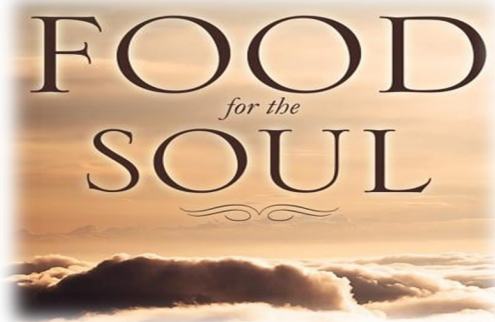




Established 1868

Newsletter

640 Vance Avenue • Memphis, TN 38126
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Motherhood and the Bible

https://biblehub.com/q/bible_advice_for_christian_moms.htm

The Unique Calling of Motherhood

Motherhood carries a significant place in Scripture. From the earliest accounts of childbearing in Genesis to the nurturing roles of mothers throughout both Testaments, the Bible consistently underscores the honor and responsibility entrusted to those who bring children into the world. The creation account in Genesis demonstrates God's design for families to flourish (**Genesis 1:28**), and motherhood is presented as an essential element of that design. It involves shaping young lives, cultivating character, and imparting spiritual truth. This calling is not only biological but also deeply relational and spiritual.

Modern scientific research on maternal bonding further highlights the importance of an attentive, caring presence in a child's early development, supporting what the Biblical authors emphasized millennia ago. Archaeological and historical studies, such as discoveries at ancient sites in Israel and the preservation of

Old Testament passages among the Dead Sea Scrolls, corroborate the cultural context surrounding motherhood and the significance placed on it in ancient Hebrew society.

Scriptural Examples of Godly Mothers

Several mothers in the Bible illustrate this calling with exceptional commitment:

1. **Hannah**
(**1 Samuel 1:10–11, 22–28**)

She prayed earnestly for a child and promised that if the Lord would grant her a son, she would dedicate him to God's service. When Samuel was born, Hannah fulfilled that vow. Her example emphasizes dedicated prayer and faithful follow-through on promises made to God.

2. **Mary, the Mother of Jesus**
(**Luke 1:38, 46–48**)

Mary's response to the angel's message shows humility and devotion. She acknowledged God's sovereignty in bearing and raising the Messiah (**Luke 2:19, 51**). Her willingness to treasure and ponder all that happened to her Son displays the profound reflection and faith needed in mothering.

From Page 1, *FOOD*

3. Lois and Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5)

Lois and Eunice passed on sincere faith to Timothy. Their dedication to sharing Scripture laid a strong foundation in Timothy's life, underscoring how a mother's steadfast witness shapes the spiritual future of her children.

Each of these examples stands as a testament to the maternal influence: prayerful seeking of God, submission to His will, nurturing faith in children, and devotion that impacts generations to come.

The Heart of Instruction and Nurture

Mothers carry the privilege of teaching and shaping children's minds and hearts:

1. Passing On God's Word

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 says, "These words I am commanding you today are to be upon your hearts. And you shall teach them diligently to your children." The mother's role in everyday conversation and guidance provides the setting for early spiritual formation. Each moment—whether at home or traveling—is an opportunity to point children toward truth.

2. Setting a Godly Example

Titus 2:3-5 specifically addresses older women teaching the younger women to "love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, managers of their households." This instruction highlights maternal guidance as not only teaching words but also modeling a life of disciplined love and spiritual integrity.

3. Nurture in Love

Mothers reflect God's tender care. Isaiah 66:13 declares, "As a mother comforts her son, so will I comfort you." This gentle metaphor conveys the compassion and warmth that accompany true maternal guidance. An atmosphere of love fosters an environment where children can grow securely.

Contemporary behavioral science findings corre-

spond with these biblical directives, identifying the importance of consistent, nurturing relationships in establishing emotional security and moral development in children. When a mother combines genuine affection with thoughtful instruction, children thrive both spiritually and socially.

