

Jnion Baptist Church of Cincinnati 105 West Seventh Street Cincinnati, OH 45203 513) 381-3858 www.union-baptist.net Rev. Dr. Orlando Yates, Pastor

THE POWER OF A MOTHER'S PROMISE¹

"Twenty-seven years ago my Mom made a promise that changed our lives forever", says Stacy W. Now as a mother herself she sees the benefit of that promise unfold in her own life. On May 30, 1975 Stacy's sister Carey was born. This completed a trio of girls. A week after Carey's birth her Mom knew something was terribly wrong. Her left leg suddenly stopped working. As soon as she arrived at the hospital it was diagnosed as blood clots – two hundred of them!

In her hospital bed her Mom had a conversation with God – something that had comforted her battered heart as a child. Life had been harsh during her earlier years. Now she turned to it again. "Oh God, I want to live to see my babies grow up and get married," she prayed. "Please help me. I will do anything... I'll read the Bible...from cover to cover." was her promise.

As she recovered she acted on her promise. Starting in Genesis, she plodded through, thinking it could be understood only by men who wore stiff collars. In the book of Acts the question came up, "What must I do to be saved?" The answer was clear, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." She understood that Jesus had taken the punishment for everything she had ever done wrong. She responded to his call. She later told Stacy the truth about Santa Claus and replaced it with the story of Mary and Jesus. "This story is real," she said.

When Stacy was eight her Mom decided they needed to go to church. They did, but it felt like a foreign culture to them. Her mother had another prayer, "God, if you really want us to go to church, you're going to have to send one to our back yard. Three weeks later a short Norwegian pastor invited them to a new church starting up in a barber/beauty shop near their house. They went, but tried to stay invisible, but were soon surrounded and embraced by caring people. Mom grew in her faith and Dad and the rest of the family decided to follow Jesus too. Her parent's lives were drastically changed.

When Stacy and her sisters married, their Mom relished in the weddings. God answered her prayer that she would see them wed, and choose mates who loved God. Her joy ballooned with the arrival of grandchildren, and when Mike and Stacy were expecting a baby they flew home to share the news in person. After some tests, a blood test came back indicating a genetic blood disorder that could cause clotting during pregnancy. Suddenly she was having a "high risk pregnancy". But God intervened and prevented Stacy from suffering what her mother had. "Why was I singled out for so great a grace?" was Stacy's response.

On March 30, 2001 Stacy's Mom witnessed the birth of Mike and Stacy's son, Liam. She would also see how Stacy and Mike would tell him about God's plan for his life. Stacy's Mom saw the benefits of her earlier promise unfold before her eyes as her children and grandchildren chose to walk in the ways of the Lord. Somebody Ought to Say AMEN! ~ Stacy W.

 $^{^{1}\} https://thoughts-about-god.com/family_/stacy_power-mothers-promise$

[&]quot;And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18-20



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