

MOTHER'S DAY
May 8, 2022

When I considered Mother's Day a few weeks ago, Many, many thoughts flooded my mind...

.I thought about what is a mom or mother? I pondered about the attributes of a good mom

I seriously examined my life as a mom... a grandmother... a motherly figure to many women at all stages of motherhood... I realized I could have done better.... what if I could turn back the hands of time... would I have done things differently... maybe, maybe not... but I know for sure I still would have made mistakes and not done things right....

So..... what do I do with all the things that came to my mind and memory... what should I share with you today to encourage everyone listening today...not only moms, grandmas, aunties and motherly figures who have impacted everyone's lives.

What do you think a mom should receive as a yearly salary for ALL THEY DO"

Anybody have any suggestions??

When you add together all the different jobs they do it becomes obvious how valuable mothers are in our lives. Some have reported that mothers do at least 17 different jobs while raising their children:

Here are some examples:

Psychologists, social worker, doctor, nurse, executive chef,
teacher, police officer, judge, counselor, manager, dish washer,
Maid, financial manger/advisor, coach, referee, etc.

One researcher stated, "of course, no one can place a value on the love and affection that mothers give their families."

I have only listed a few responsibilities but it shows what moms are worth and it far more than a 3 figure salary and their love and service to their families is "priceless:

WHAT'S YOUR OCCUPATION? Darlene Jones Sanders

A woman, renewing her driver's license at the County Clerk 's office, was asked by the woman recorder to state her occupation.

She hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself.

"What I mean is," explained the recorder, "Do you have a job or are you just a?"

"Of course I have a job," snapped the woman.

"I'm a Mom."

"We don't list 'Mom' as an occupation, 'Housewife' covers it, said the recorder emphatically.

I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our own Town Hall. The Clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high sounding title like, "Official Interrogator" or "Town Registrar."

"What is your occupation?" she probed.

What made me say it, I do not know . . . the words simply popped out. "I'm a Research Associate in the Field of Child Development and Human Relations."

The clerk paused, ball-point pen frozen in midair and looked up as though she had not heard right.

I repeated the title slowly emphasizing the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pronouncement was written, in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire.

"Might I ask," said the clerk with new interest, "just what you do in your field?"

Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, "I have a continuing program of research, (what mother doesn't) In the laboratory and in the field, (normally I would have said indoors and out).

I'm working for my Masters, (first the Lord and then the whole family) and already have four credits (all daughters). Of course, the job is one of the most demanding in the humanities, (any mother care to disagree?) and I often work 14 hours a day, (24 is more like it). But the job is more challenging than most run-of-the-mill careers and the rewards are more of a satisfaction rather than just money."

There was an increasing note of respect in the clerk's voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door.

As I drove into our driveway, buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants -- ages 13, 7, and 3. Upstairs I could hear our new experimental model, (a 6 month old baby) in the child development program, testing out a new vocal pattern. I felt I had scored a beat on bureaucracy! And I had gone on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than "just another Mom."

Motherhood!

What a glorious career! Especially when there's a title on the door . . .

Does this make grandmothers "Senior Research associates in the field of Child Development and Human Relations?"

And great grandmothers "Executive Senior Research Associates?" I think so!!!

I also think it makes Aunts "Associate Research Assistants."

I also wanted to give you a few examples of some mothers and what they could have SAID:

(contributed by Johnny Creasong, 2008)

MONA LISA'S MOTHER: "After all that money your father and I spend on braces, Mona, that's the biggest smile you can give us?"

HUMPTY DUMPTY'S MOTHER: "Humpty, if I've told you once, I've told you a hundred times not to sit on that wall. But would you listen to me? Nooooo!"

COLUMBUS' MOTHER: "I don't care what you've discovered, Christopher. You still could have written!"

NAPOLEON'S MOTHER: "All right Napoleon. If you aren't hiding your report card inside your jacket, then take your hand out of there and prove it!"

JONAH'S MOTHER: "That's a nice story, but now tell me where you've really been for the last three days."

YUP, SOMETIMES THEY JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE SAYING OR ASKING... THAT'S BECAUSE IT IS NOT EASY TO BE MOM!!

