

BIBLE WOMEN - LESSON 5
Tamar - Potiphar's Wife – Hebrew Midwives – Jochebed
by Beverly McKey

I. TAMAR, THE CANAANITE WOMAN – Genesis chapter 38

- A. After the ten sons of Jacob sold their brother, Joseph, to the Ismaelites (Midianites), Judah left his brothers and married a Canaanite woman named Shua. We have no other information on her.
1. Judah had three sons: Er, Onan and Shelah. **Genesis 38:1-5**
 2. Judah selected a wife for his son Er; her name was Tamar
 3. Er was "*wicked in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord killed him*". (vs 7)
 4. Imagine how evil one would have to be for God to strike him dead.
- B. What is the Levirate Law?
1. It is not known when this law originated, however it was the custom even in the Patriarchal period.
 2. This practice was still in effect when Jesus lived on earth. (**Matt. 22:15-28**)
 3. If a married man dies before he has any children, his oldest brother must marry his widow (even if he already has a wife).
 - a. This was to protect the dead brother's inheritance (land) as well as to ensure that the widow has someone to take care of her.
 - b. The way the land was kept in the dead brother's name was that the first child born to the widow and her second husband would be counted as the son of the first husband.
 - c. All children later born were children of the second husband.
 4. If the second husband dies without children, the next brother in line must marry the widow.
 5. If the brother is unwilling to perform his duty by marrying his sister-in-law, he had to face the elders of the town, and take off his shoe and give it to the widow.
 - a. This was a sign of mourning because his brother was now considered irrevocably dead, with no child to carry on his name.
 - b. However, the brother would be scorned if he refused to perform his duty to his brother.
- C. Tamar, the widow of Er, was then subject to the Levirate law so she married Er's brother Onan.
1. Onan did not want to be harshly judged by refusing to marry his sister-in-law, so he married her and then refused to have a child with her for her dead husband.
 2. Onan's behavior displeased the Lord, so He struck him dead also.
- D. This is where Judah's problems really began.
1. Judah son Shelah, was not yet of age, so Judah told Tamar to go back to her father and live as a widow until Shelah was old enough to marry.
 - a. Judah may not have intended to keep this bargain at all.

- b. Judah seemed to think that Tamar was cursed, since both of his sons that married her had died. **Genesis 38:11**
 - c. Judah did not want to lose his only son to her curse, so even when Shelah became of age, Judah did not fulfill his bargain with Tamar.
 - d. During the time that Shelah was growing to maturity, Judah's wife died. **Vs. 12**
2. Tamar took revenge on Judah because he left her with no husband and no child.
- a. Sometime later, Judah went with his men to a town called Timnah to shear his sheep.
 - b. Someone told Tamar that that Judah was going to shear his sheep and she knew that Shelah was already of age and Judah had not given him to marry her as he said he would. **Vs. 14**
 - 1) A widow with no children was at a great financial disadvantage with no husband or children to take care of her, so Tamar was desperate for a child.
 - 2) Tamar decided she would have a child from the lineage of Judah one way or the other.
 - c. Tamar took off her widow's garments and covered herself with a veil and sat in an open place on the way to Timnah, where she knew Judah would be passing by.
 - d. When Judah saw her, he did not recognize her. He thought she was a harlot, so he struck a bargain with her for her services. **Vs. 15**
 - 1) Tamar asked him what he would pay her and he agreed to send her a young goat from his flock.
 - 2) Tamar said she wanted him to leave some personal items as a pledge that he would really send the goat to her when he returned home. **Vs. 18**
 - 3) She asked Judah for his signet and cord and his staff, so he gave them to her to hold until he sent the goat.
 - a) The "signet" was usually a ring with a special design that could be stamped onto agreements as a "signature" identifying the owner.
 - b) It was most often worn around the neck, hung by a cord.
 - c) The staff was usually intricately carved in a unique pattern which allowed the owner to identify his rod from any other.
 - d) Tamar was very clever to choose such personal items that would leave no doubt as to their owner.
 - 4) Tamar conceived a child with Judah, then she left and put on her widow's garments and went home. He still did not know who she was. **Vs. 19**
 - a) Judah sent a friend to take the young goat to the woman and to retrieve his personal items, but he could not find the woman. **Vs. 20**

