

## Intercession for Working

### Mothers & Entrepreneurs by Suzanne Barlow

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Titus 2:3-5 New International Version (NIV)

*3 Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. 4 Then they can urge the younger women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.*

**Before I begin, I need to ask myself a bunch of questions:**

**What does it mean to be an “older” woman?**

Much to my surprise, I find myself very close to 60 years old, managing 2 businesses and working with mostly women/mothers in their early 30s.

**When did I get here?** I suppose I got “here” by being married for 38 years, homeschooling our sons and working from home, building 2 businesses & looking for new ways to serve our Lord.

**How on earth do I support younger women...teaching them to serve God, love their families etc.?** Oddly enough, I never thought that this would become a mission in my life. It has become my mission only through meeting so many young mothers who own their own businesses.

Many of these working moms are juggling their own businesses and striving to be great wives and mothers. They often feel alone and very unappreciated. As an “older” woman and business owner, I have been given an opportunity to support and encourage these ladies. Please join me.

**Who do I think I am to be giving advice to anyone?** I know I am NOT here to give advice. Each young woman has her own experiences and unique challenges. And WE CAN PRAY FOR THEM. We can use whatever social media they use to encourage and cheer for them. We can NOTICE their challenges and victories. We can quietly contact them [ ->>NOT on public social media] to offer scripture, prayer and praise for their efforts. Many of these women do not have parents nor support systems outside of their industry. They may not have intact families, parents or grandparents to advocate for them. We can offer true/funny and cringe worthy testimonies to let them see that survival and even success is possible. We can point them back to God when they are struggling. We can bring a meal or a laugh or whatever we have to offer without ever making them feel LESS than enough.

**WE CAN HOLD THEM BEFORE OUR MERCIFUL FATHER WHEN THEY ARE TOO TIRED TO HOLD THEMSELVES.**

We fellow women can advocate before our Father. We can find new & innovative ways to reach out to our younger sisters. We don't have to do it in traditional ways. Through Christ, we can take it to them...where they are. Please join me in supporting and encouraging these courageous, hard-working souls.

Practical ideas:

1. Use social media to “Make Friends” with a few younger women [FaceBook, Instagram, LinkedIn].
2. Use private messaging, phone calls and emails to let them KNOW you are loving them and praying for them.

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3. NOTICE their successes. Praise them publicly.
4. Support them [privately] with notes, calls, emails.
5. Hug on them when you get a chance.
6. Laugh with them as they face hurdles and the natural embarrassments that come with raising children.
7. Pray for them Every. Single. Day.