



Foundations Mother's Day

I. Children's Responsibility

Proverbs 23:25 (GW[®])

May your father and mother be glad;
may she who gave you birth rejoice!

Matthew 15:4 (NIV[®])

⁴ For God said, 'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.'

A. Tangible expressions of concern

B. Forgiveness

C. Respect

- ❖ As a culture we have forgotten much about how to honor our elders; as important before God as caring for the young.

II. Mary's Parenting

A. In the Beginning ---

Luke 1:31 (NIV[®])

You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.

B. The Challenges ---

Luke 2:43-50 (NIV[®])

After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, **they traveled on for a day**. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ **After three days they found him in the temple courts**, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. [48] When his parents saw him, they were astonished. **His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."**

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Proverbs 22:6 (NASB®)

Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

C. The Unexpected

John 19:25-27 (NIV®)

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," ²⁷ and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

III. As Women --- life in the real world

Luke 2:36-38 (NIV®)

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I invite Your blessing on my mom --- bring her Your very best. Grant her the desires of her heart. Redeem the time she has invested in others. Renew the weary places in her soul. Remember her persistent prayers and quiet tears. May her willingness to give life be returned to her through the life of Your Spirit. May the love of those who surround her be more real than any disappointment she has endured. I bless her in Your name. amen.

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