

Motherly Spectrum

Intro: The Bible tells us of all kinds of different people. With Mothers on our minds this time of year, God's word is replete with examples that give us an understanding of the up and down sides of mothering. We also receive a helpful picture of those who honor the position.

1. We are overwhelmed with some examples.
 - A. The mother who was the beneficiary of Solomon's wisdom. 1 Kings 3:16-3:28
 - B. The mother who "gave" her child to the priesthood. 1 Samuel 1:11
 - C. The mother named Rizpah who was "crazy devoted". 2 Samuel 21:1-14

2. We are in love with the ideal of Proverbs 31.
 - A. Appears to be the perfect wife. 31:10-12
 - B. Appears to be a wonderful mother. 31:13-15; 21-22; 27
 - C. Great Businesswoman. 31:16-19
 - D. Helpful to the poor. 31:20
 - E. Knows the right the thing to say. 31:26
 - F. Given praise by her children and their father. 31:28-31

3. We are probably a little amazed at how normal Jesus' mother, Mary, actually was.
 - A. Misplaced her son. Luke 2:48-51
 - B. Ready to give unwanted advice. John 2:1-10
 - C. Anxious to visit with her famed son. Matthew 12:46-47
 - D. Stood with him at his execution. John 19:25-27
 - E. Remained devoted to her son beyond his life. Acts 1:14

Conclusion: Don't be discouraged, even Mary was pretty normal. You probably are too. Follow the Holy Spirit when he says to love your children (Titus 2:4). Do the best you can. Let that love be guided by the defining qualities of love described in I Corinthians 13:4-7. Lean more toward caring involvement than disengagement. Remember, you are a Mother.