for each size. EZmatch socks made by gold toe. The number of stripes on the toes identifies the size.

Summers – Invest in good over the toe durable sandals and avoid socks altogether!

V. Working with children and teaching them to love work:

Mom's Perspective

- Remember this is a training process and keep eternity in mind.
- Your attitude teaches so much
- Be their cheerleader
- Work together
- You are teaching them to work for the rest of their life
- You are helping form their work ethic
- Don't quit
- Don't allow grumbling--
- Talk to them while you are working together.
Proverbs 31:26 She **opens** her mouth in **wisdom**,
- Train the older ones and the younger will often *follow*.

Proverbs 16:26 *A worker's appetite works for him, for his hunger urges him on.*

Simplify

- ☑ Look at what you are asking them through their eyes. Clothes they can put on, shoes they can easily put on – buckles fight. Watch them; where are their frustration points. Help them overcome these.
- ☑ Make cleanup as easy as possible for little hands
- ☑ Bins for toys

Form Habits

- ☑ List of jobs they are capable of doing for their age.
- ☑ Line upon line, precept upon precept.
- ☑ Kids like order and love to show Daddy what they have done.
- ☑ Use a timer
- ☑ Count items to pick up. Send them out with a bag or bucket to pick things up in the yard.
- ☑ Jobs by the month easier to remember
- ☑ Clean to music
- ☑ Talk, talk, talk
- ☑ Work together
- ☑ Blanket for Legos or little toys. The toys need to stay on the blanket.

Nuggets

- Work yourself out of job
- Train them – might be a hassle now but the reward will come
- Teach, follow up and praise them.
- What works for one family may not work for your family. God made each family unique.

Lord, grant me strength and wisdom to change what needs to be and to accept what can't be changed.

Resources

A Christian Father's Present to his Children by John Angell James

Dinner's in the Freezer! by Jill Bond

Hudson Taylor: the Growth of a Soul by Dr. & Mrs. Howard Taylor

Laying Down the Rails by Sonya Shafer

Precious Remedies for Satan's Devices by Thomas Brooks