Encouragement in Challenges

Motherhood is not without obstacles, and Scripture provides reassurance:

1. Reliance on God's Strength

Psalms 55:22 exhorts, "Cast your burden upon the LORD and He will sustain you." When the demands of motherhood become overwhelming, turning to God in prayer and Scripture study reaffirms His sustaining grace. Historical accounts of women persevering in faith—from biblical eras to modern testimonies—highlight that God consistently strengthens them in trial and fatigue.

2. Building Endurance and Trust

James 1:2-4 teaches believers to "consider it pure joy...whenever you encounter trials of many kinds." Motherhood, with its sleepless nights and unplanned challenges, can become a classroom for spiritual growth. In moments of weariness, a mother's faith matures as she trusts God for wisdom, patience, and courage.

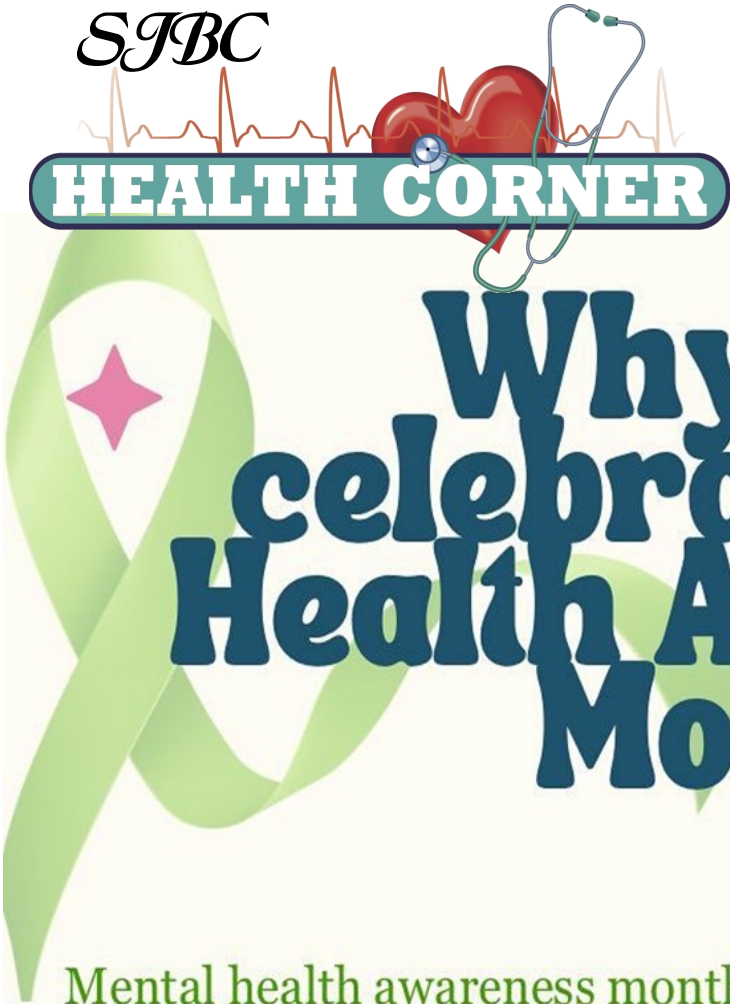
3. Seeking Support from the Faith Community

Galatians 6:2 states, "Carry one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." The early church modeled communal care, suggesting that Christian mothers look for help and guidance among loving believers. Fellowship, prayer support, and mentorship not only alleviate strain but also encourage a broader, spiritually uplifting environment for the family.

Building a Legacy of Faith

A significant guidance the Bible offers is to instill a God-centered perspective in children:

Please see *FOOD* Page 6

*SJBC***HEALTH CORNER**

Why do we celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month?

Mental health awareness month is crucial because it helps break down stigma, encourages early intervention, and fosters understanding and empathy.

By raising awareness, we normalize conversations about mental health, making it easier for people to seek help when needed and fostering supportive communities.

Increased awareness can lead to improved access to resources and services, ultimately enhancing overall well-being for individuals and society as a whole.



Help Needed!!!

