



Hillside Monthly Dispatch

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

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Modeling the Truth of God's Word

May 2017

Give Thanks for Mom

From the Pastor's Desk

Honoring Our Moms

Exodus 20:12

“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.” (Exodus 20:12, KJV)

What is the earliest memory that you have of your mom? What do you feel when you think back to that time? What are your senses telling you when you think of mom?

If you are like me, it is hard to think back before I was four years old, however, I do remember incidents in my life when the family was living on Mt. Pleasant in Leicester, MA. We had moved from that house to Tulsa, OK when I was four, but there are several memories attached to that one location.

One of the fondest memories is my mom, who stayed home to raise the children, interacting with me on a daily basis. She gave me attention, she fed me, she engaged me, and she was there with hugs and kisses. Such memories are warm and often produce within me a sensation of well-being and love.

When a mom loves you, selflessly takes care of you, unconditionally accepts you, encourages you, and is there at every turn for you, it is easy to love and support her back. However, it is interesting fact that when we consider the Ten Commandments we are not told to love our mom, but instead we are told to honor her, or respect her. Why does God go straight to honor? Why do we need to be reminded to honor or respect our moms?

Well the biggest reason is that a relatively healthy person will automatically love his or her mom. From a male perspective I know what it is to be a mama's boy. My love for my mom is something I do not have to force or work at, instead it is natural. But honoring? That may be a little more difficult. Just ask any mom who is trying to raise a teenage boy.

The number one issue that most moms face is not the lack of love from their sons, but the lack of honor. Sin is a driving force for this and it is clear that God felt the need to address this issue. Many teenage girls have fights with their moms as well. Although I am not a female, I have observed many relationships between a mother and her daughter and the fights with the daughter can be even more difficult than

Upcoming Events and Meetings

May 6, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

The men share a meal, then engage in a Bible discussion.

May 14 – Mother's Day

May 14 – Baby Bottle Fund Drive

Supporting Carenet Pregnancy Center

Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. – Worship Service

with the son.

How then do we display honor to our moms? Well here are four basic rules to consider that are timeless and biblically based. First, you never stop being your mother's child. No matter how old you get, your mom will always be your mom. If you live only with her for eighteen years, from birth to adulthood, and you move out, she does not stop being your mom. If you are fifty years old, your mom is still your mom. And if you are blessed to live ninety years and your dear ole mom passed away many years prior to that point, she is still your mom.

Second, honoring your mother is to be a goal in everything you say about her. It is easy to fall into a critical nature towards your mother. In fact, we tend to be harshest on those who are closest to us, so it is even doubly important to guard what you say about your moms, or the wife who is the mothers of your children.

As we grow older, so do moms, and so it is important to remember that with age comes history. The more interaction you have, the more history you have to fall back on. Let me encourage you to honor her in her presence and when you talk about her to others. If she has passed away, I encourage you to continue to honor her long afterwards. Just because she no longer is alive does not mean you have a ticket to criticize her, but instead respect her and honor even more.

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On the web at <http://www.hillside-sbc.org>

Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

Third, honoring your mom is honoring God. We are to respect our mothers not because she deserves it even though she probably does; we honor her because God commands it. When we bring God into the equation, He immediately brings weight to the necessity of something, in this case the authority to tell us to honor or respect our moms. When we honor her, we obey God's command and thus we honor Him. And when we do, He gives us the promise that it will go well with us in our lives to do so, in other words, He blesses us. He blesses our families, our relationships with others, and our dealings with others in the world in which we live.

Fourth, honoring your mother is a good witness of your faith in Christ to others. We know in this world that for the most part we should avoid associating with negative people. Removing ourselves from toxic individuals is one of the top ten measures one should do if you want to be successful in life.

So if the world knows that negative people are not good to be around, then how does it look when a Christian bad mouths or criticizes one's mother? Conversely, honoring your mom is actually a good witness of your Christian faith to others. When you respect your mom, talk well of her, and demonstrate honor towards her, people notice. In turn, such people automatically give you emotional currency that you can use to purchase a conversation about your faith with them down the road. Your respect for your mom shows them that you respect others as well, thus they will listen to you when you share your faith in Christ.

Did you ever think that honoring your mom could actually open the door to share your faith with others? Well that axiom is true in every relationship you have in this world. If you honor your dad, wife, husband, boss, neighbor, brother in Christ, sister in Christ, or anyone else, then you will have an open door to share your faith.

Have you honored your mom recently? Not just in deed, but also in words? When you talk about her to others, do you lift her up? Do you think well of her? There are many ways in which you can honor your mom and I hope this article has helped you to consider the importance of doing so.

