

BBCC Bible Study Notes

"A Mother's Love"

May 12, 2019

"My children, I will be with you only a little longer...a new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:33-34 NIV

"As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us." 1 Thessalonians 2:6-8 NIV

The love a mother has for her children should be a reflection of Christ's love.

What kind of love should a mother have for her children?

1. Like Christ's love, a mother's love should be _____. (1 Corinthians 13:4, Ephesians 4:2)

2. Like Christ's love, a mother's love should be _____. (Isaiah 40:11, Isaiah 66:13, 1 Thess. 2:6-7)

3. Like Christ's love, a mother's love should be _____. (1 Corinthians 13:7)

4. Like Christ's love, a mother's love should be _____. (Mark 10:45, Luke 1:38, John 10:11, John 15:13)

5. Like Christ's love, a mother's love should be _____. (2 Timothy 1:5, 2 Timothy 3:14-15)

How does my love for others need to be more like Christ's love for me?

BBCC Verse of the week: *"Teach children how they should live and they will remember it all their life." Proverbs 22:6 Good News Translation*

BBCC Devotional Guide for May 12 through 18, 2019

Sunday: Read Exodus 20:12. The Ten Commandments are divided into two sections: commandments 1-4 deal with our relationship to God and 5-10 deal with our relationships with people. It is important to note that the first commandment that deals with our relationships with people is the one that tells us to honor our fathers and mothers. If your mother is living, how can you honor her? If your mother is not living, what are some ways you can honor her memory?

Monday: A mother's love should be patient. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4 and Ephesians 4:2. One of the greatest needs a mom has is for patience. Psalm 78:56 says this about God and his children, *"Yet though He did all this for them, they continued to test His patience"* (NLT). If you have ever felt that your kids (or other people) were testing your patience, God understands. In what ways do others test our patience? What can we do to become more patient with people?

Tuesday: A mother's love should be tender. Read Isaiah 40:11. In this verse God is described as a shepherd who has special concern for little children and their mothers as he "gently leads them". Read Isaiah 66:13. There is something special about the comfort a mom gives her child and it is a reflection of the comfort that God wants to give you. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. What does God want you to do as a result of having received His comfort? What are some ways you can provide comfort to people who are going through a difficult situation in their lives?

Wednesday: A mother's love should be tough. Read 1 Corinthians 13:7. Notice that love "always protects". If a mom sees her child running toward the edge of a cliff what should she do? Tackle him to the ground! A mother's love needs to be tough in order protect her children. What are some of the cultural influences that Moms and Dads need to protect their young children from? How can parents teach their children to deal with these influences as they get older?

Thursday: A mother's love should be sacrificial. Read Mark 10:45 and John 15:13. We know that there are many sacrifices moms make for their children but in order to give their life to their children a mom needs a life of her own. Jesus spent time away from his disciples and the demands of ministry and moms need a break too. Many mothers are dealing with the dual issues of exhaustion and guilt: exhaustion because they are doing too much and guilt because they feel like they are not doing enough. What is the solution according to Matthew 11:28-30? What does it mean to be "yoked" to Jesus?

Friday: A mother's love is influential. Read 2 Timothy 1:5 and 2 Timothy 3:14-15. The number one goal of parenting is to counter the natural inclination of a child's heart (which leads them away from God) and to demonstrate through words and actions the attractiveness of a Christ centered life. What are some ways that parents can accomplish this goal?

Saturday: Read John 13:33-35. Notice that Jesus calls his disciples "children". Jesus sees himself as a parent who loves his children and he calls all of his disciples to love each other the way he has loved them. One of the most important things a mom can remember is that Jesus loves her. It is her ability to receive this love that enables her to love others, especially her children. What can you do to experience the love Christ has for you?

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