

# MOTHER'S DAY

This Special Celebration to honor our Mothers must also include our Wives, Grand-Mothers, Great-Grand-Mothers, Sisters, Aunts, -- and, yes -- our Mothers-In-Law also. Each woman in our lives who has given birth in our "Line of Life" deserves the honor due to her position on this Special Celebration of Motherhood.

Remember, the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment to, "*Honor your Father and your MOTHER*" (Exodus 20:12) -- and the responsibility to "*teach this diligently to your children at all times*" (Deuteronomy 6:7).

God has a Special place in His heart for Mothers. He honored Mary as the Mother of His Son Jesus Christ, and throughout the Bible there are many other Special Mothers named who up-held their faith and were at their husband's side at all times, serving, encouraging, and just "being there" for them.

A good example of the important Godly influence Mothers and Grand-Mothers have on their children is the story of Timothy -- the Apostle Paul speaking -- "When I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your Grand-Mother Lois and your Mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also" (2 Timothy 1:5).

Mothers are the first in line deserving honor in each of our lives. Grand-Mothers also play a very important part in the rearing and teaching of the next generation -- and on to the Great-Grand-Mothers still living, and loving their extended family.

Then there are the often maligned Mothers-In-Law who provided the spouses for the continuance of the families. Mothers-In-Law who are there whenever needed and called upon to help. Too often their advice is not appreciated and their reputation is tainted by unappreciative spouses. I would like to say here -- and I'm sure there are many readers who can echo my feelings -- that my Mother-In-Law, Mildred, was one of the best, an outstanding woman in many ways. It is unfortunate that her life and service to her family was cut short at the age of 57 due to a family inherited kidney disorder, but her love for her children, and grand-children shown as a beacon that was felt by all.

There are only a few Mothers-In-Law that could be found mentioned in the Bible -- Ruth's Mother-In-Law, Naomi, and Peter's Mother-In-Law, who is spoken of but unnamed. Yet, each and all those other women that God used to provide birth to countless famous men -- were special to God.

In the Bible -- and too often today -- the Fathers are mentioned by name and position and the Mothers are taken for granted. However their faithfulness to their husbands and families stands out clear and strong.

The Book of Proverbs gives the following tribute to MOTHERS -- "*Her children rise up, and call her Blessed -- her husband also, and he Praises her*" (Proverbs 31:28).

So, as we approach this Special Day on the calendar let us give extra attention and honor to the ladies in our lives -- and, yes -- also to those dear ladies, who for one reason or another, have never given birth -- and yet have been used mightily in the lives of others, and especially in teaching and caring for children of all ages.

My Mother is long passed but I fondly remember her love and care. My wife is still at my side and I lovingly recall all she sacrificially went through in giving me a healthy son and daughter, and those in turn who have given me grand-children and great-grand-children -- "To God be the Glory, Great Things He has Done.

We thank and honor our MOTHERS and pray God's Richest Blessings for all of them on this, their Special Day. If your Mom or Grand-Ma is still living today -- buy her flowers -- go to her -- give her a big hug and kiss -- and tell her that you Love and Appreciate her -- and how Very Special she is to you.

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