



## A Complete Woman



Recently I was going through a book entitled, *“The Measure of a Woman”* by A. Getz and Elaine in which she mentioned 8 features that go to make a mentoring model. I was amazed and flabbergasted to note that my mother had all these qualities. I would like to put forward these qualities one after the other and tell you how I was able to equate them to my mother's qualities.

- 1 Gaining God's perspective on Beauty
- 2 Reflecting God's Character
- 3 Being Peacemaker
- 4 Communicating Godliness
- 5 Loving her husband
- 6 Loving her children
- 7 Living pure life and doing good works
- 8 Exemplary homemaker





## 1 Gaining God's perspective on Beauty



In the present age women are obsessed with external beauty and, for some, it has become a psychological and physical tragedy. My mother was a very simple person who cultivated the habit of measuring beauty from God's perspective. She never noticed how a person dressed or how well that person used make up. **She was just happy to be with people who adorned the holiness of Jesus Christ.** My mother had the inner beauty; which the Apostle Peter described in *I Peter 3:4* as *“a gentle and quiet spirit”*, which is the feature of God. In similar manner, the Apostle Paul said in *I Timothy 2: 9, 10* that *“woman should adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shame facedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array. But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works”*.



Her Simple Personality





## 2 Reflecting God's Character



My mother was reverent in the way she lived. She developed very good reputation in the Christian community. She helped several people in the Church. The Church Pastor, Rev. Solomon wrote a book describing her as a **“Flower which never fades”**. In that book he collected the opinions and experiences of several people. It is a good book, denoting all her excellent characteristics. She obeyed Apostle Paul's words: *“In everything set them an example by doing what is good” (Titus 2:7)* and *“be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12)*. Thus she reflected God's character.



During one of her Women's Fellowship activities



As Cambridge cricketer, C. T. Studd, says: “Only one life, will soon be past, only what is for Christ will last. When you spend your life for Jesus Christ, you won't lose anything; but if you spend it for yourself, you won't gain anything”.



I would like to add the opinions of a few more friends and relatives about my mother



“She was a continuous prayer warrior”

- Smt. Vedamanamma Subba Reddy, cousin.

She looked after all her sisters-in-law like her own sisters

- Smt. Rachel Joshua, cousin.

She was a spiritual and a model mother

- Dr. Sugunamma Gangi Reddy, cousin.

She was a mine of good qualities: 1) Humility, 2) Generosity, 3) Simplicity, and 4) Good at heart.

- Smt. M. Elizabeth Philip, cousin.

“She looked after us like her own children.”

- Sridhar, Driver.

“She was like a goddess to us.”

- Ankamma and Lakshmi, maid servants.

“We saw the love of Jesus Christ in her.”

- Jeharabee, a Muslim neighbour.

“Though she was in a very high position, she was a very humble person.”

- T. Rajamma, friend from Church


“She was a person who was clothed in humbleness.”

- Smt. and Sri S. Yesuratnam, Church friends.






### 3 Being Peacemaker


 My mother took the responsibility of settling differences and she was considered as the peacemaker. She always believed that God will take care of differences. She was impartial to all. She never indulged in gossiping or mudslinging on others' characters. She heard personal problems of several people but never disclosed to others but prayed for them which are the main qualities of a peacemaker.




 *“Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God” (Matthew 5:9).* Join the peacemakers and help bring peace to the hearts, minds and souls of men through the prince of peace, Jesus Christ, who will soon take over and set things right! She used to be *quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to become angry*, as written in *James 1:19*.



## 4 Communicating Godliness

 Whenever there was an opportunity, my mother used to talk about God. **She communicated godliness through her behavior.** She always did and taught what was good. She headed the women's fellowship at the local church. She was eager to host the women's meet at her house. She was non argumentative, kind to all people, Christians and Non Christians alike, patiently hearing to all who came to her, for she was very gentle and easily approachable.

 My mother was an ordained leader in her community as she had the confidence of God filled with the Holy Spirit. She created history in Pulivendla by being the first woman President, elected unanimously in 1995. She did a lot to improve the roads and drinking water facilities in our town. She received awards from the state government for the improvements that she made in the panchayat area.



As Panchayat President in 1995




She was the president of Mahila mandali and helped poor women in earning their livelihood. She also started a ladies wing of the Lions Club called “Priyadarshini” and was the president of that club. She organized several medical camps, free eye checkups and operations for several people. In 2003, when there was a great famine in Kadapa district, she fed several hungry people for 45 days.



