

Special Mother's Day Message

PASTOR DALE AND TERRY O'SHIELDS

Big Idea: Family life is a very important part of God's design for each of us. The Lord has given us wisdom and instruction in His Word to navigate our family relationships in a way that honors Him and is a blessing to those around us. While there are no perfect families, the application of God's principles and biblical practices in the family can make relationships better.

This must first be modeled by parents in practical ways so that their children see and understand the importance of godly living in the home. Qualities like respect, self-control, valuing others more than yourself and finding ways to care foster an environment in which marriages and families can grow and flourish. Above all, moms and dads must build relationships with their children through consistent affirmation, discipline and affection—God's unconditional love expressed in tangible ways day by day.

Deuteronomy 6:5-7 (NIV) *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

Start Talking:

- What do you think is the best Mother's Day gift that you have given? Why?
- When you think of your parent(s), what's the greatest thing that they have taught you?

Start Thinking:

- **Read Proverbs 30:28.** This past weekend Ms. Terry mentioned that we need to be careful with the things that we allow into our home and our life. What do you think this means? What are some ways that we allow negative things into our lives?
- **Read John 16:33.** In this verse, Jesus warns us that we will face difficulties in our lives, but we can have courage because He has overcome the world. One of our focuses during challenging seasons should be on what we are learning as a result of challenges. What is God teaching you in this season's challenges?
- Many people often struggle with finding balance in their lives. How do you approach balance in your own life? Do you feel like you're managing that tension well? Why?

Start Praying:

Ask for prayer needs in your group. Have group members that feel comfortable praying aloud pray for others. Close your prayer time by praying boldly over your group members that they would have joy and courage in the midst of our current circumstances.

Start Doing:

- Attend church online this coming weekend - <https://church-redeemer.churchonline.org>. If possible host a watch party over Facebook and be part of service with your group.
- Call one person this week to encourage them and to pray for them. If they are not attending a church invite them to attend the online service this coming weekend.