

Gifted Mothers
Sermon May 14, 2017

Mother's Day is one of the most special days. It is a beautiful time to remember and celebrate the woman who gave us birth, nurtured us, and left a profound legacy of Christlikeness. Today, we are here to worship the Lord who blessed us with our mothers and grandmothers, and also to honour our mothers and grandmothers. Let's make this day a day for greetings and the expressions of our deep love.

There are not enough words to praise the true value of motherhood. True motherhood is a difficult, lifetime task. True motherhood is a calling. It is a privilege and, if valued correctly, it is a pleasure.

I sadly have to say that I know many people for whom Mother's Day is a very difficult time for many reasons.

- Many women would love to have become a mother, but for some reason they could not. God had a different plan with them.
- I have met people who do not have what we call the BEST MOTHER in the world.
- I know people who did have awesome mothers but, already in their childhood, they lost them through death or circumstances.
- I am sure we all can understand their sensitivity today.
- The same way we remember those mothers who lost children.

As you see, Mother's Day can be very difficult indeed, and we sympathize with all of them.

Men don't make good mothers: this is why God created for us a special mother.

Who are they and what do mothers for us?

The physics teacher at a school gave the class a lesson on magnets. The next day she recapped on the lesson and asked, "My name begins with an "M," has six letters, and I pick things up. What am I?" The kids answered, my "Mother."

Mothers and grandmothers are say funny things to us. Once, a grandmother said to her grandson: "Honey, have you seen the dirt on the back of your neck!" Another time, she said: "if you fall off that bike and break your neck, don't come running to me".

I assume some of you are loud around the table. Did your mom say to you, "now will you shut your mouth and eat?" Well, how can you do that?

I remember that sometimes my mom said to me and my brothers: “guys, you are like your father”.

Fathers are quite important but mothers are the most important. Somebody said: “Men are what their mothers make them.”

A mother can make such a significant spiritual impact on her children. I read about Susannah Wesley who had 17 children. She spent one hour each day praying for her children. In addition, she took each child aside for a full hour each week to discuss spiritual matters. As a result, her children committed their lives to serve God. They were blessings of the world.

I will read you a poem I found which is pertinent:

She fed me when I was hungry; she laundered all my clothes.
 She helped me study history and wiped my dirty nose.
 She often wiped my fevered brow; she taught me to ride a bike.
 She even taught me how to eat the foods I did not like.
 She wore old and faded clothes so I could wear something new.
 She set an example so that I would know what to say and what to do.
 She often worked from dawn to dark to make our house a home,
 while singing like a lark, her eyes with love’s light shone.
 Now wrinkles grace her once smooth brow; her hair has turned to gray.
 And I begin to wonder how I’ll live without her here one day.

~ Author Unknown

Now let us see how some of our children learned from their mothers and grandmothers and the way they express their love and gratitude. These notes were prepared a week ago during Sunday school and Michael will present them.

As you see, mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers are extra special too.

Once, in a classroom, the teacher asked the children to share their memories and appreciation about their grandmothers and to define what a grandmother is. This is what they said:

- A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own but she likes other people’s little girls and boys.
- A grandfather is a man grandmother. He goes for walks with the boys, and they talk about fishing and stuff like that. ...
- Grandmothers don’t have to do anything, except be there. They are old, so they shouldn’t play too hard, and they shouldn’t run.
- When grandmothers take us for a walk, they slow down, and show us pretty things like leaves, and butterflies, and things, and they never say, things like "Hurry up, we are going to be late!"

- Usually grandmothers tie your shoes.
- They wear glasses and funny underwear, and they can take their teeth out.
- Grandmothers can answer questions like, "Why isn't God married?" and "How come dogs chase cats?"
- Grandmothers don't talk baby talk like other adults do when they read to us, they don't skip parts of the story either; they don't even complain about reading the same story over and over again.
- Another child wrote: Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you are not allowed to go on your computer, because they are the only grown-ups who have time for you.

Again, I do not know who wrote that one, but it is so fitting.

We all have fond memories of our mothers and grandmothers. Today, we are all here to remember them and the home where we were raised. Let us remember again the sounds, and sights, and the smells of home: the smell of home baking, the taste from licking the spoon, and the dinners that only our mother can make.

I could go on with these memories for ages, but I close by saying:

May our Lord bless you and keep you all on this special day. Amen.