## 5 Loving her husband




With my father

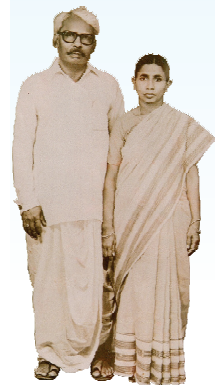
 My mother was a very good wife and tried her best to keep my father comfortable. She used to pray a lot for him as he led a very busy life, which was a bit dangerous, at times, while he opposed the bad people and tried for the betterment of society. My father always used to say that **our prosperity and our safety were based on my mother's prayers.** In *1 Peter 3:1-2*, the Apostle Peter says, *“Wives, be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word of God, they may be won over by the*



*behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives”.*


 “There is a woman behind every man's success”. My mother was behind every success of my father. She took care of all of us and took care of all the household chores, thus lessening my father's burdens. She took the responsibility of looking after all the family members and relatives to reduce my father's mental stress. Her nature of love is just like it is written in


*1 Corinthians 13:4 - 7 “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud, it is not rude, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no rejoices of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres”.*





## 6 Loving her children

 My mother was a very dedicated and loving mother. She spent all her life serving and loving children and always praying for their welfare. The *Bible* clearly teaches that *“children are a gift of the Lord” (Psalms 127:3)*. She took us as a gift of the Lord and took good care of us. She tried her best to lead us all in God's way. She taught the values of life and brought us up as good citizens.

 *“Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them”, Jesus said, “for of such is the kingdom of Heaven” (Matthew 19:14)*. Children are the most sincere people in the world. They are at the age where they are beginning to think seriously about life, and they sincerely want to know and follow the truth. It takes time, understanding and lots of real love to reach them, but this age is




actually when most people accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour. **Because of her strong foundation, today all her children are walking in Christ's path.** She was so selfless that all her children, daughters-in-law and grandchildren felt it a privilege to look after her but all that we can say is that she never gave us an opportunity to look after her at all!



With her family




## 7 Living pure life and doing good works

 My mother was very well known for her helping nature and devoted her life to do all kinds of good deeds.




With relatives and visiting missionaries

 I was talking to Saraswathi, a woman from the village whom my parents helped a lot. She attempted suicide when she was being ill-treated by her husband. She was rescued from her attempt to burn herself and was brought to my mother. My mother got her treated in our hospital free of cost and helped in all ways to bring her to normalcy. She was given a job in our college, and was helped to put up a ration supplying shop. She was given moral support at every stage, all of which helped her to bring up her two children and to get them married.



Y. S. R. R. Hospital at Pulivendla

 When I was talking to her about mother, her eyes were filled with tears. She was saying that she used to visit her at least twice daily and whenever she went, my mother used to teach her the word of God but never forced her to take baptism. She also mentioned that several times, she helped her financially. She has a photograph of my parents in front of her bed and the first thing she does every morning is to think about what all they



did to her. There are several people like her in our village who were helped by my parents.



Another lady, Heleenamma, wife of the local Church pastor, Rev. Prabhu Das, who left to his eternal abode; was witnessing greatly about my mother. She was relating how my mother showed great affection and love and helped her to get transfer from Proddatur to Pulivendula in 1988. My mother visited her house and when she realized that Mrs. Heleenamma was working in Proddatur and finding it difficult to stay away from family, she immediately tried for Mrs. Heleenamma's transfer and got her transferred to Pulivendla. She says that she will never forget my mother's help and developed reverence for her.



They used to meet every Sunday at church and women's fellowship and were great friends. Mrs. Heleenamma was also relating how my mother used to look after all the other members of women's fellowship. My mother listened patiently to all their problems, prayed for them and tried to help them if it was within her limits. **She never used to differentiate between rich**



**and poor people.** She used to visit all their houses and eat whatever refreshments they offered. When one of the members' house was in the first floor, she climbed up with out any hesitation though she was weak and offered prayers. Such was her love and humbleness.



She used to love accompanying the church group who went to villages to spread the Word of God. She used to take them in her own car. She never missed Church service even when she was sick.

