A MOTHER'S INFLUENCE

Proverbs 22:6 Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

I. THE FOUNDATION—

Psalms 127:1 Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

If you have a mom, there is nowhere you are likely to go where a prayer has not already been. — **Robert Brault**

"You'll never be a perfect parent but you can be a praying parent." (Praying Circles Around Your Children, Mark Batterson, back cover)

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray continually,

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

"Prayer is truly the greatest work I can do on behalf of my children."—Fern Nichols

(The Best Advice I Ever Got On Parenting, Jim Daly, 68)

II. THE WALLS—

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Exodus 18:20 Teach them his decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave.

My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her.

— George Washington

"An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy." -Spanich Proverb

"The woman who bore me is no longer alive, but I seem to be her daughter in increasingly profound ways." --Johnnetta Betsch Cole (Chicken Soup For The Soul—Thanks Mom, 202)

Lie—I am the center of the universe.

The Truth=God is the center of the universe.

III. THE ROOF—_____

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

"The world hopes for the best; but the Lord offers the best hope." –John Wesley White

(1001 Unforgettable Quotes About God, Faith, & the Bible, Ron Rhodes, 132)

Isaiah 61:2-3 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who^[a] have been called according to his purpose.

- IV. THE POWERSOURCE—_____
- 1 John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love
- 1 Corinthians 13:13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

"Making the decision to have a child is momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body.' --Elizabeth Stone

(<u>Chicken Soup For The Soul—Thanks Mom</u>, Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen & Wendy Walker, 138)

"perfection (as a mom) has eluded me, but love has not."

(Be The Best Mom You Can Be, Marina Slayton and Gregory W. Slayton, xxvi)