

GOD'S FAVOR TOWARDS MOTHERS

I am convinced that the people that are the closest to the heart of God are mothers.

He chose you to be the physical dwelling place where his best work is done. A woman's womb is the workshop where God's masterpieces are created.

Psalm 139:13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

God made you with a nurturing spirit, with special intuition, sensitivity, compassion, and discernment to shape them into the masterpieces that he created them to be.

Proverbs 31:26-31 She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. 27 She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. 28 Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 29 "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." 30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. 31 Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

He calls you highly favored.

Luke 1:26-31 In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "**Greetings, you who are highly favored!** The Lord is with you." 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

You know that moms are highly favored by God because they are endued with an extra measure of love, patience and compassion, not to mention all of the extraordinary talents they have.

Moms fill the role of doctor, psychologist, counselor, match maker, personal chef, friend, accountant, tax consultant, laundry fairy, Uber driver, event coordinator, and tech support.

It was you that cared for them 24 hours a day when they were nothing more than a sound at one end and a smell on the other.

It was you who taught them how to feed themselves so that they wouldn't poke their eye out with a spoon.

It was you who taught them how to dress and eventually they learned that underwear is not a hat.

It was you that toilet trained them so they could have a sleep over with Grandma and Papa.

It was you that cleaned up their boo-boo and disinfected it with a kiss because you remember that mercurochrome stings like heck.

Remember that? Your mom would say this is going to hurt me more that it hurts you. I think it was Mercury, ghost pepper juice with red dye #2 and it burned out the infected area.

It was you that held a cool wet towel on their head when they had a fever and always used the mouth thermometer.

It was you that held the hair out of the way when they had to hug the porcelain throne.

It was you that made them mac and cheese again when you really wanted lasagna.

It was you that learned how to get gum out of hair using only an ice cube and peanut butter. A mom should have been cast as MacGyver.

It was your shoulder they cried on when they lost their first love.

It was you they celebrated with when they got their first A.

It was you that gave them the wise advice that allowed them to survive the horrors of puberty.

It was you who spoke words of encouragement to them when their whole world seemed to be falling apart.

It was you that made them feel included when their friends made them feel like a third wheel.

It was you who taught them to be kind, even when others didn't deserve it.

It was you who told them that the sky was the limit, they could accomplish anything they put their mind to.

It was you that told them that Jesus loved them even when they didn't love themselves.

Four encouragements for moms.

1) God always keeps his promises

Jeremiah 31:16-17 GNT Stop your crying and wipe away your tears. All that you have done for your children will not go unrewarded; they will return from the enemy's land. 17 There is hope for your future; your children will come back home. I, the Lord, have spoken.

Proverbs 22:16 GNT Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their life.

Psalms 112:1-2 Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commandments! 2 His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Proverbs 20:7 The righteous who walks in his integrity— blessed are his children after him.

Acts 16:31-33 And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family.

2) Your kids are always listening, so make your words count.

The more you learn about your new identity in Christ the more you want to share it with your kids, how do you share without preaching at them?

Incorporate your faith in normal conversations.

Tell them what you are learning about God's goodness.

Tell them what you are learning about being a new creation, share how you are seeing and doing things differently now that you are walking in newness of life.

Most importantly share the word of God with them. Faith comes by hearing the word of God, the word of God is the spiritual seed.

When you speak to them or about them **only** say about them what the word says about them.

Don't say your kids are a mess.

They just can't seem to get their act together.

They're just not as smart as other kids.

They are going to spend their whole lives running from God.

These things may be true, but it is not the truth, the truth is what God says about them.

God's word says...

My kids are sons and daughters of the Most High God.

My kids are dearly loved by God.

Provision has already been made for their forgiveness and eternal life.

My kids live by faith and therefore please God.

My kids have a divine inheritance.

My kids are blessed (divine empowerment to increase and prosper).

Your kids have divine favor (a gift bestowed as a token of regard, love and friendliness, preferential treatment, divine advantage).

Proverbs 18:21 GNT What you say can preserve life or destroy it; so you must accept the consequences of your words.

3) God is patient when you fail.

Psalm 145:8-9 NIV You're kind and tenderhearted to those who don't deserve it and very patient with people who fail you. Your love is like a flooding river overflowing its banks with kindness. 9 God, everyone sees your goodness, for your tender love is blended into everything you do.

Raising kids is a marathon not a sprint, it is inevitable that you will have some missteps along the way, by now you know that Jesus has already forgiven every mistake you have ever made and kids are always quick to forgive, the only person left in the equation is you, you must learn to forgive yourself as quickly as you forgive others.

Romans 8:37-39 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Mary lost Jesus for three days. Think about the conversation the accuser had with her.

4) God is not holding you accountable for the behavior of your adult kids.

One of Satan's greatest strategies is to cause moms to experience condemnation because of the life styles of their adult kids.

Your kids have a freewill, all that you can do is the best you can but ultimately their lives will be shaped by the decisions they make.

John 7:3-4 NIV Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do. 4 No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." 5 For even his own brothers did not believe in him.