

“Motherhood”

Rev. David J. Bauer



My mother gave birth to eleven children. I happened to be the firstborn. None of us children were twins; most of us were spaced a year or two apart. She never failed to call each of us on the phone the morning of our particular birthday. That was her priority, to sing Happy Birthday to each of us on our birthdates. Being the oldest I sometimes would ask her about labor pains and how she could endure this pain so many times. She insisted that each of her labors were different; she could describe each of them in some detail as she remembered them. If I probed deeper into the issue she would declare, “But you were the greatest pain!”

She would also declare that she could never forgive me because the day I married she was 8 months pregnant and had to wear a maternity dress to my wedding! I eventually thought of an answer to that complaint: “Mom, with eleven pregnancies in 20 years, when “would” (or could) I have gotten married?”

Motherhood is a celebration. Scriptures teach us that “*Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord; and the fruit of the womb is His reward*” –Psalm 127:3. Women in Bible times were anxious to bear children. It is remarkable that the stories of sadness and desperation of the barren woman are repeated so frequently in the Scriptures.

>Abraham had a wife named Sarah with no children until she was 91 years old. As God promised she miraculously conceived and bare Isaac. –Genesis 20

>Isaac had a wife named Rebekah who was barren for 20 years. But God intervened and she bare twins: Esau and Jacob. –Genesis 25

>Jacob had four wives; but the love of his life, Rachel was barren. She told her husband: “Give me children or I die!” God heard her cry and intervened; she bore Joseph and later Benjamin. She did die after severe labor of giving birth to Benjamin. –Genesis 35

>Manoah had a wife who was barren. But God miraculously gave them a son named Samson, a judge and mighty deliverer of the Israelites from the bondage of the Philistines. –Judges 13

>Elkanah had a wife named Hannah who was barren. She cried out to God. God heard her cry and gave her a son she named Samuel. As she had promised the Lord, she gave her son back to God to be raised amongst the priesthood. Samuel became a mighty priest, prophet and Judge in Israel. –1 Samuel 1. God then later rewarded Hannah’s faithfulness to her promise with several sons and daughters. –1 Samuel 2

>A Shunammite woman providing for Elisha and his servant was also barren. Elisha told both her and her husband that she would give birth to a son within the next year. God gave her a son in her later years. –2 Kings 4



Rev. David J. & Dolores Bauer
Director & Office Assistant

>Zacharias’ wife, Elizabeth. was barren and up in years. God intervened; she miraculously conceived and birthed John the Baptist. –Luke 1

>Mary, engaged to Joseph, was barren (a virgin). She found favor with God and was willing to do what God asked her to do. She miraculously conceived and bore the God-man, Jesus, who would save people from their sins. –Luke 1

Indeed, none of us would be here were it not for a mother, who risked her life and health to conceive, suffer 9 months of weight gain, bloating, strain on kidneys, bladder and generally the whole bodily system. Then she will start the painful, straining, tiring process of labor, pulsing, pushing with every muscle of her being to finally deliver a living procreated being, who will then keep waking her up most nights for at least the next 6 months. I marvel that my mother accomplished this amazing feat over and over eleven times!

We are told that women are the weaker sex. I disagree emphatically! No man could equal my mother’s efforts. If it were ever possible for a man to go through the painful process from conception through childbirth he would certainly not do it a second time! No way! Couple this with the knowledge that women average a longer life than men even today. How do they do it? It appears like in His infinite wisdom God created Eve and her many daughters from past millennia up to the modern day, with enough stamina and grit to bear the marathon of pregnancy and childbirth. Are women emotional? Yes; subject to instant tears? You bet! But when called upon to endure immeasurable discomfort and pain lasting many times for hours (and then mostly not remember it), the mother rises to the occasion!

So we celebrate motherhood this month. I remember my own mother of the many children. I love and salute my wife, Dolores, who has the heart of a mother and grandmother. And marvel at our God who created women who would get the job of procreation done throughout these many generations!

Mom’s 10 Commandments For a Happy Household

1. If you take it out, put it away.
2. If you eat on it, wash it.
3. If you turn it on, turn it off.
4. If you mess it up, clean it up.
5. If you drop it, pick it up.
6. If it rings, answer it.
7. If it barks, walk it.
8. If you open it, close it.
9. If I cook it, eat it.
10. If I say do it, don’t ask why.

Everyday your heart beats 103,240 times, your blood travels 168,000 miles and you eat 3 ½ pounds of food. You also turn in your sleep 23 times, speak 4,800 words and exercise 7,000,000,000 brain cells. You are a fascinating creature!

