



Pastor's Comments

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Mother's Influence

The spiritual influence of **mothers** upon their children was noted by the Apostle Paul in his letter to Timothy, "The...faith that is in thee...dwelt first in thy **grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice**" (II Tim. 1:5). This fact was emphasized by Hannah Whitall Smith, who said, "To be a **mother is the greatest vocation** in the world. No being has a position of such **great power and influence**. She holds in her hands the **destiny of nations**; for to her is necessarily committed the **making of the nation's citizens**."

Abraham Lincoln said, "All that I am or hope to be, **I owe to my angel mother**." The godly prophet Samuel was primarily the **child of his mother's prayers**. E. Morgan said it well, "For weal or for woe a **mother's influence is infinitely great**. We are not surprised to learn that Byron's mother was proud, ill-tempered, and violent; or that Nero's mother was a murderess. On the other hand, we need not be astonished that Sir Walter Scott's was a lover of poetry; or those of Wesley, Augustine, Chrysostom, Basil, and others, remarkable for their intelligence and goodness. **Like mother, like child**. This is what led the good Lord Shaftesbury to exclaim, 'Give me a generation of **Christian mothers**, and I will undertake to **change the face of society** in twelve months.' "

America's children today desperately need the internalized self-discipline or **character** that was once formed in a life-long process **at their Christian mother's knee**. The Bible says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Pro. 22:6). Such godly training of children makes **motherhood a partnership with God!**

Northampton

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