

## Mother's Day 2017

John Maxwell is called "The Leadership Guru", both in the church and business worlds.

He has written around 20 books on the subject, sold millions of copies, and is one of the most sought after speakers in the country. With all of this, he simply defines leadership as one word:

- Influence:
- the capacity or power of persons or things to be a compelling force on or produce effects on the actions, behavior, opinions, etc., of others
- We all influence people
- And we are all influenced by people
- Influence will impact a person's outcome in life...

And no, we're not here today to talk about leadership principles... We're here today to honor "Mother's"!!

A mother is the first person that will influence you...

It's amazing to see how instantly a newborn baby physically and emotionally bonds with their mother...

And through that bond comes one of the most powerful influences a person will ever have!!

We can see that influence in the life of Timothy, a disciple of the Apostle Paul...

### II Timothy 1:3-7

"I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Paul recognized something special in Timothy:

- His faith (even though at this moment it sounds like he was struggling in that area...)

Paul could see the great faith and Character in Timothy's mother and grandmother....

And realizing that both of these women had great influence on Timothy throughout his life, he knew that the seed of faith had been sown, and the harvest from that was about to be revealed!!!

That's the power of influence of a Godly mother in her child's life!!  
And yes, we're talking about Godly mothers....

There are a lot of pastors and guest speakers today talking about

- "The Proverbs 31 Woman"
- Wise
- Prudent
- Loving
- Hard working
- Giving
- Blessed!!!

I think we can sum that up by saying:

- "Godly Woman"
- "Godly Mother"

It's this same "Godly Mother" that we see:

Proverbs 22:6

"Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it."

- That's influence!!

That's what made Timothy who he was....

- A product of his mother's influence

Mothers, that's what's molding your children into who they are!!!

- Your influence
- **And we honor you today!!!**

How many people think God knew what He was doing when He designed mothers?

Mothers are so special that God chose one just for Jesus!!  
And don't think just because Jesus was "perfect man and perfect God", that His mother's influence didn't play a part in who he was as a man....

You can see that influence His mother had while He was on the cross

John 19:25-27

“Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. **When Jesus therefore saw His mother,** and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.”

You know the old song:

- When He was on the cross, I was on His mind...  
One things for sure
- His mother was on His mind!!
- That life of loving influence...
- Jesus made provision for her before said "It is Finished"

That's the powerful influence of a Godly Mother!!

- In the end, He honored her!!!

One final thought....

- It's hard to say no to Mama!!
- It's hard to say no to a Godly mother....

I want to stretch your willingness to hear what God's Word says here..  
And understand the power of the influence of a Godly mother....

Jesus....Perfect Man and Perfect God....

That same Jesus who said in the garden, "Not my will, but Your's be done".....

- Is recorded in The Bible "One Time"....
- Where Jesus didn't follow the instructions of God The Father...

### John 2:1-5

**“On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it. ””**

**You see....**

- **Even Jesus knew better than to say no to mama!!!**

### Ephesians 6:1-3

**“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: “that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.””**

**Honor your mother today...**

**Before we close in prayer let me ask...**

- **Is there anyone here today that would like to accept Jesus as Savior?**
- **That would be a great Mother's Day present!!**