- b) He asked the men of that town where the harlot who was openly soliciting by the roadside, but they said, "There was no harlot in this place."
- c) So, he returned to Judah and reported that he could not find her.
- d) Judah said, "*Let her keep my things for herself, or we will be shamed.*" **Vs. 23**
- 5) Three months passed and Judah was told that his daughter-in-law, Tamar, had been immoral and was expecting a child. **Vs. 24**
 - a) Judah was furious and said, "Bring her out and let her be burned!"
 - b) When they brought her out, she sent a message to Judah saying, "The man who owns these items is the father of my child." **Vs. 25**
 - c) Judah was ashamed and he admitted that Tamar had been more righteous than he had been because he did not keep his word (vow) to give Shelah to be her husband. **Vs. 26**
 - d) When it came time for the birth, it was learned that Tamar was having twins. **Vs. 27**
 - e) When the first child's hand emerged, the midwife tied a scarlet thread on his wrist.
 - f) But the child withdrew his hand and the other child was born first, and the child with the scarlet thread was born second.
 - g) Their names were Perez (born first) and Zerah (born second).
3. Tamar then had two sons from Judah's lineage, but there is no evidence that she ever married Shelah.
 - a. Tamar's two sons were counted as sons of Judah in his lineage. **(Genesis 46:12)**
 - b. From Perez, Judah's lineage continued, as seen in **Ruth 4:18-22**.
"¹⁸ Now this is the genealogy of Perez: Perez begot Hezron; ¹⁹ Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab; ²⁰ Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon; ²¹ Salmon begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed; ²² Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David." and of course, Jesus Christ came from this lineage.
- E. Tamar was a woman caught in circumstances which were out of her control.
 1. It was not her fault that she was bound in marriage to Er, who was so evil God killed him.
 2. It was not her fault that she was bound in marriage to Onan, who was too cowardly to refuse to marry her, but deceitfully refused to provide her with an heir for his brother.
 3. It was not her fault that Judah considered her under a "curse" since both of his sons who married her were dead.
 4. She remained faithfully a widow, waiting for Shelah to come of age in order that she could marry him (according to custom).

5. Judah reneged on his promise (vow) that Shelah would marry Tamar when he became of age.
6. While Tamar's trickery was sinful, apparently God judged Judah even more harshly:
 1. Judah fail to keep his word (vow). Remember last spring we talked about "vows". **Numbers 30:1-2** – *"Then Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes concerning the children of Israel, saying, "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: ² If a man makes a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by some agreement, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth."*
 2. Judah also gave in to his lust when he struck the bargain with the woman he thought was a harlot.
7. Judah realized that even though Tamar had tricked him, she was more righteous than he was.
8. God blessed Tamar by giving her twins so she would have someone to care for her when her sons matured.
9. God blessed her son, Perez, by allowing his descendants to be the special line that would eventually produce the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

II. **POTIPHAR'S WIFE – Genesis chapter 39**

- A. Joseph was the favorite son of Jacob whose brothers sold him to a traveling band of Ishmaelite (Midianite) merchants.
 1. They sold Joseph for 20 shekels of silver, which is less than the price of a slave. **Genesis 37:28**
 2. The Ishmaelites then sold Joseph again when they reached Egypt.
- B. Joseph became a slave in the household of Potiphar, a captain of the guard in Pharaoh's army. **Genesis 37:36**
 1. The Lord was with Joseph in all he did. **Genesis 39:2**
 2. Potiphar also saw that the Lord made everything Joseph did prosper.
 3. Potiphar made Joseph overseer of his house and all that he had was under Joseph's authority. **Vs. 4**
 4. Potiphar trusted Joseph so much that he did not even keep up with the increase in his property. All he knew about was what he ate every day.
 1. Soon after making his master's household greatly increase, Potiphar's wife took notice of Joseph. He was young and very handsome.
 2. Potiphar's wife "... cast longing eyes on Joseph and she said, 'Lie with me.'" **Vs. 6**
 - a. In Egyptian society at this time, the slaves were considered property and were often forced to submit to immoral acts by their owner.
 - b. Perhaps Joseph was not the first slave that Potiphar's wife had commanded to submit to her lust.
 2. Jacob was very surprised at her audacity.

