

## SMART MOMS

Once upon a time, I was a very timid kid. I won't go into details, but my shyness and insecurities sometimes paralyzed me. On the other hand, my mom was a woman who could talk to anyone and would say what she thought, even if it wasn't popular. I'm sure having a kid like me was frustrating for her. I remember times when she would coach me before sending me out to deal with certain people and situations. One of the smartest things she ever said to me in preparing me to ask for something or negotiate over some terms was, "The worst thing they can do is say *No*." She encouraged me to try rather than not try based on the assumption that I already knew the answer. These words of wisdom have stayed with me for many years.

Proverbs 31:26

*She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.*

As I teach my own children, it is a regular occurrence to say: My mom used to say... Of course, they roll their eyes and pretend not to hear me, but I know they do. Moreover, they spend the entire day with their mother, who nurtures, teaches, and coaches them through life. I'm sure they will say the same thing to their kids one day. I can't wait to hear them say it!

The truth is, Moms are pretty smart. This is especially true when your mom acknowledges and follows the Lord.

Timothy was a faithful servant of the Lord. While Paul discipled him at an older age, his faith and knowledge were developed by his mother and grandmother at a very young age. They modeled, coached, and taught him the Word of God.

2 Timothy 1:5

*I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.*

2 Timothy 3:14-15

*14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom[a] you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.*

I imagine that Timothy, who had to face some challenging situations in ministry, had some moments in his life where he remembered what his mom had taught him. I have no doubt that those kind and loving words she breathed into his life, guided him in his faith journey and subsequent ministry.

That's the power of a faithful mother's teaching! Children, of all ages, be thankful today for a mother who raised you. Mothers, continue to teach and raise your children with kindness, pointing them towards the wisdom of God.

Happy Mother's Day,  
Ryan