At the 2025 Annual Church Meeting, a couple of vacancies were announced during the Permanent Organization Committee report:

- + Church Clerk
- + House Committee Chair

If you are interested in assisting SJBC by filling these vacancies, please see *Mrs. Mary Ann Corpal-Clay*, Chair of the Permanent Organization Committee.



Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

Luke 6:38 ESV

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV

SJBC, our special days, Men's and Women's Days, as well as the commitment to the musician's salary are short of the approved budget and/or pledges made!!!

Please consider contributing, whether it's your initial contribution or not. **SJBC's** finances need you.

Member Spotlight

Congratulations to...



...Carmanise London!!! She was a member of the Spring 2026 Leadership Memphis Fast Track Program.

The Leadership Memphis FastTrack Program is a dynamic 10-week leadership experience offered in both the spring and fall, designed for emerging and mid-level professionals who want to accelerate their leadership journey and deepen their civic engagement in Memphis.

Carmanise is currently the Senior Save Up Program Manager for Rise Memphis. RISE Memphis (Realizing Income Stability and Empowerment) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on improving the financial well-being of low-income individuals in Memphis and Shelby County. It provides financial education, savings incentives, and asset-building programs to help residents break the cycle of poverty and achieve self-sufficiency.

Save Up: A matched savings program where participants save \$25–\$100 a month for six months, which RISE matches 2-to-1 to help buy assets like homes or fund education.

Carmanise is the daughter of Chris London and the granddaughter of ***Mrs. Emma Jean N Ballard.***

From Page 2, *FOOD*

1. Modeling Prayer and Worship

Children discover the reality of God when they observe a mother's earnest prayer life and heartfelt worship. **Luke 2:37-38** illustrates how devout women in the Temple modeled faithful prayer, reinforcing that these acts impact not only personal devotion but also the spiritual habits of children.

2. Maintaining Consistency in Discipline

Ephesians 6:4 exhorts parents to "bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." Consistent, loving discipline helps children understand boundaries and righteousness. Archeological and textual evidence shows that the family structure in ancient Israel revolved around moral instruction; mothers who emphasized consistent guidelines raised children better prepared to follow God wholeheartedly.

3. Celebrating God's Faithfulness

When miracles, answered prayers, and instances of providence happen in a family's life, acknowledging God's hand in these events reminds children of His nearness. Even modern-day reports of healing and divine provision align with historical, well-documented Biblical accounts of God's power at work. Sharing these stories cements trust in God for future trials, aligning with the psalmist's call to remember God's works (**Psalms 77:11**).

Practical Wisdom for Daily Life

The Bible's counsel often includes everyday matters related to motherhood:

1. Time Management and Organization

Proverbs 31:27 praises a capable woman who "watches over the affairs of her household." Though the mother in Proverbs 31 busies herself with various tasks, her purpose remains centered on God, her family, and her stewardship of resources. Modern productivity strategies echo the biblical principle of diligence and planning for

household needs.

2. Speaking Words of Life

Proverbs 31:26 mentions that this woman "speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue." Mothers who shape a home environment of uplifting conversation, careful correction, and generous praise strengthen children's sense of worth and security.

3. Emphasizing Gratitude

Colossians 3:15 commands believers to "be thankful." Gratitude fosters hope and recognizes the goodness of God. By consistently practicing and teaching gratitude, mothers guide children toward seeing life's blessings rather than fixating on challenges.

Confidence in God's Care

Mothers who commit their families to the Lord can rest in His faithfulness. **Hebrews 13:5** reminds believers that God will "never leave you nor forsake you." Through every season, God's loving-kindness remains a firm foundation.

Whether strengthening children in everyday routines or facing life-altering challenges, Scripture encourages mothers to nurture continually, discipline lovingly, teach diligently, and rely steadfastly on God. The biblical portraits, supported by historical testimony and daily evidence of God's design, confirm that when mothers embrace their calling, they witness profound spiritual outcomes—and find joy in the process of walking their children closer to Him.





Mother Knows Best!



