



The Worker

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Honor Thy Mother

As I'm sure we know, Sunday is "Mother's Day." I hope we honor our mothers on this special day – and not only Sunday, but every day.

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.

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!

Mothers listen as you pour out your heart, they have a sympathetic ear – always have had – and even as an adult, you've gone to her when you want someone who will really listen and understand. She'll always be on your side.

For her young children, she clears her schedule so she can run them around from place to place. She gives up opportunities so they can have more opportunities.

For we adults w/living mothers, let me share this letter read by Dr. James Dobson on the "Focus on Family" radio program—a letter from an 80 year old woman to her children 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 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 Philippian 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

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Contentment

There was a father who was known by his family to be a chronic growler. He complained about everything. He was sitting one day with his family in the presence of a guest in the living room when the subject of food came up.

One of the children, a little girl, was telling the guest what food each member of the family liked best.

Finally, it came to the father's turn to be described. "And what do I like, Nancy?" he asked.

"You," said the little girl slowly, "well, what you like most is anything we haven't got."

There are some people like that, who simply are never content. If they're served one food, they want something else. If it's hot outside, they want it to be cold. If it's cold, they want it to be hot. And they'd rather be ANYWHERE else other than where they're living right now!

To the young man Timothy, Paul wrote, "Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, we shall be content." (1 Timothy 6:6-8). Since most of us seem to need far more than that to be content, we are challenged by Paul's words!

But, to Paul, they weren't just words to be spoken and discussed. They were words to be lived out. Despite the fact that Paul was writing from prison, he was able to say, "I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content." (Philippians 4:11). In the next verse, he said that he had learned to be content with a lot (which would be easy for most of us), but he was also content with little. The reason he could be content because he had Jesus Christ, and that was all he needed to bring contentment.

Do you have food? Do you have clothing? More importantly, do you have Jesus? Have a contented day!

- David A. Sargent, minister for the Church of Christ at Creekwood in Mobile, Alabama
website: <http://www.creekwoodcc.org>

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey

Deacons Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,
Robby Stocksdale, Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister Eric Welch

Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Panama Mission

Pablo Sanchez

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Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: "Two Mothers in Mark" Mark 7:24-30

Sunday Evening: "What's Right with the Church – Our God"

Those Privileged to Serve

AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
Opening Prayer Hayward Blanton
Scripture Joe Sweeney
Sermon Eric Welch
Lord's Supper
Message Jerry Casey
Attendant Jerry Montgomery
Attendant Harold Tincher
Closing Prayer Eric Welch

PM Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale
Bible Reading Nathaniel Welch
Selection 18
Prayer Irvin Williams
Sermon Eric Welch
Closing Prayer Clint Smith Sr
If you are unable to serve, please call Art Patrick 502-819-9481 or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511

AM & PM Services

Announcements Clint Smith Jr
Lord's Supper Leon Stocksdale
Offering Hank Tincher
Usher Ernie Marshall
Count Offering Hank Tincher
Assist Count Joe Sweeney

Last Sunday

Contribution Attendance
\$2,505

Rest and Peace

Eric Welch

Two boys just returned from a flower shop where they bought from their own money flowers for their mother on Mother's Day. They said, "Mom, we hope you like the flowers. There were other flowers in the shop that we wanted to get, but they were too expensive. They had this pretty ribbon across the front of them that said, 'Rest in Peace.' We knew that you always said that you wanted some peace so you can get some rest. We thought it would be great for you, but we hope you like the ones that you got."

That sentiment, though humorous, rings with much truth. Mom can indeed have rest and peace knowing that, when her child leaves home, she will have given her children everything that they need to make it on their own. If she has taught them self-reliance, good manners and hard work, she can find rest and peace in her later years.

However, the godly mother will not rest until she knows that she has done her best to lead her children in the ways of the Lord through teaching and example. She teaches them that true self-reliance is the realization of who we are before God and that we need Him (Matthew 5:3). She teaches her children that good manners is based upon the second command to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). She knows that hard work is based on self-discipline and the idea that when you work as for the Lord, no job is beneath you (Colossians 3:23). She will not have peace until she knows that her children will have their own faith that leads her children to study God's word and to pray daily, to be actively involved in the work of the church and to teach others the gospel.

A Mother's Day gift is a good way to honor your mother, but the best gift is a life lived for the Lord. *Let her who bore you rejoice* (Proverbs 23:25).

Happy Mother's Day to you!

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The next Monday Night for the Master group meeting is Monday May 11th at 6:00 pm. Italian will be the theme for the meal.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the communion trays for the month of June. Please sign the sheet if you are willing to help with this.

(Honor Thy Mother continued from page 1)

We always liked to talk to mom – she would listen – but now she's older, she has issues, and now it's your turn to be her "rock" and take time to listen. "But, she's always complaining, she talks about herself a lot, she asks same question over and over..."

In their older days, our parents have many fears and anxieties – and perhaps a few increasingly annoying habits. May we treat them as we hope to be treated when the day comes that we find ourselves in their shoes! That is, attentively, patiently, and lovingly.

Exodus 20:12: "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

"Honor" – "glorify, or reverence." This is binding as long as your mother lives. Another command says "Children, obey your parents," but this becomes less binding when the child leaves home and begins his own, but "honor" is different. It is an obligation that endures as long as one's parents are alive. They must always be respected. If the husband is the head of the home (Eph. 5:23), then the mother is the heart. Don't break her heart.

"Ok, but my mother isn't honorable." The Bible says nothing about that. It doesn't say, "Honor thy mother only if you think she's deserving of it." It says, "Honor thy father and thy mother..." Don't shut her out, don't turn your back on her, but show her a measure of respect. By the way, Ex. 20:12 is the only one of the 10 commandments which includes a built-in promise of blessing.

Mom needs a sincere "Thank you," and not just today, but from a genuinely thankful heart when least expected.

There's nothing too good for her, we could never repay her, but we ought to die trying before she does! If your mother was/is as good as mine – as good as my children's mother is – she didn't/won't spend on herself unless all your needs were (or are) met. Thanks be to God for loving mothers!

- R. W. McAlister preaches for the Anna Church of Christ in Anna, IL.
website: <http://www.annachurchofchrist.com>