- a. Jacob tried to explain that Potiphar had trusted him with everything he had except his wife and he could not commit this great sin against God and against Potiphar. **Vs. 9**
- b. So Joseph tried to avoid her but every time she saw him she commanded him to “lie with her”.
3. Eventually, Potiphar’s wife found Joseph alone in the house while the servants were all outside the house. **Vs. 11**
 - a. Thinking this was her best opportunity, she took hold of his garment and again commanded him to “Lie with her”.
 - b. Jacob was so eager to get away from this shameless woman that he pulled out of his cloak and left it in her hand and ran outside. **Vs. 13**
 - c. Potiphar’s wife followed him outside and she called to the “men of the house” (servants): **Vs. 13-15**
 - 1) She was furious at Joseph’s rejection so she showed the men his cloak and accused him of attacking her.
 - 2) She said that when she screamed he got scared and ran out without his cloak.
 - d. When Potiphar came home, she accused Joseph of mocking her AND attacking her.
 - e. Potiphar believed her even though there were no witnesses and Joseph was cast into prison. **Vs. 20**
 - 1) It is interesting to note that this prison was usually just for criminals to spend a short while before either being put to death or being released, as in the circumstances of the king’s butler and the baker. **Genesis 40:1-23**
 - 2) Egypt had no prison system, nor did the other nations,.
 - 3) The fact that Joseph was not put to death may have shown that Potiphar was not VERY sure that his wife was telling the truth, but he sent Joseph to the Pharaoh’s prison to “save face” for himself.
- C. We see again the depravity that existed in idolatrous nations like Egypt
 1. Egyptians had no limits to what they would do for their own pleasure.
 2. The work was done by slaves, which left the nobility free to pursue pleasure and entertainment full time.
 3. Potiphar’s wife was a typical Egyptian.
 - a. She had no loyalty to her husband, evidenced by the way she chased Joseph.
 - b. She believed that Joseph had no right to refuse her advances since he was “just a slave”, property that belonged to her.
 - c. She was selfish and only considered the situation from her own perspective and how she felt about it.
 - d. She was furious that Joseph challenged her authority by refusing her advances.
 - e. She was vindictive and she made Joseph pay for his refusal by having him sent to prison for a crime he did not commit.

4. Unfortunately, there are still people today who are very much like Potiphar's wife.
 - a. They are only interested in seeking pleasure in any form.
 - b. There are no limits regarding what they consider pleasure: including drugs, alcohol and every immoral activity imaginable.
 - c. Recently, young people have been arrested for killing a random victim because they were "bored". It was just a way to entertain themselves.
 5. The only thing that saved Egypt in its day was God working through Joseph.
 - a. Without Joseph's influence, Egypt likely would have collapsed under the weight of the severe famine.
 - b. It was Joseph's interpretation of the Pharaoh's dream that warned him of the severe famine to come.
 - c. It was Joseph who was in charge of helping the nation prepare for the famine by storing up food to last them through the duration of the famine.
- B. Christianity will be the only thing that saves our nation today.
1. We must not allow Christianity to be stamped out by the messengers of Satan who continually attempt to do so.
 - a. Atheists are constantly challenging the expression of Christianity in every public venue.
 - b. They have won many victories by preventing:
 - 1) Prayer before sports events of public schools
 - 2) Prayers before City Council meetings
 - 3) Christmas displays
 - 4) Bibles to be carried by Military personnel
 - 5) The Ten Commandments from being displayed in courts and government buildings.
 - 6) Students from reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in school because it contains "one nation under God".
 - c. We must be serious about evangelism if Christianity is going to flourish again in this nation.
 - d. We must be able to demonstrate that the Christian life is to be preferred over the evil taking hold of society today.
 - e. We must continually pray that the enemies of this nation will be defeated by God, just as He helped the Israelites defeat the heathen nations living in Canaan.
 - f. We must teach our sons and daughters so well that their faith will be like Joseph's when they face people who want to draw them into their evil life styles. Pray also that they have the courage to "run away" like Joseph did.

