

**Quotes from BYU Women's Conference Session: "She Looketh Well to the Ways of Her Household": Preserving Homemaking Skills" by Carol Dyer, Cindi Harper and Faun Turley**

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland said at last years BYU women's conference, "Ours is the most blessed, the most abundant and glorious time in the history of the world. We really do mean "fullness" when we speak of the dispensation of the fullness of times."

Another factor that contributes to the disappearance of homemaking skills is stated on the web encyclopedia, "Wikipedia" under formal education in homemaking it states, "In previous decades, there used to be a large amount of courses mandatory for young women to learn the skills of housekeeping. In high school, courses included cooking, nutrition, home economics, family and consumer science or food and cooking hygiene. Today, these courses have been mostly abolished..."

Susan W. Tanner, our *newly released* general YW President said in March of 2004, "Homemaking skills are becoming a lost art. I worry about this...Families lacking the skills to create a healthy home are victims of "emotional homelessness." People who do not have a place to go to that has the Spirit, that has the emotional stability, that has the principles [that we've been talking about], have a lot of the same problems of despair, of turning to drugs or immorality, that street homeless people have."

"I believe that one way we can arm our girls spiritually is to help them develop temporal skills or talents. We know that to the Lord all things are spiritual."

"When we lose the homemakers in a society, we create an emotional homelessness: She quotes Bryce Christensen from The Family in America: "...The number of homeless people on the street does not begin to reveal the scope of homelessness in America. For since when did the word home signify merely physical shelter, or homelessness merely the lack of such shelter? Home [signifies] not only shelter, but also emotional commitment, security, and belonging. Home has connoted not just a necessary roof and a warm radiator, but a place sanctified by the abiding ties of wedlock, parenthood, and family obligation; a place demanding sacrifice and devotion, but promising loving care and warm acceptance."

"So we must teach homemaking skills, including practical ones such as cooking, sewing, budgeting, and beautifying. We must let young women know that homemaking skills are honorable and can help them spiritually as

well as temporally. Making a home appealing physically will encourage loved ones to want to be there and will help create the kind of atmosphere that is conducive to the Spirit.”

“Our homes may be our last and only place of refuge, as our prophets are prophesying. I am pleading with you to be exemplary leaders but not neglect your home responsibilities.”

Dallin H. Oaks recently said in the World Wide Leadership Training Meeting, that “Homemaking is not just baking bread or cleaning a house. Homemaking is to make the environment necessary to nurture our children toward eternal life, which is our responsibility as parents.”

**Mary Ellen Edmunds said, “A good home is never an accident.”**

Daryl Hoole, in our generation, was an authority on child rearing and homemaking, we believe her theories still apply today. In her book, “The Art of Teaching Children” she quoted Albert Schweitzer, he said, **“There are only 3 ways to teach a child, the first is by example, the second is by example and the third is by example”**

Sis. Tanner said that “the two most powerful tools we have to inspire our young women are our examples and our sincere words.”

. Susan W. Tanner said, “If a young woman learns how to cook delicious, nutritious meals, she will acquire skills to bless her future family, not only temporally but spiritually. Cooking skills can provide young women a way to create enticing times in her home where people gather to talk and to bond with each other...those who learn to make homemade meals have a skill that can help them also make good homes.”

**Ralph Waldo Emerson, “There is a destiny that makes us brothers. None goes his life alone. All that we give into the lives of others comes back into our own”.**

**Mary Ellen Edmunds said, “Happiness, like charity, begins at home”.**

Orson Scott Card said, (Deseret Morning News, March 6, 2008): “Our goal in life is not to keep our houses clean. Our goal is to raise civilized children with the skills they need to master their own worst impulses. So when the kids make a mess, when they disobey, when they’re careless, our response is not to judge and punish them, but rather to judge and teach them.”

Sheri Dew, in her book, "No Doubt About It," stated, "The antidote to the distraction of the adversary is Jesus Christ. The Savior illuminates our vision of who we are and why we are here and gives us courage to move forward in the journey toward our heavenly home."

Julie B. Beck stated in Mothers Who Know, October 2007, "The responsibility mothers have today has never required more vigilance. More than at any time in the history of the world, we need mothers who know. Children are being born into a world where they 'wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places'" (Eph. 6:12) However, mothers need not fear. When mothers know who they are and who God is and have made covenants with Him, they will have great power and influence for good on their children."

Joseph B. Wirthlin said (Band of Brothers, 'Ensign', Feb.2008), "No great cause ever succeeded without great effort."..."Work is the foundation of success and creation. It is the secret of every successful enterprise."..."Move forward with faith, believing you will succeed! Don't let fear of failure stop you from greatness. Let your example of courage inspire those around you to "fear not" (D&C 6:34)."

President Gordon B. Hinckley said to all of us, "May the Lord bless you, my beloved sisters. You are the guardians of the hearth. May you be strengthened for the challenges of the day. May you be endowed with wisdom beyond your own in dealing with the problems you constantly face. May your prayers and your pleading be answered with blessings upon your heads and upon the heads of your loved ones."