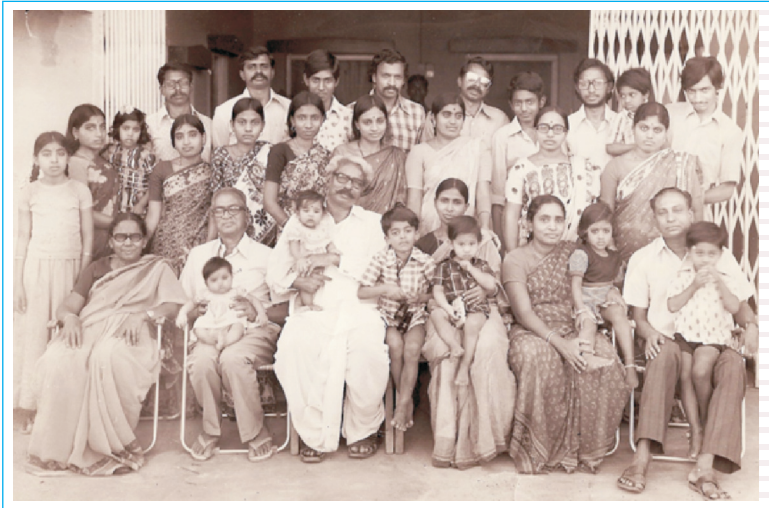


With members of ladies wing of Lions club



## 8 Exemplary homemaker

 My mother was a perfect and dynamic hostess. She used to ask all the missionaries to stay at her house and she looked after them very well. She was always ready to feed all the doctors who used to come to the village to do free health camps. She always fed the beggars who came to her door.



With her near and dear ones




She not only looked after the daily chores at home but also was very supportive to my father. She loved all her in-laws so much that three of my father's sisters decided to settle near her place rather than with their own children after their retirement.



On her last birthday



 I am proud to say that she had all the qualities of a mentoring model that make a complete woman. She was an ideal mother who was much revered by one and all. She seems to be telling us *“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1)* and *“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept my faith” (II Timothy 4:7)*.



## As a Prayer Warrior

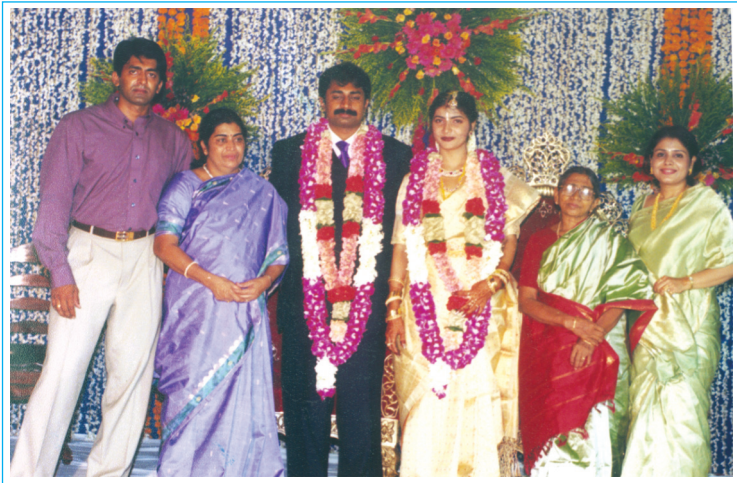
*“Behold the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear Him,  
upon them that hope in His mercy” (Psalms 33:18).*

There are several occasions in our lives where my mother's prayers played an important role. I will mention a few of such incidents.

My eldest brother, Sri Y. S. George Reddy was very religious during childhood. When he was a student at Anantapur Engineering College, he used to play guitar and sing songs praising Lord Jesus Christ. Later he drifted away from God and faced a lot of problems. Every time, he had some



major problem, he and his wife, Smt. Bharathi, used to go back to my mother for prayers and their problems used to get solved. Now my sister-in-law keeps praying for all her children and they are all blessed.




With her eldest son, Sri Y. S. George Reddy's family




My second brother, Dr. Y. S. Rajashekar Reddy, who is the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, used to go to Church regularly when he was young. When he was in medical college, he met with an accident, but was saved due to God's grace and our mother's prayers. Even when he was shot at in the secretariat in 1977, he was saved because of her prayers.



With her second daughter-in-law

 Now, his wife Smt. Vijayalakshmi has taken up the burden of praying for all of us and keeps praying for the whole state of Andhra Pradesh. The whole family has become prayer warriors and are mightily working for building the Lord's Kingdom. My mother was very happy to see them all come to Jesus Christ. My brother's son-in-law, Mr. Anil Kumar is a full time evangelist and his wife, Smt. Sharmila, is also doing God's work.

