

## A MOTHER'S LEGACY

**TEXT** – *II Timothy 1:5* When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

As a mother, what kind of legacy are you leaving? When your children think of you, what will they remember most about you?

Let's look at some of the mothers in the Bible and see what kind of legacy they left?

1. **Lois and her daughter Eunice** (mother and grandmother of Timothy) – II Timothy 1:5
  - a. They were known for their unfeigned faith in the lord.
  - b. Unfeigned means sincere, not fake or pretend. They didn't just pretend to have faith in the lord when they were around other believers. Theirs was a sincere and true faith.
  - c. They passed this trait on to Timothy.
  
2. **Rebekah** (mother of Jacob and Esau) – Genesis 27
  - a. Rebekah encouraged her youngest son, Jacob, to deceive his father and brother and steal his brother's birthright.
  - b. By her example she passed this trait on to her son, Jacob, who became known as a deceiver.
  - c. Rebekah had good intentions but her unwise actions caused her to lose her son as he had to flee for his life.
  
3. **Jochebed** (mother of Moses) - Exodus 2:1-10
  - a. In spite of unbelievable circumstances, Jochebed had the faith to hide her son and trust him to God's care.
  - b. God blessed Jochebed and allowed her to nurse Moses until he was old enough to leave her. We don't know exactly how old he would have been, but at least a few years.
  - c. Jochebed did not waste those early training years. She taught her son from an infant because she didn't have long.
  - d. Moses, in spite of being in the household of Pharaoh, never forgot the training of his mother. (Hebrews 11:25).
  
4. **Athaliah** (mother of King Ahaziah) - II Chronicles 22:2-4
  - a. Athaliah was an extremely wicked woman. At one point she had all of her grandchildren killed.
  - b. Athaliah counseled her son to do wickedly.
  - c. Athaliah's terrible influence on her son eventually led to his death.
  
5. **The mother of King Lemuel** – Proverbs 31:1-9
  - a. King Lemuel was taught by his mother.
  - b. His mother taught him not to drink strong drink because it perverts the judgment that he would need to maintain as a king.
  - c. She taught him not to give his strength unto women because it would destroy him.
  - d. She taught him to treat the poor kindly and help those who were unable to help themselves.
  - e. She taught him to judge righteously.
  - f. What a great legacy she left her son.

6. **Mary** (mother of Jesus) - John 19:25-27

- a. Mary knew who Jesus was. It was explained to her by the angel Gabriel from the beginning.
- b. Although Mary did not understand everything that was to take place, she always tried to be near Jesus.
- c. Jesus took the time to honor Mary and her faithfulness to Him while He was hanging on the cross suffering for the sins of the world. He even made sure she was cared for when He was gone.

**Conclusion:** As mothers, you have tremendous influence on your children, their character, and their future lives. It is up to you whether the legacy that you leave will be for good or for evil. The Lord has provided us with these Scriptures to serve as examples to us of what to do and warnings for us of the damage that can be done if we are not careful with our great influence.