Qualities of a Loving Mother

The first Mother’s Day took place over 106 years ago when Ann Jarvis wanted to do something special to honor her mom. She petitioned Congress and under President Woodrow Wilson, he designated the second Sunday in the month of May to be this special day; a day to honor and remember the fond memories of your mother.

Honor your father and your mother” is a commandment which is repeated eight times in the Bible.3 A person can honor their mother in great or humble ways, but any way we honor our mother, we honor God.

A story is told about a mother and son at a grocery story. A mother was considering purchasing cans of vegetables while her son was riding the cart.

The boy snuck a can of asparagus off the shelf and held it up to his mother. “Mommy! Let’s get this!”

“Ooo, Pumpkin, I love asparagus, it’s my favorite! But it’s just too expensive.”

On Mother’s day, the six-year-old grabbed a poorly wrapped gift and said, “Open this one, Mommy!”

The mother unwrapped it, and in her hand, she held a can of asparagus.

The boy beamed, “I saved my allowance for the whole year to get you that!”4

On this Mother’s Day, many of us take the time to spend with our Mother’s and/or reflect on some memorable moments with our mothers, grandmothers or those who were a mother figure in our lives. Some visit the graveside and place flowers there, while others look at pictures or other memorabilia that helps us to thank God and be appreciative of her love and qualities.

As I contemplate the roles and responsibilities of a mother’s love, I believe she is a nurturer and a character builder, a servant and helper of God, a leader and a teacher to those who need her wonderful example. But as I reflect on women who have made the difference in any person’s life, they had to have the wisdom and knowledge to follow a strategic way of living. As I reflect on this day, there are various features, characteristics and attributes our mothers possessed.

The specific Christian qualities of a loving mother are highlighted in the book of Proverbs, “her children arise up, and call her blessed.” (Proverbs 31:28) A good mother is like Christ in many ways. She is more concerned about the well being of her children than her own.

She is loyal. A good mother is loyal, faithful to support her children however difficult the situation. God’s loyalty to His children is supreme. Through love He gave His Son to suffer and die for us, paying our ransom. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” (I John 1:9) “This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.” (I John 4:9)

Love and loyalty go hand in hand. Gratefully acknowledge God’s goodness; uphold and encourage the good in our fellowmen.

Another quality of a loving mother is she listens. A good mother listens to her children; she is concerned about their problems. They can talk to her in confidence; she offers solace and understanding. God hears the faintest cry of the least of His saints. He understands our deepest needs. The word tells us in I Peter 5:7 to “cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” God speaks through His promises. God also uses the gifts of others to make known to us His will and His wisdom. We do well to heed God’s Word and the wise counsel of other Christians.

In addition, to being a great listener, she uplifts. A good mother not only listens to her children but also uplifts them. She sacrificially lightens the burdens of her children. The Lord also uplifts His children; He helps them over the rough places, guides them in darkness, and supplies their needs. The scripture passage in (Phil 4:19) says, “And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.” God will use us to lift others—to share with the less fortunate, care for the sick and lonely, and witness to the unsaved.

A loving mother not only uplifts, she laughs. A good mother laughs with her children. She wants them to be happy and joyful. They enjoy being with her as they work together and play together. God also rejoices with His children. Christ endured the cross for the joy that was set before Him. In Hebrews 12:2 says, “fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Christians should rejoice in the Lord. Happiness is attractive. Others will want to know Christ when they see the joy of the Lord in us (Phil 4:4).

Finally, she loves her children dearly. A good mother’s love for her children is surpassed only perhaps, by the love of God. Her children respond with their love in return. God’s love is the greatest love possible. In the word, I John 3:1 states, “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.” He gave His only begotten Son to die for us in evidence of that love. Love is a built-in psychological and spiritual need. God’s love reaches out through us to meet that need in the world. I John 3:16-18 reminds us of “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”

Now, many of us know that our none of our Mothers are or were perfect, but they were strengthened by God to fulfill their purpose to nurture, love and guide their children. If for some reason, any of you weren’t close to your mom or struggled to forgive her imperfections, forgive your mom and be at peace, she did the best she knew how at the time of raising you.

We have done the best we can in parenting our children, grandchildren and even great, great grandchildren. There are a few things I commend us on and yet want to encourage us to teach younger mothers. Mothers need to be reminded of these few important aspects of their personal walk with God because her children are constantly watching a mother when the children are young and even older. Whether we are still parenting our child or children in their youthful days or we are seasoned in life and our children are grown and on their own, there are some ways of living that are appropriate for any mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin or woman. As gifted and chosen women of God, we learn the importance of saturating ourselves in the Word of God to do the will of our heavenly father. Truly, our faith journey and how we live an obedient life in the Lord is vital to our family. As we study the word on a regular basis, others around us will take notice and will desire to seek the face of God for ourselves.

When the time of testing and trials come our way, our faithful testimony enables others to see how we are being strengthened in the godly qualities in the Lord. Our prayer life expands as we seek the face of God when difficult days and trying times occur. Paul spoke about how the community of believers prayed, “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer”, according to Acts 2:42. Women of God, like Darlene, Carol, Linda and Beth join the Morning Prayer Line, Monday- Thursday of every week to intentionally grow in their faith, pray for the church and other concerns.

In addition to enduring the trials of life, mothers and the entire family of God should take the time to receive divine revelation knowledge and wisdom from the Lord. There is an old saying that mothers seem to know best. What a mother doesn’t want to happen according to King Solomon’s wisdom in Proverbs 19:3, “A person’s or her children’s own folly leads to their ruin, yet their heart rages against the Lord.”

What we want to reflect on and remember about our mother is her strength and dignity as a wife, businesswoman, adviser, counselor and leader within her community and family is evident in the Proverbs 31:25-28 passage. “She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:”

As Christian mothers and women of God, we understand the importance of dedicating our home to the Lord. Psalm 127:1 says, “Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.” God is the Master Builder and he wants us to build our house on a firm foundation, which means to put our family in the hands of God who can build us up into a holy and chosen people of God.

In addition to dedicating our home to the Lord, each of us must prepare our children to make a difference in this world. We are called as parents to teach our children that we are here on this earth to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Take the time to think about this question, how am I making this place a better place for others to live. What contributions am I making to enhance the lives of others? Have I instilled this way of living in the hearts and spirits of my children, grandchildren or great grandchildren?

We must take our Christian faith to another level, as we embrace the power of placing our trust in the Lord. We must trust God to take excellent care of our family. All of us have to accept that God will provide for our families. On many occasions, mothers and parents have encountered struggles whether financial or other sorts, but God reminds all of us to “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.” Proverbs 3:5-7 In essence, spend more time with our kids, not just buying them presents, but grace them with our presence in their lives.

The qualities and attributes of a loving mother will lead her children to hopefully establishing a good relationship with God. Based on her love and support for her children, she has been a living witness of Jesus Christ. Loyalty, listening, uplifting, laughing and loving will be the same qualities her children will adopt as a way of living. She has been called to strengthen and teach her children to love God and others. I thank God for moms being such a blessing to the world.

Happy Mother’s Day all moms

God bless you

The Mother’s Day Prayer,

Heavenly Father we thank you for our mother, whether she is at home in glory and resting from her labors or she is still with us. You have blessed us to experience your love through our mother. May you bless and watch over them and keep them safely in your arms. We appreciate the love you have given to them and they have given to us. In Jesus Name Amen