



Mother's Day

by Rev. Cynthia A. Burns

The month of May is a very enjoyable time. This could mean the new beginnings of life and, in some instances, the end of life. May for us means birthdays to celebrate and remember the special people we love and care about. May is celebrating Memorial Day in honor of those who gave their lives so that America and its people can stay free. *Then a very important day to celebrate is Mother's Day.*

I think that *Mother's Day* is the embodiment of life itself. It is when children growing up around us remind us of why we have the title and role. How quickly, it seems, parents go from lullaby's, to the first day of kindergarten, to graduations, and then onto the life we have hopefully prepared them for. This is the goal of all parents as we send them off to start their lives. Our prayer as parents is that the values and standards they have learned, under our parenting leadership, will continue to guide them as they begin their journey in life. Life is always changing and as parents we adapt to the numerous surprises along the way with prayer, joy and yes, sometimes tears and sadness.

I believe this is why God stated in the bible; **Ephesians 6:2** “*Honor your father and mother*”—which is the first commandment with a promise” (NIV). *Honor* means being respected and generally applies more

to one's attitude. Yes, a child reaches beyond the stage of obeying their parents (**Ephesians 6:1**) and moves into *honor* in **Ephesians 6:3**. This is where scripture speaks about the responsibility we have towards our parents.

I will focus these next paragraphs on honoring our mothers specifically. Even when a mother has gone home to be with Jesus, her children can and should still honor her memory and recognize all the wonderful things she has given them. Mothers are not perfect and will make mistakes along the way. It is a part of the life of a parent and despite this most of us have turned out fine. We have the strength and values given to us from our mothers in the process of being raised by them.

I love being a mom of an adult son who makes his own choices and plans in his life. Sometimes, as with all parents, I rejoice in the joy he experiences and shed tears over the pain he endures. However, like most parents, we can only lead our children to listen to the Holy Spirit within them, to seek answers from their heavenly Father, and then, we pray. So often, since my child became an adult, I think about what my mother would have said or done in the various situations he faces.

Ever since my mother went to be with Jesus, I thought about how she probably felt the same things I feel when I am experiencing things with my child. I tried to honor my mom when she was alive, and I continue to do so now that she is living in heaven. I've heard someone say about death, that too many people obsess about the day of death instead of celebrating life in the dash. The dash is between when we were born and the time we passed from this life. We all need to spend our focus in the dash!

My mother loved Jesus, she loved her children, she loved her grandchildren. She loved Christmas and made it a great holiday with food,

decoration, and enough lights on the house to be seen from space. Mom instilled in me the love of all the festivities surrounding Christmas, yet, never forgetting the real reason we celebrate. I honor her by celebrating everything she loved. Although I miss her, I think about all that she does in heaven, and I look forward to our reunion in the future.

Another beautiful woman I call mom and want to honor is my mother-in-love. She is dedicated to her Lord, her children, and grandchildren, and she works very hard. She's got a heart of gold and loves to bless all her kids. I know she prays for all her kids and grandchildren faithfully. She always goes out of her way to make holidays, dinners, and just spending time together like watching TV, *a special time*. Mom has been there in some hard places of life; she has cried with me, prayed with me, gave me an attentive ear, helped me when I needed help, and imparted a great deal of wisdom in this life. I truly appreciate and admire her.

Finally, I want to pay tribute to all the mothers who prayed, who rejoiced and who cried over their children and grandchildren. Ladies, things don't always go right; we may give advice when not asked or say things that didn't come out the way we intended. However, through it all, we love our families and want the best for them. *My prayer for you on this Mother's Day is that you may be blessed beyond measure and overflowing with the love of your family.*

Have a great Mother's Day!

(You can find more information about Michael & Cynthia Burns at www.mjbministries.org. You can find Free Audios and links to sign up for our FREE Monthly E-Newsletter and Archives. We also have links to our YouTube Channel and our FREE Mobile App for both the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store. To invite Michael & Cynthia Burns to your ministry please fill out your request at www.mjbministries/invite).