NOW, ABOUT MOTHER'S DAY.....

Have you ever wondered how Mother's Day got started? People started honoring mother's a very long time ago. When it first started it was called Mothering Sunday because people celebrated it the fourth Sunday during a time called Lent. Lent is the time before Easter where people think and prepare about the Easter story and what God did for us.

Then 150 years ago a woman named Anna Jarvis, organized a day to raise awareness of poor health conditions in her community, something she thought mother's believed in doing. She called it "Mother's Work Day."

After Anna Jarvis died, her daughter (also named Anna) wanted to honor all that her mother did. Anna heard her mother say that one day she hoped someone would make a special day just for mothers.

So Anna worked very hard and even talked to presidents and other leaders to try to create a special day just to honor them. By 1914 (more than 100 years ago) a man named Woodrow Wilson signed a bill recognizing Mother's Day as a national holiday.

It just so happens that Anna's mothers' favorite flower was the white carnation and that's why mother's often receive carnations on Mother's Day.

The funny thing is, Anna ended up disliking Mother's day. She didn't want Mother's day to be all about the expensive gifts and fancy flowers but just a day to tell your mom that you love and appreciate her. So remember, moms don't need all that fancy stuff. Make her a nice card and treat her very special today (and everyday) and she won't need anything else.

Mother's are very special, so special that they are mentioned in the Bible. Since the Bible is like an instruction manual for us, it gives us instructions on how to treat our mother.

Do any of you know what the ten commandments are? They were rules that God gave to Moses for all of us to follow. Each commandment is very important and God gave each commandment for a reason. One of the commandments says: Honor your father and you mother, so that all may go well for you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

What does honor mean anyway? Honor can mean many things. When we listen, obey, love, appreciate, and forgive our mom that is how we honor her. That means when she asks you to do something you should do it right away without complaining.

When you show you love your mom by hugging her and telling her that you love her that's another way to honor. You can also appreciate your mom by thanking her when she does things for you (cleaning the house and your clothes, making supper, helping her, etc.).

Our mom won't be perfect all the time, we all make mistakes. So we should forgive our moms when they make mistakes because God asks us too.

Another verse in the Bible asks us to bless our mom. It says, "Her children arise and call her blessed." Some words that describe blessed are that your mom belongs to God and we need to treat her like she's God's child. Your mom used to be a child too and she's just trying her best to help you grow and learn things. So, treat her nicely!

Another way to describe blessed is to be happy. Do you make your mom happy? I'm sure you do a lot of the time and moms can be sad because of different things sometimes too, but I don't think your mom would be happy if you didn't listen to her or disobeyed her.

The last verse we're going to talk about today says: Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. I know that sometimes you don't always want to obey your parents but its important that you obey them because it makes God happy!

Ephesians 6:2,3 "honour your father and mother...which is the first commandment with a promise...2) that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth"

One of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:12) also tells us to "Honor your father and mother, that your days may be long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."

One last thing. No matter how old you get your mom is your mom. Sometimes you might think that you can talk back to our parents or that you know more than them, but you don't. The Bible says to obey your parents always, not just when your a kid. Your parents want the best for you and know what they're talking about.

Don't forget that we also have a heavenly Father that cares and loves us no matter what. So if you don't have a mother around all the time (or even if you do) God is always there. He is there when our mother can't be.

When I spoke to the children in my class last Sunday, I asked them what they thought the greatest fruit of the spirit a mom should have.... Can you guess which one? Love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, humility, goodness, faith or self-control?

They decided that "self-control" because you need "that" for all the other fruit stuff.

We need self control to make the right choices... good love or bad love....joy or grumpiness... Peace or angry at everyone.... patience or losing your cool and yelling or having a tantrum.... being humble or being proud, thinking you are better than others... goodness or evil.... faith or standing for nothing...

Self control in the control center of our hearts...

ASK CHILDREN TO COME FORWARD...."Self-Control" song

HAVE CHILDREN PRESENT THEIR MOTHERS WITH GIFTS AND CARDS

HAVE YOUTH HAND OUT CARNATIONS

ASK PASTOR BRAD TO CLOSE IN PRAYER.