

- Mother's Day can be a painful reminder of a person's loss if his or her mother has passed away. The connection between child and mother is deep, so it is only natural to carry that grief for the rest of our lives. Be careful not to let your grief dominate other people's joy, though (Rom. 12:15).
- Regret over a broken relationship Perhaps Mother's Day should be a reminder that you only have so much time to mend things before the opportunity is gone.
- Disappointment Your mother might have been deeply disappointing in some way, which can leave an emotional burden. Don't let her bitterness become yours (Ruth1:19-21, 1 Sam. 4:19-22) and don't assume that you know everything about why she was/is that way.

### WHY IS MOTHER'S DAY HARD FOR SOME?

- Ephesians 6:1-3
- Exodus 20:12
- Deuteronomy 5:16
- Jesus is the Son of God, but unabashedly honored His mother. Even in cases that at first seem to be a dismissal (John 2:4, Luke 8:21), Jesus is actually showing great respect for her. As He was dying, one of the last things on His mind was not His own wellbeing, but His mother's (Jn. 19:25-27)!
- We honor them because we owe them life, no matter the quality of their parenting or their lasting impact (positive or negative). Should not such a fundamental gift be met with fundamental love and dignity, if not affection or approval of bad choices?

### HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER

### WHAT I LOVE ABOUT MY

# SHE TAUGHT TRUE WISDOM

- Proverbs 1:8, 6:20 "Wisdom" is personified as a woman throughout the Book of Proverbs, and the book ends with a great ode to the worthy woman and her wisdom (31:26).
- What she said and what dad said were never contradictory. They presented a "united front" and were complementary.
- She took religious knowledge seriously. It was not a hobby but a means to understanding life and God (2 Pet. 1:3).

# SHE TREASURED THINGS IN HER HER HEART

Luke 2:16-20, 2:51

 Mary, Jesus' mother, will always be remembered for her role in the gospel story (Luke 1:28-29, 1:42), but she did not think of herself more highly than she should have. She did not seek the spotlight, but only saw herself as one part of the larger narrative (Luke 1:46ff).

 Some women are very outgoing, others are not. Everybody has a talent and a uniquely beautiful personality. But all people can and should maintain humility. In whatever way you serve, do it with all your might as if you were doing it for God Himself (Col. 3:17). My mother is not one to occupy the spotlight, partly because of her personality but mostly because Jesus deserves all the attention.

• 1 Peter 3:1-6

### MODESTY OF THE HEART

# JESUS IS FIRST IN HER LIFE, SO THE NICEST THING I COULD DO IN A LESSON ABOUT MY MOM IS TO IMMEDIATELY STOP MAKING IT ABOUT HER

#### Matt. 23:37, 11:28-30, Gal. 2:20