

Warm-up Question or Activity

Choose one and discuss as a group.

1. Activity 1 – Lightning round – keep it fun.
 - **Favorite restaurant in the Katy-Houston region and why?**
2. Question 1 – Kids can really exasperate their moms.
 - **Thinking back to your own childhood (or to your kids' childhood), describe a time when you and your siblings (or your kids) exasperated or tried the grace and patience of your mom (or your kids' mom)?**

Can You Relate?

In this week's Scriptures, God celebrates the attributes of a godly woman with a focus for us in Jim's sermon on the impact of those attributes in and through motherhood.

1. There are of course exceptions but, there is something undeniably special about the positive impact of a mom on her children.
 - **Think of something you loved about your mom – or something she did that blessed you or imparted to you – and share it briefly with the group.**

- As you talk through your example, try to articulate the godly attribute that is at the root of that moment.

Empathy	Mercy	Grace	Wisdom
Love	Patience	Strength	Faith

2. The “fear of the Lord” (reverent, loving awe and submission to his Word and his Lordship) is the theme of Proverbs. God caps off Proverbs with praise, not for man, but for “a woman who fears the Lord.”

“a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.” Proverbs 31:30b

Let's celebrate together the indispensable contribution of moms to the raising of children.

- **Fathers go first for this one - share with us the most treasured attributes that you see your wife imparting to your children – or her positive traits that you see coming out in one of them.**
 - Be specific – as to which child – illustrate with an example if you can.
 - **For the mothers in the group – share with us the positive attributes of yours – or that you helped develop – that you see coming out in one of your children.**
 - Be specific – as to which child – illustrate with an example if you can.
 - For everyone else in the group, help identify the godly attribute that is at the root of the examples that the fathers and mothers describe.
3. In honor of Mother's Day, let's have the moms in the group go first and **give a “best” and “worst” of their own experience as mothers – the most heart-touching joys and the greatest struggles.**
 - For everyone else in the group, help relate those joys and struggles to your own experience with your mother or children.

4. Proverbs 31:30a tells us that: *“beauty is fleeting.”* What a daunting challenge to impart that truth to our moms and daughters amidst a culture that idolizes the opposite!
 - **Let’s listen together to the music of Micah Tyler in *“If She Only Knew”***
 - Someone pull it up on their phone/YouTube and play it for the group
 - What touches your heart in the lyrics of that song?

<p>Her arm’s a battlefield, she draws the lines across to feel Like somehow she controls the pain But there are deeper scars that run across her broken heart Scars you'll never see, she's so ashamed But if she only knew...</p> <p>How much He loves her How much He loves her And how His heart breaks Every time that she thinks That she's not enough</p> <p>She hides behind the bathroom door because the mirror said She's never gonna look right in that dress She points her finger at herself and she decides she'd do anything To look like someone else But if she only knew...</p>	<p>If we could only see That everything we hide, has never left His sight Oh, if we could just believe, that He won't turn away 'Cause nothing can change...</p> <p>How much He loves us And how much He loves us And how His heart breaks Every time that we think, that He's not enough And how much He wants us And how much He's for us And how far He's gone, to make us His own And how far He'll go, to just let us know How far He's gone, to make us His own It is enough, He is enough</p>
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Live It Out

Let’s go into this week with our hearts tuned to see godly beauty in the women of our lives.

- What do you want to take away from this discussion? How can you apply or build upon it in the week or months ahead? Write it down on the paper provided.
- SOAP quiet time journaling is a good starting point for living with more intentionality. This week, consider pledging with one of us to each doing SOAP quiet time for seven days in a row, lifting one another up in prayer, and texting one another for accountability and support as we go through it.
- With *“beauty is fleeting”* in mind, try this experiment in making every day count a little bit more.
 - **How?** At least one day this week, before you get out of bed, pick up your phone or tablet and play *If She Only Knew* by Micah Tyler. Absorb the lyrics. Play them back in your head throughout the day. If you do not have that song on your phone, you can find it easily on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/gtqsdIXIs6E>
 - **Report back** next week on how that went.

Encourage one another to commit time to praying for one another, encouraging and meeting one another’s needs, fellowshiping together, interceding for one another. Contact absent group members and encourage them to continue to meet and to return together at the next scheduled gathering.