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## **ALL IN TO BUILD FOR OUR FUTURE**

"The God of heaven Himself will prosper us: therefore we His servants will arise and build...So we built...for the people had a mind to work. A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children..." Nehemiah 2:20; 4:6; Proverbs 13:22 (NKJV)



## This Week's Thought – May 14, 2017 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." 3 John 1:4 (NIV)

'Greater joy' is the outcome of children who walk in the truth. Parents are joyful; grandparents are joyful; mentors are joyful...the children are joyful! Thus, children walking in truth is an excellent goal for parents. We must walk in the truth ourselves, while at the same time training our children to do the same. 'Truth-walking' if you will, is merely joyful living. So this begs the question, "What is truth?" Well quite simply, truth is what God defines as truth. Hence, Jesus is truth! (John 14:6) When we examine and learn about Jesus, we begin to know and understand truth.

Once Christ enters your life, you have an uncanny capability to embrace truth because truth resides within you. You can then point your children to Jesus. Your belief points them to Jesus; your behavior points them to Jesus; your words point them to Jesus; your note of encouragement points them to Jesus; your decisions point them to Jesus. Every day you have the opportunity to point your children to Jesus.

Walking in truth becomes as natural as breathing. Granted walking in truth is not always easy; because it requires the ability to stand alone more often than not. Even when your closest friends or family choose to reject or ignore truth, you must embrace it! I also have to tell you, that walking in truth is not a trouble-free life either. It may, in fact, facilitate conflict, but you remain steadfast in your commitment to truth-living, and truth-telling. The truth is when you and your children walk in truth, there is no greater joy.

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So, it just makes sense that parents become truth-seekers, truth-livers and then transferors of truth to their children. This is a gift that keeps on giving. When you give your children the truth, you give them the way to live an abundant life. Your parental heart swells with pride when you see your children choose truth over a lie. The by-products are numerous. Not only is there great joy that comes as a result of truth-living, there is freedom, peace, security, and productivity for the Kingdom of God. Therefore, do not be afraid of the truth. It is your friend and your guide. Truth is on your side, and truth can be trusted.

We must be careful however, to validate truth with God's Word. Make sure your feelings are not accepting a façade of truth. When you believe a lie in the guise of truth, you will suffer relational friction and joyless living. Some flaunt lies masqueraded as truth because it benefits them. Expose those who peddle deception disguised as truth. Look to the truth-giver, Jesus Christ, for the final word. The Bible is crystal clear in all matters related to living out truth. God's truth is clear. Its application may be hard or fuzzy, but His truth is transparent, timeless, and not trendy.

As a parent, make it a priority to teach your children truth. Make sure their education is based on the truth of Scripture, for there is no other truth. Lead them to Jesus so they can fall in love with Jesus. Yes, challenge them to be intellectually honest with the premise that Jesus is truth and that the Holy Spirit will guide them in all truth. Truth is not illusive. So, live it, seek it, and pass it on to your children and others. Greater joy is awaiting all who hang out with truth. Invest in truth, and receive a return on investment of no greater joy.

Mothers, this is your day. May God bless you in it, and I pray for ALL the children in your life to grow up loving you and the Lord God Almighty; thus bring you 'great joy' to your heart.

Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: Dear Lord, today I turn to You to give You thanks for my mother, and mothers all over the world. Please bless them Lord, and comfort them in all they give and do. Strengthen them when they are down, and give them hope when they are discouraged. Most of all Lord, on this Mother's Day, give my mother and all mothers, those intangible blessings they most need and desire today. I ask You this, in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior forever and ever AMEN!

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King