

“Rise Up and Call Her Blessed”

Proverbs 31:10 – 31

- I. A _____ holiday**
 Discrepancy between our hopes and our reality
 Most frequent complaint from mothers: they feel like failures
- II. Occupational hazard: _____ based parenting**
- A. Necessary concerns
1. Earthly concerns--things are not the way they're supposed to be
 2. Eternal concerns – we all have a _____ that will never die
- B. Unnecessary concerns
1. Imaginary, “ _____ _____?” concerns--parallel world stuff
 2. Peer pressure concerns
 “The eternal inner _____ of self-reproach.” [Judith Shulevitch]
 Sin is building our _____ on anything other than God” [Tim Keller]
 An acute awareness of our own inabilities and lack of resources is a _____!
- III. Abundant _____**
“Come to me, all you are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” [Matthew 11:28]
 The primary theme of parenting is Jesus and the work He has already done.
- IV. True freedom to work proceeds from _____**
- A. Love the Lord your God with all your heart
1. Love God's _____
 2. Love God's people – your children are you're nearest neighbors!
 3. Love God's _____ in their presence
- B. _____ the Gospel
“Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart” [Luke 2:19]
- C. The truth is sooner _____ than taught
“I am reminded of your _____ faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.”
 [Second Timothy 1:5]
- D. Make a _____ of your necessity
 Come to love the life you actually have--vs. “the grass is greener” syndrome
“I have grown able to be wholeheartedly _____ here” [Wendell Berry]
1. Gratitude
 2. Vs. “all or nothing”
 3. Find any excuses to _____

E. The promise of _____

1. Prayer is _____

“The very thing you try to escape – your _____ – opens the door to prayer and then grace.” [Paul Miller]

2. Prayer is the language of _____

F. Active, eager _____

“My soul waits for the Lord more than watchman wait for the morning” [Psalm 130:6]

G. Begin to begin--“Favorable conditions never come”

All of life is _____

“...This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

[Lamentations 3:21-23]

V. Concluding thoughts on maternal gladness