- AFFECTIONATE
- APPRECIATE
- AUTHORITY
- BREAKFAST
- CARD
- CARETAKER
- CELEBRATE
- CHILDCARE
- CHILDREN
- COMFORTING
- COMPASSIONATE
- DAUGHTER
- DEVOTION
- FAMILY
- FLOWERS
- FONDNESS
- GENEROUS
- GIFT
- GIVING
- GRACIOUS
- GRANDMOTHER
- GRATEFUL
- GUARDIAN
- HELPFUL
- HOLIDAY
- HUG
- INFANT
- INSPIRATION
- KIDS
- KINDHEARTED
- LOVING
- MAMA
- MATERNAL
- MATRIARCH
- MAY
- MEMORIES
- MOMMY
- MOTHERHOOD
- NANA
- NEWBORN
- NURTURING
- OFFSPRING
- PARENT
- PROTECTIVE
- REMINISCE
- RESPECT
- SHELTERING

B	M	M	C	A	R	E	T	A	K	E	R	T	H	A	N	K	F	U	L	H	H	J
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- SON
- STEPMOTHER
- SUNDAY
- SUPERVISE
- SUPPORTIVE
- SYMPATHETIC
- TEENAGER
- TENDERNESS
- THANKFUL
- THOUGHTFUL
- TODDLER
- TOLERANT
- TREASURE
- UNDERSTANDING
- VISIT
- WARMHEARTED
- WISDOM
- WOMAN




Special Tributes...

Mrs. Chrystal Gray presented the mothers of *St. John* with long stemmed Red Roses!!!

Mrs. Rosetta Peterson submitted a special Tribute for her mother **Mrs. Loretta Kateo...**



Mrs. Emma Hart's family also made a special presentation with a potted plant, in honor of her, during the 11 o'clock services May on 10, 2026.



Mother's Day Prayer!

Loving God, we ask you to
bless all Mothers today.
May they feel the joys of
motherhood everyday.
In all their struggle giving
us a livelihood, may your
love and compassion be
with them for good.

May every mother
feel today, the pride
and beauty of the family
they bear. Through all pain and
sorrow Lord deliver them- In
your strength and grace may
they always stay. Amen!



May 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
Sunday Services 3	4	Prayer Mtg/ Bible Study	6	7	8	9
					<i>Clyde Venson</i>	Choir Rehearsal Deacons' Mtg Official Board Mtg
Sunday School 10am Sunday Services	11	Prayer Mtg/ Bible Study	13	14	15	16
						Choir Rehearsal
Sunday Services 17	18	Prayer Mtg/ Bible Study	20	21	22	23
<i>L. Renee Gray</i> <i>Kerry Petty</i>		<i>MSCS Exams</i>		<i>MSCS Last Day of School (students)</i>		Choir Rehearsal <i>Deacon Osie B. Lewis, Jr.</i>
Sunday School 10am Sunday Services	25	Prayer Mtg/ Bible Study	27	28	29	30
			<i>Deacon George W. Tubbs</i>			Choir Rehearsal
Sunday Services 31						
Youth Month Kickoff (Fish Fry)						



May 5 - Cinco de Mayo May 10 - Mother's Day May 25 - Memorial Day

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

Mental Health

Word Search



- ANXIETY
- AWARENESS
- BIPOLAR
- COPING
- COUNSELING
- DEPRESSION
- ENVIRONMENT
- ISOLATION
- MEDITATION
- MENTAL ILLNESS
- MINDFULNESS



- MOOD
- MOTIVATION
- PREVENTION
- PSYCHIATRIST
- PSYCHOLOGIST
- PSYCHOSIS
- PTSD
- RECOVERY
- RESILIENCE
- SELF-CARE
- SELF-ESTEEM
- STIGMA
- STRESS
- SUPPORT
- THERAPY
- WELL-BEING

The Newsletter is published by the Newsletter staff of **St. John Baptist Church**, 640 Vance Avenue, Memphis, TN 38126, (901) 525-1097. Bro. Lindsey Day, Chairman of Deacon Board; Sis. Alisa Y. Petty, Chairman of Trustee Board; Sis. Aleasa R. Rankin, Editor and staff.

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