

# MOTHER'S DAY 2022

## Individual Message: 7 Ways to Love Your Mother

**Text:** John 19:26-27; Ex 20:12; Isaiah 66:13; Luke 13:34

### John 19:26-27

*<sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.*

- Mary witnessed the crucifixion from the foot of the cross. Can you even imagine how she must've felt?
- Jesus turns to John and says, take care of her, and looks at his mother and says, let him stand in my place as your son. John lived a very long life, and I believe he took care of Mary until she went to heaven.
- Jesus is on the cross, bearing the weight of the sins of the whole world on His shoulders, yet He sees to it to make sure His mother is taken care of after He is gone! As God, Jesus is dealing w/ eternal matters, but as a man, He's showing all of us today how important it is to take care and love our mothers!
- You cannot be willfully wrong with your mother and be right with God.
- If your mother is still alive, regardless of your and her ages, you can love her in these 7 ways:

## – 7 Ways to Love Your Mother

### LOVE HER VERBALLY.

- Some men have the philosophy—
  - I don't have to say I love you; you already know it.
  - I have told you before, if I change my mind, I'll let you know!
  - Or, I SHOW love, not just say it...and that may be true, but a woman needs to hear those words, "I Love You!"
- Children need to hear it...
  - And saying it makes you more of a man, not less!
  - And spouses need to hear it too...
- Our spouses need to hear it, our children...our mothers also!
- Some men would say,

- I'm just not turned that way...then turn around!
- "I'm just not comfortable;" then be uncomfortable!

Verbally...

### **LOVE HER PHYSICALLY.**

- When's the last time you gave her a big hug w/ out her asking for it...or a kiss on the cheek, or a neck rub, or just sat on the couch and held her for a change?
- She's the first person who ever touched you...
  - She wrapped you up in her womb for months,
  - When you came out and her first priority was to hold you,
  - She cuddled you, stroked your head, rubbed your feet, held your little cheeks against her, gave you a finger to grasp.
  - In love she did all these things, including grooming you with a licked thumb!
- When you were little, she could say, "Give me sugar", and you'd pucker up and she'd accept your wet, sloppy kiss and even say thank you! You give her bear hugs so tight she didn't have to hold on to you...you'd just cling to her as she walked around!
- She changed your diapers, potty trained you, and held the Kleenex for you to blow your nose! She wiped food off your face years longer than she should have had to!
- She constantly touched you! And she may have to hand you off to another, and her life may endure some heavy changes, but she deserves your touch and should never have to give that up completely!
  - It would mean more to her than flowers or candy, or eating out, or a diamond necklace [well, let's not go too far!]
  - I had to tell June the other day about several other ladies pawing.
  - I had just come from a visit at the nursing home!
  - I've spent countless hours in nursing homes and when I walk in there's not a single instance in which some of those precious old ladies don't try to reach out and touch me, a total stranger!
  - You can tell, she's starved for that simple, innocent brand of physical love.

Physically, verbally...

### **LOVE HER PATIENTLY.**

- Mothers have an incredible job w/ no pay.
  - No position in the business world compares to the physical, emotional, and spiritual commitment she has in motherhood.
- No Occupation
  - She rises up at break of day and through her tasks she races...
  - She cooks the meals as best she may and scrubs the children's faces...
  - While schoolbooks, lunches, homework too, all need consideration...
  - And yet the census man insists, "She has— "No Occupation!"
  - When breakfast dishes all are done...

- She bakes a pudding, maybe...
- She cleans the rooms up, one by one,
- With one eye watching baby.
- And yet the census man insists, “She has — “No Occupation.””
- She irons for a little while, then presses pants for Daddy,
- She welcomes with a cheery smile returning lass and laddie.
- A hearty dinner next she cooks (no time for relaxation),
- And yet the census man insists...’She has — “No Occupation.””
- Don’t ever make the mistake of asking a lady, “Do you work, or stay at home?” The only thing worse you can ask is when she’s due if you’re not 100% sure she’s expecting!
  - And many ladies today must work on top of the full-time job they already have.
- Here’s the point: despite all she does for us, we often become impatient with her...
  - Do we get so used to her taking care of things we come to expect it and are outraged that “those clothes are still dirty?”
    - That’s not ironed? / You’re out of my favorite cookies? / You know I like that over rice, where is it?
- She’s picking you up at school because you don’t like to ride the bus, but she’s scolded for being 5 minutes late!
- Love her patiently. Because she’s tender to your needs is no reason to take advantage of her, it’s reason to be patient and to love her all the more!
- Teens / junior church agers: it is unfair for you to be more kind, considerate, patient with your friends and your friend’s mothers than your own mother!
- If you treated your friends like you treat your mom you wouldn’t have friends, and if you treated their mom like you do yours their mom wouldn’t let their kid have anything to do with you!
- Your mom deserves better...she’s not a rug to wipe every negative thought on!