 My third brother Sri Y. S. Vivekananda Reddy fell into a well when he was about 18 years old. He broke his leg and was unable to climb back. All the people were afraid and even



my father was not at home. My mother, who had a lot of faith in Jesus Christ, started praying and God sent my father's friend, Gurivi Reddy to get my brother out of the well. Now his wife, Smt. Sowbhagya is trying her best to follow my mother's footsteps.



With her third son, daughter-in-law




My fourth brother, Sri Y. S. Sudheekar Reddy met with a freak accident when he was around 13 years of age. He was in the school playground playing and a javeline went and hit him



in the forehead. It pierced his head and a part of the brain came out. All the doctors said that he won't survive. They asked her to take him to C. M. C., Vellore hospital. Though everyone was afraid, she was continuously praying and with the help of my dad's sister and brother who were doctors, she took him to C. M. C., Vellore. Only by God's grace and her incessant prayers did my brother survive miraculously without any damage to his brain. Now Sudheekar's wife is a devout Christian and keeps praying for her husband and daughter.




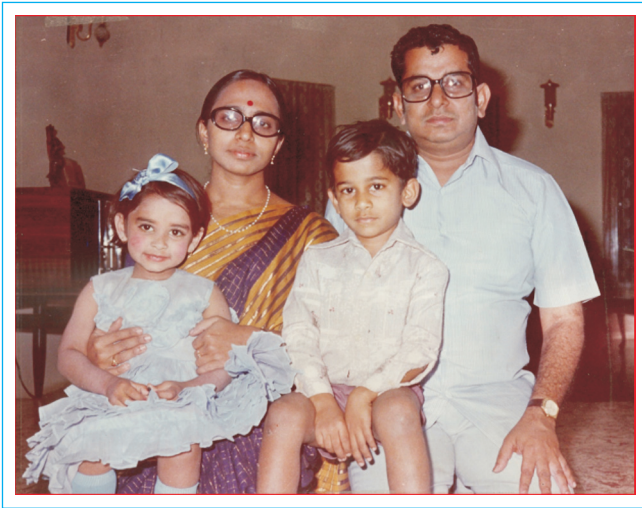
With her fourth son's family

 My fifth brother, Sri Y. S. Raveendranath Reddy broke his nose bridge by being hit with a cricket ball in the playground. He bled profusely but my mother's prayers saved him from becoming worse. His wife, Jaya, was very much influenced by my mother's selflessness and her faith. Now we see her all the time praying for her husband and children.




With her youngest son and family

 It looks like all my sisters-in-law took the additional burden of praying as my mother is no more with us.




Myself with my husband and children



 I, being widowed at an early age needed more of my mother's prayers. At every step she was my prayer warrior. As my children were very close to her, they were greatly influenced by her virtues and God has listened to all her prayers regarding my family and now we are all a happy lot. My mother greatly influenced my in-laws too. They all used to like my mother a lot.




With my mother-in-law

 That is the reason why they were happy to have my mother's memorial Church in our village, though they all followed Hinduism. My mother used to pray for all of them and whenever my mother-in-law met her, she used to ask my mother to pray for her. As a result of her prayers and later due to the prayers of Pastor. Sajiv Kumar (Y. S. Jayamma Memorial



Church Pastor) my mother-in-law had a peaceful death which was miraculous considering all her health problems.

 Whenever she had a little free time with the servants, she used to make them all sit and narrate some *Bible* stories and Word of God. As a result all my servants have become Christians. She used to spend a lot of her time in reading her *Bible* and preparing notes to tell in her women's fellowship activities. In her later days she was a little worried because she was not able to write her *Bible* notes neatly.

 My mother's life was filled with prayer and even her last words before she went into comatose state were "be ready and we will go to the Girls' Junior College to attend the C.B.S. (Community *Bible* Study)".



Sri Y. S. Venkat Reddy Junior College for girls





## The End of Self is the Beginning of Godliness


We can't take money with us when we die, but we can send it on ahead. When it comes to God and His work, **it's good business to give**. It's a good investment because it will earn the highest interest rate possible and dividends in the kingdom of God that outstrip anything else we could possibly invest. That's His promise. My mother realized this truth and I am sure her savings account in the eternal world is quite a lot. Both my parents were great philanthropists. They built a hospital, several Churches and educational institutions. They built one hospital at Pulivendla for my second brother, Dr. Y. S. Rajashekar Reddy to give free medical services to the poor.




