

Happy Mother's Day!
Blessing on the Festival of the Christian Home Day!
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Steven, Sava, & Ethan

Scripture Reading: Psalm 98

A mother understands what a child does not say. —Jewish proverb

Today is Mother's Day. Not all mothers are the same, and our experiences vary greatly. That's why the following story is so interesting. Perhaps you had a mother like this one. I don't know where this story comes from or who the author is, but it makes interesting reading.

We had the meanest mother in the whole world! While other kids ate candy for breakfast, we had to have cereal, eggs and toast. When others had a Pepsi and a Twinkie for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches. And what our mother fixed us for dinner was a whole lot different from what other kids had, too.

Mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing with them. She had the nerve to break the child labor laws by making us work. We had to wash the dishes, make the beds, learn to cook, vacuum the floor, do laundry and do all sort of cruel jobs.

By the time we were teenagers, she could read our minds. Then, life was really tough! Mother wouldn't let our friends just honk the horn when they drove by. They had to come to the door so she could meet them. Whilst everyone else could date when they were 12 or 13, we had to wait until we were 16.

Because of our mother, we missed out on lots of things other kids experienced. None of us has even been caught shoplifting or vandalizing property and none of us has ever been arrested for any crime. It was all her fault. We never got drunk, never took up smoking or drugs, never stayed out all night and never did a million other things that got us in trouble like other kids.

Sundays were reserved for church and we never missed once. We knew better than to ask to spend the night with a friend on Saturdays.

Now that we have left home, we are all God-fearing, educated, honest adults. We are doing our best to be mean parents, just like Mom was.

From what I see, today's moms are pretty awesome. Some of them are single, some are stay-at-home moms and others are out there in the job force.

And surprisingly, many moms I see are just like my mom was. They're pretty mean.

And that's a good thing!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: O God, you have been as a mother to me, sheltering me, feeding me, training me to be a person of integrity and faithfulness. Thank you for all our earthly mothers who have taught us the same. Amen.

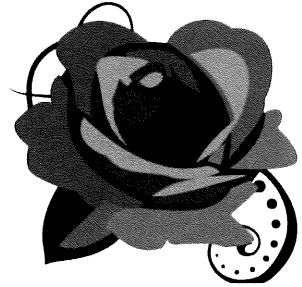
Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Luke 18-21
- Monday:** 1 Samuel 21-24
- Tuesday:** 1 Samuel 25-28
- Wednesday:** 1 Samuel 29-31
- Thursday:** 2 Samuel 1-4
- Friday:** 2 Samuel 5-8
- Saturday:** Psalms 46-48

Verse to Remember

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear.”

—*Psalms 46:1-2*



A ROSE IS A ROSE IS A ROSE!

Today is Mother’s Day. Every mother has her favorite flower. For many, the most beautiful flower is the rose. Below is a list of flower varieties of the rose bush. See if you can find them hidden in the Word Search. They can be found horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backward and forward.

H E Q A Y U P Y L P Y K P Y L
 S A U I C R D R Z R G H H R X
 A P I J I P R R R C H E R R Y
 N R N L I O F E U Q N I C E O
 I I C L X R B B B N U F H B J
 A C E O N K X P C W F G O W R
 T O R G C M E S O R A L D E M
 N T N A L P P A O S H R Y D H
 U C L N B A K R W A Q N T A C
 O B S B P A N E W N O L L S Q
 M A F E E W P T O M K M O X M
 W O A R A X H P I L O Q U A T
 Z C I R R O L R L N S W X L G
 H P K Y R C G F D E E G O R P
 S Z P N F A E L B M A R B E P

- Agrimony
- Almond
- Apricot
- Blackberry
- Bramble
- Cherry
- Cinquefoil
- Crab apple
- Dewberry
- Hawthorn
- Loganberry
- Loquat
- Medlar
- Mountain ash
- Peach
- Plum
- Quince
- Raspberry
- Sloe
- Soap plant
- Spirea
- Strawberry