I. Introduction

- A. Mothers should be put on the endangered species list
- B. We desperately need role models. The Biblical model is about to be thrown away.

II. God's Methods of Creating Human Beings and Bodies

- A. From the dust of the earth Genesis 2:7
 - 1. This was Adam, not Eve
 - 2. God never repeated this
- B. From the rib of Adam Genesis 2:21
 - 1. This was Eve only
 - 2. God never repeated this
- C. A body for Jesus Luke 1:35; Hebrews 10:5
 - 1. He caused conception to take place in the womb of Mary
 - 2. The only God-man John 1:14
- D. Adam and Éve produce Cain Genesi 4:1
 - 1. Of the four, this is the only way God has produced mankind repeatedly
 - 2. It always has and always will take both a man and a woman to produce a child. NOT two men NOT two women. A man and a woman.
 - a. "Male and female made He them." Genesis 1:27
 - b. "He created them male and female." Genesis 5:2
 - c. "They shall be male and female." Genesis 6:19
 - d. "By sevens, a male and his female" Genesis 7:2
 - 3. The proven system to raise children
 - a. A man and a woman
 - b. A married man and woman
 - c. A man and woman who love each other
 - d. A man and a woman who love the Lord

III. The Challenges - The Tough Part About Being a Mother

- A. Consistently being able to put another's well-being above that of your own.
 - 1. Immaturity is best defined as selfishness.
 - "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves, do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." – Philippians 2:3, 4

- B. Prioritizing and properly maintaining your love commitments to:
 - The Lord: love Him with your total being. Matthew 22:37
 - 2. Your husband: love your husband. Titus 2:4
 - 3. Your family and peers Matthew 22:39; John 13:34, 35
- C. To consistently carry out the mandate of Ephesians 6:4 (Although specially addressed to fathers, this is clearly a parent-ly passage)
 - 1. A warning: do not provoke your children to anger
 - a. The parallel passage in Colossians 3:21 says do not "exasperate", i.e., do not frustrate them. We do so by not being consistent. Your level of anger tells your child what you value the most.
 - Dad Mother remember: "The anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God." – James 1:20
 - 2. "Bring them up" = nurture
 - a. See Ephesians 5:29
 - b. To bring up to maturity, to grow
 - c. Hebrews = to make alive, or repair
 - 3. "In the discipline"
 - a. Hebrew 12:5, 7, 8, 9 11
 - b. "To chastise" = to correct, instruct, warn
 - c. Proverbs 19:18; 22:6; 23:13, 14; 29:15,17
 - 4. "Instruction of the Lord"
 - a. You are their primary teacher, both by word and deed. Remember they see better than they hear.
 - b. Be a wise teacher and do not rob your children of pain.
 - c. Be a student of your child. The goal of discipline is to change behavior.
- IV. Conclusion
 - 1. The single best thing you can do to become a better parent is to become a more godly person.
 - 2. Poem by Ruth Graham: May 2015 Decision