

May 9, 2021

It's Mother's Day ... a day to explore the magic of mothers.

Motherhood comes during all seasons of life. It can be unexpected, anticipated, longed for, and yes, even dreaded to some degree. The changes that occur in a woman with motherhood go beyond the simple. There are physical, chemical and molecular dances that take place – expanding an emotional universe. There is a tie that is more than a bond; it is a tie of responsibility that keeps you caring for a child rather than seeking adventure for one's own pleasure. There is the frightening realization that now – through your child – you can be hurt in ways you could never have been hurt before.

The love that is created in mothers spills out into the world through their offspring, explaining the bible verse that says *children are a heritage from the Lord. Psalm 127:3*

Motherhood is one of those transformative experiences that once it happens; it is almost impossible to remember what one was like before the change occurred. I know that I have never been the same. Throughout my years as a parent, I've frequently been amazed by my capacity—and my willingness--to serve my children when they're stubborn, disobedient, selfish, needy, sick... the list goes on.

No child ever gets sick when Mom has time and energy to coddle! No! They get sick on mission trips in the middle of the night! No child ever gets in trouble at school with Mom just sitting around waiting to intervene. No! That happens in the middle of a hospital shift! Had anyone else imposed on me the way my children have in the course of their growing up, I'd have ended that relationship!

But mothers ... mothers forgive, guide, instruct, and love. That's what mothers do and most of the time it isn't even that hard.

Jesus calls His church to be a Mother to the world. That's what He meant when He told Nicodemus that he needed to be born again. Jesus knew that birth was not only a new slate of life for the newborn, but a transformative change that expanded the heart and soul of the mother to love in a self-sacrificing way.

It is Mother's Day and we're honoring Mothers ... but everyone can love the way a mother loves. Everyone. 1st John 4:12 reads: ***No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.***