### **Isaiah 66:13**

*As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.*

### **A Mother’s letter**

- For us adults w/ living mothers: Love her patiently.
- Dobson read on Focus on Family Radio—letter from 80 yr. old woman on her birthday:
- To all my children: I suppose my upcoming birthday started my thoughts along these lines...This is a good time to tell you that what I truly want are things I can never get enough of, yet they are free ... I want the intangibles. I would like for you to come and sit with me, and for you to be relaxed. We can talk, or we can be silent. I would just like for us to be together ... I need your patience when I don’t hear what you say the first time. I know how tiresome it is to always be repeating, but sometimes I must ask you to

repeat. I need your patience when I think too much about the past, with my slowness and my set ways. I want you to be tolerant with what the years have done to me physically ... Please be understanding about my personal care habits. I spill things. I lose things. I get unduly excited when I try to figure out my bank statements. I can't remember what time to take my medication, or if I took it already. I take too many naps. Sometimes sleep helps to pass the day. ... Well, there you have it: Time, Patience, and Understanding. Those are priceless gifts that I want. Finally, in his letter, the Apostle Paul wrote, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." I know I can, too! It's a wonderful feeling to know His eye is on the sparrow and I know He cares for me. I guess being old isn't so bad after all!.....Love, Mom

Physically, verbally, patiently...

### **LOVE HER ATTENTIVELY.**

Mothers listen as you pour out your heart...

- She has a sympathetic ear, and always has...
- And even as an adult you've gone to her when you want someone who will really listen and understand...
- And she'll always be on your side.

Illustration: A documentary last year of men going to execution for capital crimes. They interviewed the men, and their mothers, too. Invariably the moms would say, He's such a good boy! Interviewer: yes, but he slaughtered 37 with an axe!... "I know, but he has a good heart!"

- It's no wonder we like to talk to mom...she listens...
  - But now she has issues, and now it's your turn to be her "rock" and take time to listen; it's payback time!
  - "But she's always complaining!" Yes, just like you did!
- Talks about herself, asks same question over and over...
  - In their older days, our parents have many fears / anxieties...may we treat them as we'd hope to be treated when we are in their shoes!

Physically, verbally, patiently, attentively

### **LOVE HER GRATEFULLY.**

Illustration: An elementary science class had been studying magnets, and how metal objects are attracted to them. At the end of the semester the teacher put on exam this question: 6 letters, starts with "M", picks up things, what am I? Over half the children wrote [say it together...] "Mother!"

Being a single parent  
is twice the **work**,  
twice the **stress** and  
twice the **tears**  
but also twice the **hugs**,  
twice the **love**  
and twice the **pride**.



- She needs a sincere thank you, and not just today, but from a genuinely thankful heart when least expected!
- A few years a person told me, “You all are living the best days of your life right now, because you have your children and your parents.”
  - It caused me to realize 2 truths: one about our parents, and how we won’t always have them.
  - And another about our children; let’s be the kind of parents we ought to be!

Physically, verbally, patiently, attentively, gratefully

### LOVE HER GENEROUSLY.

- There’s nothing too good for her, we could never repay her, but we ought to die trying before she does! She didn’t spend on herself unless all your needs were met; she could easily do without, and now it’s time for her to have something she wants!



Good moms let you  
lick the beaters...  
Great moms turn  
them off first.

### Luke 13:34

*O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!*

- God’s wants to draw you close.
- Your mother draws you in close to care. She gives of herself always. It never stops.
- She clears her schedule so she can run you around...she gives up opportunities so you can have more opportunities!

### Math question

- Illustration: A math question ... State your answer as a fraction: If there are 10 at the table and one apple pie, how much does each one get? “One ninth!” / “Don’t you know

your fractions?"/ "Do you know my mother? If there are that many at the table and only one pie, she don't want none!"

Physically, verbally, patiently, attentively, gratefully, Love her generously...

## **LOVE HER HONORABLY.**

### **Exodus 20:12 -12**

*"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."*

- This is binding as long as your mother lives.
- Another command says children, obey. This is non-binding when you leave home, but "honor" is different!
- If the husband is the head of the home, then the mother is the heart; don't break her heart!
- "Yeah, but my mother wasn't honorable!" Well, the Bible says nothing about that qualification...it only asks, is she your mother!
- By the way, it's the only one of the 10 commandments which includes a built-in promise of blessing!

## **When God Created Mothers**

When the good Lord created mothers, He was into His sixth day of overtime, when an angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one." The Lord replied, "have you seen the specs on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; Have 180 moveable parts, all replaceable; Run on black coffee and leftovers; Have a lap that disappears when she stands up; A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointing love affair; And six pairs of hands." The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands? No way!"

"It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord. "It's the three pair of eyes that mothers have to have: One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't, but what she needs to know, and of course the ones in front that look at a child when he goofs up and say, 'I understand and I love you,' without so much as uttering a word. I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already, I have one who heals herself when she is sick; can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger, and get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower. Not only can she think, she can reason and compromise."

Finally, the angel bent over and ran a finger across the cheek of the mother. "There's a leak," he pronounced, "I told you that you were trying to put too much in this model."

"That's not a leak," said the Lord, "it's a tear." "What is it for?" asked the angel. The Lord replied, "It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride." "You're a genius!" shouted the angel. With a somber look on his face, the Lord said, "I didn't put it there."

- How about a hand now for the crowning jewel of God's creation: our mothers!

#### CHALLENGE

Lord, help us never to be too busy for Mom. If You could take time and great effort for her on the cross in Your death, help us to love her while we have her in our life!

#### **Love Your Mother**

Physically, verbally, patiently, attentively, gratefully and honorably