May God's grace be upon you,

✠ Pastor Jim

Men's Breakfast

On May 6 at 8:00 a.m., the guys are getting together for breakfast and a Bible discussion. Biscuits and gravy and scrambled eggs are on the menu.

Afterward, we being a new study of the Book of Romans. This is interesting because the Roman church is one that Paul did not start as a result of his missionary journeys.

Property and Space Patrol

April 29th was Spring Cleanup Day and several folks turned out to give the church and grounds a thorough cleaning and sprucing up.

Inside the church, the bathrooms and kitchen were given a good cleaning and the fridge was emptied and scrubbed inside. All the carpeting was vacuumed and the trash was collected and tossed out.

Outside, brush and branches were collected and put on the burn pile. The dirt mounds from snow plowing the upper field were raked out, and loose rocks were removed. Rubble along the edges of the upper driveway were raked up and carted away. Dead branches on the front shrubs were trimmed and hauled away. The front steps were cleaned with a pressure washer.

Up at the parsonage, the front and rear gutters were checked and cleaned out as was the roof vent from the upstairs clothes dryer. One clogged downspout was taken apart and cleaned out.

Rotted trim boards were pried off the garage door frames in preparation for replacing the 30 year old doors.

Having arrived at about 8 a.m., we pretty much finished the work by noon. The Lord's House was ready for summertime.

✠ Pastor Al

Baby Bottle Fund Drive

The Carenet Pregnancy Center of Concord, NH delivered baby bottles at the church. Every year we support their annual fund drive by handing out baby bottles at church for people to take home and fill with loose change from Mother's Day until Father's Day.

Carenet's web site makes this statement. "An unplanned pregnancy can be difficult for you and those in your life. We offer a safe place to meet with a trained client advocate who will provide you with accurate information on all of your options." They do not promote or offer abortions, but offer support to anyone who needs it.

While looking up the exact name of the organization, there was an article in the Hooksett Banner about Hillside from last year.

<http://www.newhampshire.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20160616/NEWHAMPSHIRE1410/160619643/0/NEWS10>

It said we raised \$250.00 which is praiseworthy for our small congregation.

Now that we have a new U.S. President who is working to stimulate the economy, let's stimulate ourselves to give more to Carenet this year.

That's my challenge.

✠ Michael Frascinella

Preaching Politics

The Baptist Press for May 5th had an article about President Trump's recent executive order that eases the restrictions on pastors endorsing political candidates. A recent LifeWay Research survey showed that most Americans don't want pastors to endorse candidates. Yet they don't want the government to punish churches if a pastor crosses that line.

For the full article go to the Baptist Press web site:

<http://www.bpnews.net/48816/analysis-trump-order-unlikely-to-alter-sermonizing>

Enjoy the View

The following article is from the April 18th entry in the Our Daily Bread devotional booklet. It was written by contributor, Jeff Olson. The accompanying scripture reference is Psalm 148:1-6.

Sunsets. People tend to stop what they are doing to watch them . . . snap pictures of them . . . enjoy the beautiful view.

My wife and I watched the sun setting over the Gulf of Mexico recently. A crowd of people surrounded us, mostly

*See **Enjoy the View** on p. 3*

Enjoy the View (from p. 2)

strangers who had gathered at the beach to watch this nightly phenomenon. At the moment the sun fully slipped below the horizon, the crowd broke out with applause.

Why do people respond like that? The book of Psalms offers a clue. The psalmist wrote of God ordering the sun to praise its Creator (Ps. 148:3). And wherever the rays of the sun shine across the earth, people are moved to praise along with them.

The beauty that comes to us through nature speaks to our souls like few things do. It not only has the capacity to stop us in our tracks and captivate our attention, it also has the power to turn our focus to the Maker of beauty itself.

The wonder of God's vast creation can cause us to pause and remember what's truly important. Ultimately, it reminds us that there is a Creator behind the stunning entrance and exit of the day, One who so loved the world He made that He entered it in order to redeem and restore it.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people who are celebrating another orbit around the Sun:

5/22 Rachel Page

5/26 Michael Frascinella



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on anyone who celebrates a wedding anniversary this month:

There are none for May. Someone hurry up and get married so we can congratulate you!

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need, contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership. It is our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hillside on the Web

Go to the Hillside web site <http://www.hillside-sbc.org/> for more information about our fellowship, including this newsletter in PDF format.

Submissions for Next Issue

Deadline is May 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the New Hampshire Baptist Association, part of the Southern Baptist Convention.



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