After he entered politics, he employed other doctors and the free service is continuing even now. My mother used to go there once a week to preach the word of God among the patients.



Degree College established at Pulivendla


 My mother showed her benevolence to all the poor people who approached her. She used to buy clothes to all Pastors known to her during Christmas time. She used to buy several inexpensive sarees to give to the beggars. On some occasions, when the beggars were more than the number of sarees that she bought, she used to give away her own sarees.



 She encouraged all her children to do service to the mankind. Due to her prayers and encouragement one brother has become the Chief Minister and another has become an M. P., one grand son, Mr. Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is doing a lot of service to the people through his Y. S. R. Trust.



Y. S. R. R. Memorial park at Pulivendla

 Jesus Christ wants us to grow into the stature of fullgrown mature Christians. **Spiritual maturity is not entirely a matter of time; it's mostly a matter of your connection with Jesus Christ and His word and your obedience and humility.** A child becomes a true adult when



he learns to act responsibly and think of others, and it's the same with Christians. By the grace of God my mother attained this spiritual maturity, and I am proud to be her daughter.



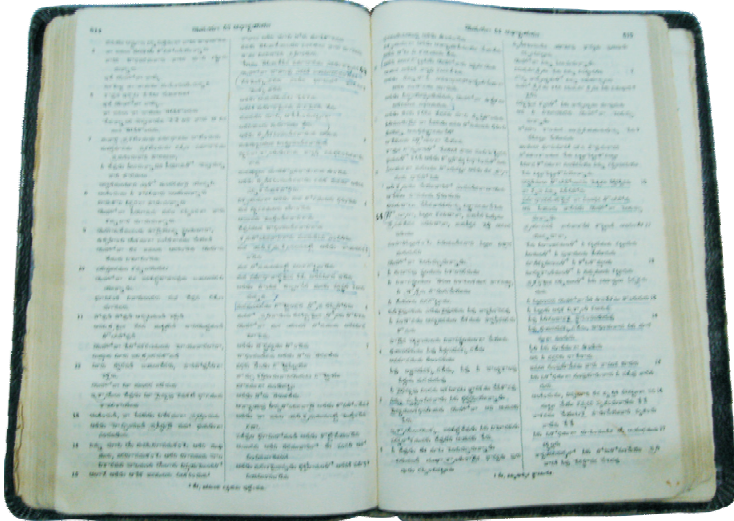
Polytechnic College established at Pulivendla





## A Glimpse into Mother's Treasure “The Holy Bible”

If you see through the study *Bible* of God's beloved daughter you will exclaim that she was a diligent reader of the Word of God. She loved the Lord and the Word of God. She used a large leather bound *Bible*. Every page was crumpled. She carried the *Bible* where ever she went. My mother used to get up early and read the Word of God. She took care to underline the verses that are valuable to a mature Christian on holiness, God's protection, abundant blessings from God and depending on God.



My mother's Holy Bible

### Salient Points

- ✓ Most underlined book is **Genesis**. She loved the character of Patriots in **Genesis**.
- ✓ Corrected the typo errors in the Bible *Proverbs 8:36, Hebrews 11:17*
- ✓ Most verses underlined - *Psalm 119*
- ✓ Underlined with special importance - *Isaiah 53:1-8*
- ✓ Next to this passage in *2 Kings 20:12-21*, she noted "Not to be carried away by flattering"



## Few Verses from my Mother's Study Bible

- † **1 Corinthians 13:4-8** Love is patient..... love never fails.
- † **Isaiah 54:10** Though the mountains be shaken..... My covenant of peace shall not be removed.
- † **John 1:12** Those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.
- † **John 3:16** For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- † **John 5:24** He that heareth My word.....passed from death unto life.
- † **John 14:2-4** In my Father's house are many rooms....
- † **Matthew 20:28** Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.
- † **Romans 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.
- † **Philippians 3:20** But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- † **1 Timothy 6:9-10** People who want to get rich fall into temptation.....have wandered from the faith
- † **1 Peter 1:19** But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.



- † **Habakkuk 2:4** Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.
- † **Psalm 91:10-11** Then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
- † **Joshua 1:9** Be strong and courageous..... God will be with you.
- † **Job 28:28** And unto man He said, Behold, the fear of the LORD, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.



To conclude as Timothy was **nurtured with the Word of God** by his mother, my mother nurtured her Children, Grand Children and great Grand Children with the Word of God.

