

Motherhood Illustrates God's Wisdom  
Compiled by Paul R. Blake

God designed that the generation of human beings take place within the body of a woman, not in an eggshell, a laboratory, or a factory (Ruth 4:13; Psalm 127:3). He determined that the infant would be nurtured in his mother's arms listening to her words of love, rather than by committees, governments, schools, or even Hillary Clinton's "Village." God arranged for the child's first steps, first words, and many others firsts to be encouraged and witnessed by mothers, not by self-appointed child development experts. The difference is a mother's love. It cannot be reproduced or imitated by any other agency on earth; it exists only in the heart of a mother. It enables her to do for the child and produce results in him that cannot be done by any other means. The evidence abounds for it in scripture (1Sam. 1; 2Tim. 1:5). God gives children to and through mothers; He knows best. The following accounts illustrate this point. (prb)

Years ago, a young mother was making her way across the hills of South Wales, carrying her tiny baby in her arms, when she was overtaken by a blinding blizzard. She never reached her destination and when the blizzard subsided her body was found by searchers beneath a mound of snow. But they discovered that before her death, she had taken off all her outer clothing and wrapped it about her baby. When they unwrapped the child, to their great surprise and joy, they found he was alive and well. She had mounded her body over his and given her life for her child, proving the depths of her mother love. Years later that child, David Lloyd George, grown to manhood, became prime minister of Great Britain, and, without doubt, one of England's greatest statesman. (James S. Hewett, Illustrations Unlimited, Tyndale, 1972, p. 375)

Dr. G. Campbell Morgan had 4 sons and they were all preachers. Someone once came into the drawing room when all the family was there. They thought they would see what Howard, one of the sons, was made of so they asked him this question: "Howard, who is the greatest preacher in your family?" Howard had a great admiration for his father and he looked straight across at him and then without a moment's hesitation he answered, "Mother." (A. Edersheim, Eerdmans, p. 139)

A teacher gave her class of second graders a lesson on the magnet and what it does. The next day in a written test, she included this question: "My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I pick up things. What am I?" When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost 50 percent of the students answered the question with the word Mother.

Lorne Sanny of The Navigators once wrote of his mother: "My mother gave birth to me in a frontier house on a Midwestern prairie. On the kitchen counter she placed a list of the ingredients necessary for my baby formula. At the top of the list was 'prayer,' and that remained at the top of her list for me throughout her life... I have her to thank for firmly establishing my spiritual roots." (Today in the Word, January, 1990, p. 23)

A little boy forgot his lines in a Sunday school presentation. His mother was in the front row to prompt him. She gestured and formed the words silently with her lips, but it did not help. Her son's memory was blank. Finally, she leaned forward and whispered the cue, "I am the light of the world." The child beamed and with great feeling and a loud clear voice said, "My mother is the light of the world." (Bits and Pieces, August, 1989)

The most creative job in the world involves fashion, decorating, recreation, education, transportation, psychology, romance, cuisine, literature, art, economics, government, pediatrics, geriatrics, entertainment, maintenance, purchasing, law, religion, energy and management. Anyone who can handle all those has to be somebody special. She's a homemaker. (Richard Kerr quoted in *Homemade*, February 1989)

Women who never have children enjoy the equivalent of an extra three months a year in leisure time, says Susan Lang, author of *Women Without Children*. If that figure seems high, remember that the average mother spends 3.5 more hours a week doing housework than would a woman without children, plus 11 hours a week on child-related activities. This adds up to an additional 754 hours of work every year--the equivalent of three months of 12-hour, 5-day work weeks. (*Signs of the Times*, May, 1992, p. 6)

Bob Greene (in the *Detroit Free Press*) cited a study by attorney Michael Minton on the monetary value of a wife's services in the home. First he listed the various functions she performs: chauffeur, gardener, family counselor, maintenance worker, cleaning woman, housekeeper, cook, errand runner, bookkeeper/budget manager, interior decorator, caterer, dietitian, secretary, public relations person, hostess. Using this impressive list of household duties, Minton figured the dollar value of a housewife's work in today's (1981) labor market. He came up with the amount of \$785.07 a week. That's \$84,623.64 a year!

### When You Thought I Wasn't Looking

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang up my first painting on the refrigerator, and I wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you feed a stray cat, and I thought it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me, and I knew that little things are special things.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I heard you say a prayer, and I believed there is a God I could always talk to.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I felt you kiss me goodnight, and I felt loved.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared, and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked, and wanted to say thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking. (via Connie Back)

### A Moments Wisdom

For only as we ourselves, as adults, actually move and have our being in the state of love, can we be appropriate models and guides for our children. What we are teaches the child far more than what we say, so we must be what we want our children to become.

We are apt to forget that children watch examples better than they listen to preaching. A three year old child is a being who gets almost as much fun out of a fifty-six dollar set of swings as it does out of finding a small green worm.

Every beetle is a gazelle in the eyes of its mother. (Arab proverb)

Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.

A four-year-old and a six-year-old presented their Mom with a house plant. They had used their own money and she was thrilled. The older of them said with a sad face, "There was a bouquet that we wanted to give you at the flower shop. It was real pretty, but it was too expensive. It had a ribbon on it that said, 'Rest In Peace,' and we thought it would be just perfect since you are always asking for a little peace so that you can rest."

The mother of three notoriously unruly youngsters was asked whether or not she'd have children if she had it to do over again. "Yes," she replied. "But not the same ones."

Any child can tell you that the sole purpose of a middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

Teenagers are people who act like babies if they're not treated like adults.

Children are natural mimics: they act like their parents in spite of every attempt to teach them good manners.