

# MOTHER

Mothers are blessings from God. Their contribution to our presence in life forces us to recognize their value. Simply, without them we would never have been born. So, if you have breath within you, you have much to be thankful for in your mother. For most of us, thoughts of our mothers flood our minds with feelings that fill our emotions with thanksgiving. In the form of an acrostic consider MOTHER in the following ways.

**M**otivator—What child does not need someone to encourage and promote good character within their self? The mind of a child is a precious field of opportunity needing the right kind of prodding and challenge to excel in all possible areas. Neither grandparents, daycare, nor school can provide the kind of ability to reinforce good behavior skills that a mother can. It is not just about getting a child out of bed in the morning to get ready for school, or to get a bedroom clean. More fundamentally, it has do with placing a mindset in the heart of a child to be the best they can be. A good mother motivates a child to live acceptably before God and their fellow man.

**O**ptimist—There is no time in life more difficult than the growing up years. Criticism as well as mistakes can drain children of their self-esteem. Who, but a mother can take the most difficult of dilemmas and turn them into workable and do-able challenges? Mothers are meant to be “the-glass-is-half-full” kind of people. If children cannot see the eternal optimist in their mother, then where will they find it? A mother who serves God, knows Paul’s admonishment, “I can do all things through Christ, who gives me strength,” Philippians 4:13. Their own lives should be a living testimony to be observed by their children. Remember: Children learn more about taking a positive perspective in life when they see their mother being positive than all school teachers and motivational speakers put together. A mother must love unconditionally. Unconditional love forces a mother see any action or dilemma as fuel for encouragement to a better life.

**T**eacher—When children come into this world they are given a moral sense that is innate, a true gift of God. However, beyond that everyone starts with a clean slate on which to write the truths of the ages. A mother is a teacher from the beginning. Whether potty training, or giving marital advice, a mother is by definition, a teacher. Unmistakably any effective teacher is only as capable at teaching as they themselves are educated. One will only teach what they know and live. This is why every mother should be a Christian. If they have learned that all life has to offer is only to be fully understood and appreciated from a Christian perspective, literally a Christ-influenced life, then they themselves will be able to teach their children effectively to appreciate the same. Mothers teach with their every move, every action, and every word.

**H**elper—Who bandages the “boo-boos?” Who picks the knots out of shoelaces? Who comes in the middle of the night at the sound of the smallest whimper, but mother? How can a child truly see their way through the many pitfalls of life without their helper mother to be there to provide moral and emotional support? Who gives hugs and kisses like mother? Who will help cut the meat, wash the clothes, wipe the fevered head with a cool cloth like mother? By design, the success of a child in life will depend much on the help he receives from his mother. Help will not come through constant nagging, yelling, or finding fault. Help comes through reinforcing in the mind of a child that they are loved unconditionally, and that faults and mistakes can be overcome through making good decisions.

**E**xample—Children are a heritage from the Lord, Psalm 127:3. Since children are that precious in God’s sight, then how we are to live in the presence of our children is predetermined. God’s ways expose man’s ways as being good and healthy, or wrong and destructive. How a mother lives is a great determining cause in the way a child will develop. Children are like vacuum cleaners. They suck into their minds everything good and bad that is presented to them. Spending so much time in their formidable years with their mother says much as to what they will become. A godly mother will be the best example for a child.

**R**eminder—Did you pick up your toys? Did you turn in your homework? Did you brush your teeth? Did you take out the garbage? How many questions or reminders will come from the mouth of a mother in any one day? What about questions like, “did you know that I love you?” Do you know that God sees that you are most special? Do you realize that God wants to bless you when you do what the Bible says? Children themselves have so many questions that need definitive answers. Mothers are a great source for finding out what is true and right. Mothers who let God lead their lives will remind their children that true success and happiness can only be found in following God at all times.

—Scott