



MOTHERS AND SONS

Avoiding the “Mother Wound”

I. What Is It?

Two Expressions:

- Sons become overly _____ in regard to women. (1 Kings 21)
- Sons become overly _____ in regard to women. (Genesis 3)

Definition:

The “Mother Wound” is an _____ emotional intimacy with mother that causes the son to either be _____ by the influence of women later or to _____ with that influence.

Characteristics:

- Not blatant but _____.
- Not a wound of abuse, neglect, or absenteeism but a wound that looks like _____.
- Not from _____ but _____.
- Looks like love but feels like _____.
- Has a power that can shape and/or warp the _____.

II. Why Does It Happen?

Begins with: an _____ or _____ in general.

Perpetuated by:

- _____ moms.
- _____ moms.
- _____ moms.
- _____ moms.

III. How Do We Help Sons Make the Break?

Tips to Mothering toward Manhood:

1. Be aware of your _____ and listen to _____.
2. Be a _____ and expect your son to _____.
3. Expect him to _____, even if it is _____ or _____.
4. Expect him to be _____ and let him _____.
5. Encourage _____ between him and _____.
6. Commit now to treat his _____ with _____ in the future.

An Example: _____

Discussion Questions:

1. From our Reflection Assignment last session, what items on the 25 ways did you make an effort to improve? How did that go?
2. Have you observed any examples of a “feminized male”? How do you see this trend affecting the family and community?
3. How can a wife encourage her husband to pass along his masculine identity to his son(s)?
4. Which of the “Tips to Mothering” resonated with you and why?
5. When you look at the development of the relationship between Jesus and Mary, what adjustments did Mary have to make to allow Jesus the freedom to fulfill his masculine destiny? What can we learn from Mary’s example in handling the separation process emotionally and practically?