

## Community Group Discussion Questions

“The Unknown Mom” Proverbs 31:1-9 May 11, 2019

### Getting Started

Proverbs 31 has been a standard of inspiration for all women but has also quietly served as a mark of intimidation. My hope today is by revealing the “Unknown Mom” behind this proverb a new perspective would be gained, and an unspoken pressure would be relieved.

When Mother’s Day rolls around, many churches speak on Proverbs 31:10-31, which sets a very broad and high standard for women and mothers. It can be intimidating to juggle all the things the passage describes. Make a list of all the expectations mothers are supposed to fulfill today...

### Going Deeper:

**She Reinforces a Divine Calling:** *“The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him.” (Vs.1)*

**Dedicated to God:** *“King Lemuel”- unto God or for God*

**Directed to God:** *“taught”- admonished while correcting.*

What are some of the greatest lessons your mother and/or grandmother taught or modeled for you?

**She Reveals a Deep Concern:** *“What are you doing, my son? What are you doing, son of my womb? What are you doing, son of my vows?”* (Vs. 2)

**Importance of Repetition:** 3X *“what are you doing?”*

**Intimacy of the Relationship:** *“son of my womb/vows”*

**Intervenes with Reason:** *“doing”*

Parents are responsible not to control their children, but to help their children learn to think through the consequences of their choices. These constant conversations may sometimes feel like nagging, but they are repeated for learning to take place. They are done in the intimacy of a relationship to the ones who created you, carried you, provided for you, and loved you. How are you trying to do this with your children right now? What’s working? What needs to be adjusted?

**She Reminds with Direct Counsel:**

**Women: Avoid Immorality** *“do not give your strength to women”* (Vs. 3)  
\*1 Kings 11:4 \*Deut. 17:17

**Wine: Avoid Drunkenness:** *“lest they drink and forget what has been decreed and pervert the rights of all the afflicted”* (Vs. 5) \*Proverbs 20:1

**Work: Avoid Bribery:** *“Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.”* (Vs. 8-9) \*Proverbs 29:4

What a refreshing and inspiring challenge. Parents and grandparents who have lived and seen the poor choices of others are in a perfect place to warn and guide their children and grandchildren toward a life well lived. Immorality, drunkenness (or any addiction), and dishonesty/injustice are all ways to destroy the potential of the life God has placed before you. What can you do instead of pursuing these destructive paths? What beliefs, habits and relationships will help you achieve a life well-lived?

**Take Away:** The (X) that marks the spot is the place where the Proverbs 31 expectation is exchanged for a Proverbs 31 exaltation.

**Prayer:**