III. GOD'S PROVIDENCE ALLOWED JOSEPH TO RISE IN AUTHORITY OVER EGYPT IN ORDER TO SAVE HIS FATHER AND BROTHERS.

- A. **Genesis 39 – 49** – These chapters give us the details about how Jacob's twelve sons came to dwell in the land of Goshen, the most fertile section of Egypt.
1. God gave Joseph the ability to interpret dreams, so when Pharaoh had mysterious dreams, Joseph was called to interpret the dreams.
 - a. Pharaoh's first dream was of seven fat cows coming up out of the river followed by seven skinny cows who ate the fat cows.
 - b. Pharaoh's second dream was of seven plump heads of grain followed by seven thin heads of wheat that ate the plump heads of grain.
 - c. When Joseph heard this he gave this interpretation:
 - 1) Both dreams mean the same thing.
 - 2) The seven fat cows and the seven plump heads of grain are seven years of plenty throughout Egypt
 - 3) The seven skinny cows and the seven thin heads of grain are seven years of extreme famine in all of Egypt.
 - 4) The dream was repeated twice because God will shortly bring it to pass.
 2. Joseph suggested that Pharaoh appoint someone to organize the collection of one-fifth of all of the produce of the land each year for seven years, to be used during the seven years of famine, so Pharaoh gave that job to Joseph.
 - a. Joseph was second in command over all Egypt, next to Pharaoh.
 - b. By this time Joseph was thirty years old. It had been thirteen years since his brothers sold him to the caravan of Ishmaelites. (**Genesis 37:2**)
 - c. Pharaoh gave Jacob a woman to take for his wife named Asenath, who bore him two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.
 3. The famine was also severe in Canaan so Jacob sent all of his sons except Benjamin (Rachel's son) to Egypt to purchase grain. (**Genesis 42:1-2**)
 - a. Joseph's dreams of his youth that he was superior over his brothers was now accomplished.
 - b. Joseph was able to save his father and brothers from the famine after he made himself known to his brothers.
 - c. Jacob sent his brothers back to get his father and all of their families and bring them to Egypt to live.
 4. Jacob introduced his brothers to Pharaoh and requested land for them to live where they could pasture their flocks. **Genesis 47:1-12**
 - a. Pharaoh gave them possession of the best of the land in Goshen
 - b. Seventy people in all of Jacob's family were living in Egypt, including Joseph, his wife and two sons. **Genesis 46:27**
 - c. Jacob's only request was that he would not be buried in Egypt, but that his body should be taken back to Canaan and be buried with his wife Leah, along with Abraham, Sara, Isaac and Rebekah in the cave of Machpelah. **Genesis 47:39-30**

- B. Jacob (Israel) lived in the land of Goshen for 17 years and died at the age of 147 years.
1. Before his death he called Joseph and his sons to his side to bless them.
 2. Jacob (Israel) told Joseph that God had promised to make him “fruitful and multiply” into a multitude of people who would take possession of the land of Canaan as an everlasting possession. (**Genesis 48:4**)
 3. Jacob also claimed Joseph’s two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim as his own sons who take precedence over Reuben and Simeon (his first and second born sons), Manasseh would receive an inheritance equal to twice as much as each of his other sons. This occurred when Israel returned to Canaan and Manasseh received twice as much land as the other tribes. (**Genesis 48:5**)
 4. Then Jacob wanted to bless Joseph’s sons and he placed his right hand on Ephraim’s head and his left hand on Manasseh. (**Genesis 48:14-19**)
 - a. Joseph tried to correct his father, since Manasseh was older and should receive the special blessing of the “first born”.
 - b. Jacob said that he understood that Manasseh was older and that he would also become a great nation, but his younger brother would be greater (just as Jacob had been the younger and still gained preeminence over his brother Esau)
- C. Joseph had his father embalmed as was the practice in Egypt and they mourned for him seventy days. (**Genesis 50:1-3**)
1. When the days of mourning were complete, Joseph asked Pharaoh for permission to take his father back to Canaan for burial and then he would return to Egypt.
 2. Pharaoh gave permission and sent and sent a large company of servants and elders of the land of Egypt to go with Joseph.
 3. All of Jacob’s sons and family also went to bury their father.
- D. When they all returned to Goshen, Joseph’s brothers feared that Joseph would take revenge on them since their father was dead.
1. The brothers sent a message to Joseph saying that before their father died he commanded them all to tell Joseph that they were sorry for their trespasses against him and asked him to forgive them. **Genesis 50:15**
 2. Then his brothers bowed down before Joseph and said they would be his servants. (Fulfillment of the dreams Joseph had as a youth)
 3. Joseph said, *“Do not be afraid, for I am not in the place of God. But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.”* **Vs. 20**
 4. Joseph lived 17 years in Goshen and saw Ephraim’s and Manasseh’s children to the third generation.
 - a. Before his death, Joseph reminded his sons that God would surely take them out of Egypt some day, back to the land he promised to Abraham.

