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10 Ways to Bless Your Family & Home



A Spiritual Perspective for Wives & Mothers

- 1. Put On A Happy Face.** If we want a heavenly atmosphere in our homes we must wear a happy face. The face we wake up with will determine the atmosphere in our home for the day. Even if you feel depressed, it is important to put on a happy face, for your children and for your husband. You might feel that is not being real but true reality is found in the truth of Galatians 2:20- NOT living according to the dictates of my flesh or emotions, but by faith, living the life of Christ who lives in me. You will be amazed how your actions can change the way you feel. Perhaps you have been up all night with the baby. You feel tired. Put on a happy face anyway. Smile at your husband. Smile at each of your children. You'll begin to feel better right away. Yes, you will. Just try it.
- 2. One, Two, Three, Go! Begin!** What an important word. Are you dreaming of doing something? Perhaps getting that bedroom cleaned up. Or catching up with the laundry. Maybe you have some great ideas about homeschooling. It's easy to dream about it, isn't it? It's a lot harder to do something. But there is a secret to accomplishing the thing you dream about doing. Simply begin! That's right. Start. Don't look at the whole job. It will put you off. Just start. It is amazing what happens when you begin. You'll be amazed how much that room will soon be cleaned. What about that habit you

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want to get rid of in your life? Begin tackling it. They say it takes three weeks to establish a new habit. Start today with a positive response to your bad habit. Keep it up for three weeks and you will win the victory! The big thing is to begin, then tackle the job, the vision or the problem little by little. Little by little you will finish the task. Little by little you will overcome!

- 3. You are the Queen Of Your Home!** How do you picture yourself in your home? Trapped? Imprisoned? Downgraded? Bored? Frustrated? Or, are you reigning as the queen of your home? God intends for us to reign as queens. Your home is the center of your life. It is a place of challenge, creativity, and celebration. You rule over your kitchen, making sure that your husband and family are daily nurtured with nutritious life-giving meals. You preside over the educating of your children. You administrate the cleaning of your home. You direct the ideas, projects, and plans that you and your children are currently working on. You practice hospitality, planning when you will invite each particular family or lonely person to come eat at your table. You are constantly making your home creative, interesting and sacred place to live in. Yet, there are many who are bored with their home. They have not yet seen the vision that their home is the greatest sphere of influence for God. Let's find fulfillment in the great opportunity that has been given to us in our home.
- 4. Free To Be You!** How amazing that God individually fashions each new inhabitant of the earth. There is not one who is the same. Dear Mother, you don't have to try to be like someone else to find your identity. You don't even have to mother the same as a particular mother you admire, or according to some rules in a book. All you have to do is to mother according to your own heart and your individual personality. This is how you will be the best mother and the best homemaker. Your children will also have different personalities and interests. Our responsibility as Mothers is not to make them measure up to my particular plans, but to look for the divine gifting that God had given and encourage them to grow into the people God planned them to be. Do the same for your husband. He doesn't have to be like you! Why not stop conforming him to your plans and let him be who God created him to be. It may be different to what you have planned but it will be better than your idea. Would you like to enter into this liberating path for you and your family? It will be

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challenging, but it will also take all the pressure off! You will start to enjoy yourself. One word of caution—you won't find who you are by looking into yourself. You will find your true identity as you pursue God and pour your life out for others. The more you know God the more you'll understand who He created you to be.

5. **Love!** One writer says, "If a little bit of love isn't effective, increase the dose." The remedy for the ineffectiveness of a little love is MORE LOVE. A Chinese saying says, "Don't try and put out the fire of a load of hay with a cup of water!" The more you have been hurt, the more love and forgiveness you'll need to pour on! Sometimes you'll have to pour on buckets! How can you do this when you don't feel like loving your enemy (which can be right in your own home) one little bit? You have to move out of your flesh into Christ's love. Because He lives in you, His love resides in you. You can love with His love even when you don't feel like loving (Romans 5:5). Use this principle in your home and teach your family to do the same with others.

6. **Hasty Words.** How easy it is to say things in haste! We spout off before we think. And usually when we speak hastily it is out of reaction. We often don't believe the words we say! But sad to say, we have said them, and words have power! They have power to hurt our husband and our children. Charles Spurgeon says, "Hasty words are but for a moment on the tongue, but they often lie for years on the conscience." Each time someone "rubs you up the wrong way", shut your mouth. Wait before you speak. If you can't think of anything positive to say, don't say anything at all. You will often fail. But keep working on making it a habit of your life. Our words can determine the course of our life and family.

7. **It's Not As Bad As You Think.** It's easy to feel sorry for yourself, isn't it? I think it's the easiest thing to do in the world. Yet it is the most debilitating—and the most deceiving. Our mind takes us down a road that makes everything seem far worse than it really is. When you start falling into that slough of self-pity, stop! Don't keep sliding down. Look up to the Lord. Start thanking Him for all His blessings. They are numberless. They are more

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than you can count. When you start praising instead of complaining, joy will fill your heart. Be thankful in the good times and the bad!

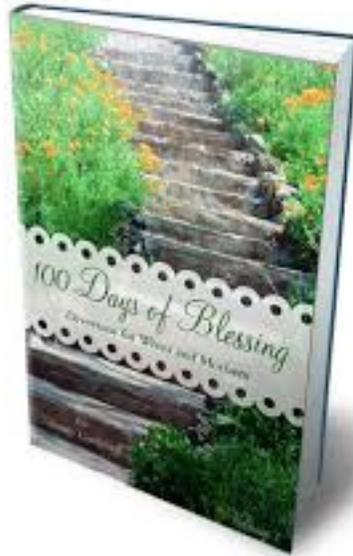
8. **Have You Dedicated Your Home?** Have you dedicated the house you live in to the Lord? It may be a new home, or a home you have purchased from someone else. Either way, you need to dedicate it to the Lord. It is especially important to cleanse and dedicate a home that has had previous owners. If you haven't already set apart your home, don't wait any longer. Put on a feast, gather in some friends and ask them to pray with you over your home. Walk into every room and ask God to cleanse it and for His power to flow in the room. Invoke God's blessing over every inch of your home and set it apart for His presence and His purposes.
9. **GREEDINESS.** As we crave a better house and more things to put in the house we start to plan how we can get these things. Ideas take shape. Many families work work work not just to pay the necessary bills but also to get and do more things. The home can become a showpiece of material riches rather than filling it with the true riches of children and togetherness. When you get your eyes on material riches, children become a nuisance, but children are eternal treasures. May God save us from a greedy spirit!
10. **Spending Habits.** The foolish woman buys according to her whims and what takes her fancy. She buys groceries without thought of nutrition or without reading the ingredients. She fills her cupboards with devitalized packaged foods instead of cooking from scratch. She purchases unnecessary "things" to fill her home, which could be used for wiser needs. The foolish woman spends more than her husband can afford. The wise woman lives frugally within her means. We must learn to live thriftily rather than extravagantly.

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All the above wisdom is taken from the book



100 Days of Blessing Devotions for Wives and Mothers by Nancy Campbell

This is just a small sample of some of the ideas, insight, and encouragement that is offered in this book. I highly suggest getting your own copy! You can order this book on the website www.aboverubies.org or amazon.com

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