

Women & More
A 'call' and 'walk' Experience

Ordinary Women

Worksheet 11: **November 12, 2015**—*integrity*

What is expected of a godly mother? In examining the mothers mentioned in God's Word, we find them, for the most part, to be of a common quality, rank and ability. That should encourage us. For the most important job in the world—that of being a parent—there has never been a degree required, special training mandated and no license ever issued. But be sure that God has his 'school' for this call!

There is power in the example of an ordinary life
lived with an awareness of God's presence
—seeing him in everything and doing all things for him.

—Unknown

"A family is the place where,
when you have to go there,
they have to take you in."

—Robert Frost

Webster defines ordinary
1 : to be expected: usual.
2 : of common quality, rank, or ability:
also: poor, inferior (syn customary, routine, normal everyday).

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Genesis 4:1b (Eve's name means *life-giving*)

Genesis 21:6 On giving birth to Isaac, Sarah says:

Malachi 2:15 (to the married)

2 Corinthians 7:1

Galatians 4:23 (of Abraham's two sons)

Scripture to Memorize:

Malachi 3:18 "*And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.*"

Prayer Requests and Praises:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:

1. Do you feel that you are an ordinary woman? _____. Describe the qualities you possess which place you in the *ordinary* category.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2. On the other hand, is there anything *ordinary* about being a “Child of God”? _____. In a **word** explain what would make the difference—the distinction.

The difference/distinction is: _____!

3. Our lesson is on the **integrity** of **being** who God wants us to be as described in His Word; of **becoming** more and more what He wants us to become as defined by His Way, and then **doing** for Him what he has pre-determined by His Will. What will be your part? (**Clue:** It’s all in the above paragraph.)

Being: _____

Becoming: _____

Doing: _____

God wants us to be all we can be, yes...just not someone else!

Recommended Reading:

A Woman of Value, Dee Brestin
Extending Your Heritage, J. Otis Ledbetter and Randy Scott
Revival Signs, Tom Phillips with Mark Cutshall
Women of the Bible, Ann Spangler and Jean Syswerda
Discipleship (Followship) Ministry
Integrity—Fall 2015—jmoore

My own ordinary mother, *Rosella*, became an extra-ordinary woman of integrity because she had allowed God to make the difference and distinction in her life. She knew Jesus Christ as her Savior and followed him as Lord. Upon her death on January 3, 2005, I wrote these words and read them at her funeral.

At First

Before I knew I had even been born, there you were...my mother!
I didn't know what that meant, but I did know you had an interest in me.
Your sparkling eyes and your smile...almost a mile across your face it seemed;
I'd run my fingers down the bridge of your nose, until you'd grab them and tell me 'no.'
You'd look at me and I knew that love was there and that was enough...**at first.**

My three sisters—and the brother that I especially prayed and asked God for
Were extensions of you mother, and, of course, of daddy and even a little of me.
The ones we gave back to God several years ago are still very close in my memory.
God knew the number of days for my sister and dad, and He talks with them now,
Though I don't understand about death, I trust God and it will be okay...**at first.**

The things that you sewed, the crocheted blankets, and your paintings hang in my heart.
But I especially cherished your attention and affirmation, and it was enough most times,
'Til the others came along, and I knew they had your interest too—I loved them for you!
I'd emulate and imitate your mothering though my efforts weren't appreciated much.
Practice didn't make me a mom, didn't give me that loving commitment...**at first.**

Stories from the Bible you'd read and tell, Japanese people—Sunday school classes,
Piano students after school and on weekends; I remember them all.
The swell of your music on Saturday mornings—a personal concert for me;
You'd practice the piano—praising God with your fingers—leaving songs in my heart.
I gave my heart and life to the Lord Jesus Christ, and played for Him like you...**at first.**

Married and gone, I missed you so much, but learned to talk and listen by phone.
All the training and teaching you tenderly sowed took root, sprouting deep in my soul.
Today your thoughts are familiar, your voice a sweet song and your approval the best!
Mother to five—ten with spouses—grandmother to sixteen and a *great* to ten more,
I want to be like you in faith, in loyalty, and love, to be near you again like...**at first.**

At last, though, your investment in me I reflect and give back to you...my Mother, my Friend—the Lord God let you happen to me because it was all in His plans!

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.”*

Jeremiah 29:11

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