

A Tribute to Mom

December 25, 1999

I believe God created families to help us better understand His love for us. He uses the image of a father to represent Himself, and we are His "children." When I had a son, I suddenly saw new meaning in the act of God sending His Son to die on the cross for us. As I get older, my understanding and love for God grows in parallel with my comprehension of the love my parents have always had for me. It is that sacrificial love, which helps me get a better grasp of God's infinite love.

Mom taught us by example. She taught us to respect our father. She taught us to think of others. By making us do things we didn't particularly want to do, she taught us self-discipline (one of the most cherished things my mother gave me). We learned to respect other people's property and to be frank and honest in all our dealings with others. How can I thank her for all these skills she gave us?

And speaking of "us"—what would our lives have been like if we did not have any siblings? It's not something I think about much but it has had an enormous impact on my interaction with other people. Yes, I'm thankful my mom wanted a big family!

Mom was always there! I can't imagine what it is like for most of the children today who do not have a mother at home to guide them. They must have very empty lives. I see some of the negative affects that it has on them and have become continually thankful for the childhood my mother gave us.

We all make our own decisions in life, but I know my decisions have been influenced greatly by Godly parents. They helped me see that our family is more than just father, mother, sister and brother—and soon we will be "going home." And you know, I'm ready to go home now...


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