- b. Joseph asked his sons to take an oath to take his bones with them back to Canaan to be buried with his family in the cave of Machpelah.
- c. Joseph died at the age of 137,

IV. SHIPHRAH and PUAH - HEBREW MIDWIVES

- B. **Exodus 1** begins almost 400 years after the children of Israel (Jacob) had settled in Goshen.
 - 1. The seventy members of the children of Israel who had originally moved to Goshen had grown into a multitude.
 - 2. All they did was blessed by God as they continued to increase in number and in might.
 - 3. A new Pharaoh came to power who did not know Joseph. **Exodus 1:8**
 - a. He saw that the children of Israel were more in number and stronger than the Egyptians. **Vs. 9**
 - b. As with most monarchs, he was only concerned about losing his kingdom.
 - c. He decided that he must do something to keep them from rebelling and conquering Egypt or from joining their enemies in war to conquer Egypt. **Vs. 10**
- B. Pharaoh puts his plan to work:
 - 1. Phase 1 - Pharaoh decided to make the children of Israel slaves by setting taskmasters over them who would make their burden of work so great they wouldn't have the time or energy to organize a rebellion. **Vs. 14**
 - a. Their task was to build supply cities for Pharaoh, but the more they afflicted the Israelites, the more they multiplied and grew.
 - b. Pharaoh continued to increase the burden of the Israelites and forced them to work harder and harder.
 - 2. Phase 2, Pharaoh spoke to the Hebrew (Israelite) midwives: Shiphrah and Puah.
 - 3. Pharaoh ordered the midwives to kill the baby boys as soon as they were born, but let the girls live, after all you can hardly raise a rebellion without fighting men. **Vs. 15**
 - a. These midwives feared God and did not obey the Pharaoh
 - b. When Pharaoh learned that the midwives were not cooperating with his plan he asked, "*Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive.?*" (**Exodus 1:18**)
 - c. The midwives told Pharaoh that the Hebrew women were much stronger than the women of Egypt and they gave birth before the midwife could get there. **Vs. 19**
 - d. God blessed the midwives because they saved the baby boys.
 - e. Pharaoh then directed the people to cast every boy born into the river and every daughter would live.
- C. It is clear that God considered the actions of Shiphrah and Puah as heroic.

1. Their names are recorded in God's word so that their courage could be an example to God's people forever.
2. In the **Romans 13:1-7** Paul said, *"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."*
 - a. While this is a commandment, no law of the land can override the word of God, so Christians may refuse to obey government authorities:
 - i. When one is required to go against the word of God, or to deny his faith.
 - ii. When the law of the land authorizes actions that are immoral or unethical. We may not do immoral things and justify it by stating that it is the "law of the land". (Ex. Abortion)
 - iii. Citizens may refuse to obey the law when one is required to go against his own conscience (Ex. Hobby Lobby suit against the government for forcing them to provide drugs that cause an abortion by calling it "birth control".)
3. When a Christian decides to go against the law of the land, she must be willing to accept the consequences that go with that decision. (Ex. – Christians in Muslim countries who are told to convert to Islam or die.)
4. We must thank God every day that we live in a country where we are not required to make such a sacrifice "YET".
5. Shiphrah and Puah made such a decision. God protected them from the consequences of disobeying Pharaoh and he blessed them with families of their own. (**Exodus 1:10-21**)

