



Home Is Where The Heart Is



Where is your heart? Is it where you are, or is it out searching for a relationship to fulfill you? Is your heart into making a home for yourself and your children, or is it restless – waiting for happiness to come along? When your children are grown, what will they remember about the home you made for them as children? Will they have memories of you cooking special things, making home a clean and safe refuge where they could find comfort from the painful hurts of growing up? Or will they remember that you never seemed to be there, even when you were there? Will they all their lives feel unlovable because of that big hole inside of their soul that only a mother's love could fill?



What do you remember about your own home? Do you remember the things you didn't like about it? Are you making sure your family is not experiencing those same things? Are the things your parents did to hurt you being repeated through you to your family? Have you ever stopped to ask yourself, "when my children look back on their childhood, will they remember a happy home or one they didn't like?" You will be the one who makes the memories for your children. Even a single parent can make a house a home when their heart is there. But, your heart will only be there if you value your family as your treasure. If you covet what other people have, and keep looking outside your home to other people's treasures, you will miss your own.

Jesus said this in His sermon on the mount recorded in Matthew 6:20,21: "*Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth or rust can corrupt, and where thieves do not break through or steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*" You may only have one room in a shelter, but if your children are your treasure, you can make that room a home for them to remember, because your love held them in your arms and your thoughts were toward their needs and their comfort.

The word "heart" in the Bible means, your thoughts, your feelings, your mind. When these three things are centered on being a godly mother and raising your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord – the working of these will be the treasures that you lay up in heaven that cannot be corrupted or destroyed. If your treasures are in heaven, your thoughts, your feelings, and your mind, will be there also, and you and your little family will live in perfect peace, for God's promise is to "*keep you in perfect peace if your mind is stayed (set) on Him because you trust in Him.*" (Isaiah 26:3)



Our society has lost sight of the fact that motherhood and fatherhood are the highest calling on any person's life. God has a plan and a calling for every child conceived in a mother's womb, and the mother and father of that child are called by God to watch over, protect, provide for and love that child every day of it's life until it can do those things for itself.

(Cont'd)

Every child ever born is a spirit-being whose spirit and soul will live forever, either in heaven or in hell, depending on the kind of godly nurturing it receives in it's lifetime.

In the beginning of life on earth, when God created the first man and the first woman, the first thing He said to them was to have children. *“And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.”* (Genesis 3:20)

For centuries after that the bearing of children was the only thing that gave a woman's life value. But today, too often instead of being something of value to treasure, a pregnancy is terminated by abortion simply because it's not a convenient time in the mother's life. How far we have let our own desires and passions bring us down to the lowest level in God's eyes – that of not valuing His greatest creation in the whole universe; human life! The spirit and soul of every aborted child is with the Lord now and will be forever.



Value your children. Repent before the Lord for the times you may have wanted to be free from the responsibility of raising children, or resented being tied down every day. Remind yourself that being a mother is the greatest thing to be in this world because you have given birth to a child that is going to live forever with the imprint of your personality upon it. Your child has a destiny. As a mother you are to help it discover the gifts and calling of God – what He wants the child to be – not what you want the child to be.

Just as God gives you the right to be different, you must give your child the same right. There must be basic rules to protect the rights and space of others, but beyond that, just love them. They don't have to get an A in every subject; they don't have to win in everything they enter. Let them dream, help their vision for their life. God doesn't use molds to form and shape people, He uses love.

To help keep your heart at home – and make it a storehouse for treasures, here are a few word pictures to hang on the walls of your heart:

- When you wake up in the morning, don't begin with “I've got a hundred things to do today.” Instead put on a happy face and say “Praise the Lord,” and ask what He wants you to do, how He wants to change you, and how to show His love to those in your home today.
- Let the first thing you say to your children in the morning be “God bless you, good morning!” and then make it a good morning.
- When your child leaves for school put your hand on his head and pray a blessing over him.
- When your child comes home, ask about their day – not why they left their room in such a mess.
- Remember there is no commandment in the Bible about keeping the house clean, but there is much written about the destruction caused by harsh, thoughtless and hurtful words. A clean room is not the measure of a child's worth.

(Cont'd)

- Before the children go to bed, have a prayer circle with them, letting each one find something to praise and thank God for.
- Banish fear and anxiety from your home by taking your position of spiritual authority over the devil's tactics to destroy your home. Protect the innocence of your children from outside forces – turn off the TV – and guard their childhood right to laugh and play.
- See your child as a personality to be released, not as a possession to be retained.
- Honor and respect yourself and your children.
- Help your child to honor and respect himself.
- Make your home your child's home where his friends are welcome.
- Maintain peace and order through firm, but gentle and understanding leadership – letting love be your guide.
- Lift Jesus up in every thought, word and deed until that glorious day when our heart will be home with Him where our treasure is.



Home Is Where The Heart Is

1. What does the word "heart" mean in the Bible?

2. Where should your heart be centered in raising your children?

3. What is every child that was ever born?

4. What were the first words God spoke to the first man and woman?

5. Why did Adam call his wife Eve?

6. Where is the spirit and soul of every aborted baby?

7. If God doesn't use molds to form and shape people, what does He use?

8. What should be the first thing you say to your children in the morning?

9. What is the one most important thing to make a home?

10. How can you know where your heart is? (Matthew 6:21)
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE _____

Home Is Where The Heart Is

1. What does the word “heart” mean in the Bible?

Your thoughts, your feelings, your mind.

2. Where should your heart be centered in raising your children?

On being a godly mother.

3. What is every child that was ever born?

A spirit being whose spirit and soul will live forever.

4. What were the first words God spoke to the first man and woman?

To have children.

5. Why did Adam call his wife Eve?

Because she was the mother of all living.

6. Where is the spirit and soul of every aborted baby?

With the Lord now and forever.

7. If God doesn't use molds to form and shape people, what does He use?

He uses love.

8. What should be the first thing you say to your children in the morning?

God bless you!

9. What is the one most important thing to make a home?

Lift Jesus up in every thought, word and deed.

10. How can you know where your heart is? (Matthew 6:21)

MEMORY VERSE “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”