And you are important to God, who sent His Son to earth to save you! –John 3:16-18

favorite RECIPES

Glazed Pork & Rice Dinner

- 4 Boneless Pork Chops $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick
- 1 Can (14 $\frac{1}{2}$ Oz.) Chicken Broth (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ Cups)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ Cup Apricot Preserves or Orange Marmalade
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon-style Mustard
- 2 Cups Uncooked Instant Rice

Cook Chops in nonstick skillet until browned. Remove Chops. Add Broth, Preserves and Mustard. Heat to a boil.

Stir in Rice. Top with Chops. Cover and cook over low heat for 5 minutes or until done. Yield: 4 servings.



Does your dishwasher need cleaning? Use powdered laundry bleach instead of dishwasher detergent in empty machine. It will clean and disinfect.

Knives poke through your silverware rack in the dishwasher? Cut a small sponge to fit in the bottom of the rack or cut to fit a small plastic screen with larger holes.

Time to dig out those Ice Chests for summer. Get them smelling fresh by sprinkling the inside with Baking Soda, then close the lid for an hour. Rinse with clean water and dry with a cloth dampened with white vinegar.

Tablecloth Storage: Install a spring loaded Curtain Rod in the back of the closet behind the clothes. Hang tablecloths on it to eliminate wrinkles and fold lines.

Inheritance: The very best inheritance a mother can leave her children is a good example.

Leave a legacy for your family & favorite ministries. When planning a legacy, give Terry L. Balko a call at 404-229-1645 or email Mr. Balko for forms and details at terrylbalko@gmail.com.

Don't let your hard earned life-savings go into a probate bureaucracy! NOT PLANNING is a plan, but it is NOT a very good plan!

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Bible Related Ministries Newsletter

Rev. David J. Bauer, Director



2025

"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord; and the fruit of the womb is His reward" –Psalm 127:3.

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Rev. David J. Bauer's BRM Itinerary



May 11 – Roberts Road Bible Church 10:45 a.m.

Mother's Day message.

May 18 - Summit Bible Church 11:00 a.m. Special

Service celebrating Ordination of pastor Juan Gil.

When not preaching, Rev. David Bauer will be visiting supporting churches this month.

BRM Interims and Associates Engaged in Ministry:

>Rev. Steve Barack, BRM Associate – Awaiting the next BRM assignment. Ready to go!

>Dr. Al Carson, Sr. BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Edwards Corners Bible Church, Marcellus, MI

>Dr. Joe Stewart, BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Grace Bible Church, Dallas City, IL

>Rev. Darwyn Hassert, BRM Associate - Smyrna Bible Church (and vicinity), MI, preaches and assists as needed in nearby areas

>Rev. Don Zimmerman, Interim Pastor of Western Springs Baptist Church, IL

>Rev. Jim Vyleta, Interim Pastor West Madison Bible Church, Verona (Madison), WI

Lighter Side: Things Mom Would Never Say:

"Just leave the lights on. It makes the house look more cheery."

"Let me smell that shirt. Yea, it's good for another week."

"Go ahead and keep that stray dog. I'd be glad to feed and walk him every day."

"Well if Robert's mamma says it's OK, that is good enough for me."

"The curfew is just a general time to shoot for. It's not like I'm running a prison around here."

"I don't have a tissue with me. Just use your sleeve."

BRM Field Report #5

Our phones have been ringing, with pastors, elders and concerned church people.

A concerned church member finds it disturbing when Scripture is read by a man or woman rather than the pastor. We are straining over trivial things today, while the churches, houses and families in Ukraine are suffering horrors of a real war.

A pastor believes that a person who has fallen into sin should confess the matter to the whole church, even though he has offended only one person.

Two of our associates are engaged in conversations advising churches faced with dissolution or possibilities of merging with another active church in the area.

Another church which has been supporting BRM for 14 years is in the process of merging with a much larger church in their area. They have already informed us that their missionary support will end soon. This can happen as a by product of a merge or dissolution of a church.

Missions are a real concern for a church. Many churches support and sponsor active missionaries currently out on the field. As churches experience splits and attendance dwindles, so does missionary support. Missionaries in foreign countries cannot come back to restore their support until the furlough year. By the time the missionary family returns, stateside church support level is already low.

A pastor contacted us regarding BRM getting him ready for ordination. We have a team that helps a candidate develop a good doctrinal statement. We then get him ready to answer questions usually asked by the council. Finally we get an Ordination Council together to examine the candidate. And, we help him plan a formal Ordination Service.

However, we all know that ordination does not make a pastor. Only God can call a pastor and only God can sustain him in the many exhausting duties of the pastorate.

Sincerely,

Rev. David J. Bauer -Titus 2:13