V. **JOCHEBED** (yo'-sha-bed), **MOTHER OF MOSES – EXODUS 2**

- A. Among the millions of Hebrew slaves in Egypt was one special couple.
 1. Verse 1—*"A man from the tribe of Levi married a woman who was also a Levite."*
 2. It is interesting to note that, the story of the birth of their son Moses is given in **Exodus 2**, yet their names are only given in two places in the Bible.
 - a. **Exodus 6:20** - *"Now Amram took for himself Jochebed, his father's sister, as wife; and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of **Amram** were one hundred and thirty-seven."*
 - b. **Numbers 26:59** – *"The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed the daughter of Levi, who was born to Levi in Egypt; and to Amram she bore Aaron and Moses and their sister Miriam."*
- B. Jochebed's third child was born during the time when Pharaoh had commanded that the baby boys be thrown into the Nile and the baby girls were permitted to live.
 1. Jochebed could not obey the Pharaoh, so she hid her son until he was three months old and could not successfully hide him any longer. **Exodus 2:1-2**

2. Jochebed took a basket and coated the outside with asphalt and pitch which made it waterproof and able to float.
 3. Jochebed placed the basket holding the baby into the Nile river among some bulrushes.
 4. Jochebed's daughter, Miriam, stayed behind to watch the basket and make sure the child was safe.
 5. Soon the Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bathe with her maids.
 1. She saw the basket and sent her maid to retrieve it. **Exodus 2:5-6**
 2. She saw that the basket contained a Hebrew baby.
 3. When he began to cry and she had compassion on him.
 4. Miriam took advantage of this situation and asked Pharaoh's daughter if she wanted her to find a Hebrew woman to nurse the child for her.
 5. Pharaoh's daughter said "Go.", so Miriam brought Jochebed to her.
 6. Jochebed was paid for her work in taking care of the baby until he was weaned. **Vs. 2:9**
 7. Pharaoh's daughter named him Moses, because she had drawn him out of the water.
- B. Jochebed had saved her infant son's life and he grew up with all of the advantages of living in the palace of Pharaoh.
1. Jochebed's and Amram's faith has been recorded in **Hebrews 11:23** along with other heroes of the faith. *"²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command."*
 2. When Pharaoh ordered the baby boys all killed, it reminds us of the period of time in the New Testament when King Herod ordered the same thing because he had heard the prophecy of the birth of a "King" from the Magi.
 - a. Moses was to be the Savior of all Israelites who followed his directions.
 - i. They had to follow the specific instructions to place the blood of the "sacrificial lamb" on their doorposts.
 - ii. They had to eat the Passover meal as a reminder of the bitter years of slavery in Egypt.
 - iii. They had to be prepared to leave at a moment's notice.
 - iv. They had to leave Egypt and slavery behind.
 - b. Jesus Christ is the savior of all who follow His directions by "obeying the gospel". (**Romans 10:16; 2 Thes. 1:8; I Peter 4:17**)
 - i. We must follow the steps of salvation in order to access the blood of Christ: hear the gospel, believe it, repent of our sins, confess that Jesus is the Son of God, be baptized for the forgiveness of sins, live faithfully until we die.
 - ii. We must eat the Lord's Supper every Sunday to remind us that Jesus is our "sacrificial lamb" who took our sins upon himself when he was crucified on our behalf.
 - iii. We must leave behind our old lives of slavery to sin.

- iv. We must be prepared to go home to Heaven at a moment's notice.
- 2. Jochebed was given a short window of time when she could influence her son to become a servant of God.
 - a. She must have trained him very successfully, according to **Hebrews 11:24-26** – ¹²⁴ *By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.”*
 - b. We need Christian mothers with the same dedication to their children's spiritual lives as Jochebed.
 - v. We too have a short window of time that we can teach them to love God so deeply that they will remain faithful as adults.
 - vi. In order to do that, we must be committed to God ourselves, fully dedicated to living the best Christian lifestyle we can.
 - vii. Our example as Christians will teach our children much more than our words, or Bible classes, or sermons can ever do.