

Life Lessons

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7 Mother's Day Secrets

The curious angel asked, "Whatcha doin', God, working a puzzle?" "No," God answered, smiling, "I'm making a family." The idea was interesting, and the curious angel began asking questions, "A family... sure are a lot of parts. What are the big pieces?" "Those are the fathers." "Aren't they too large?" "No, they have to be strong. They work hard and bear a lot of burdens. They're the image of the Heavenly Father and the security for their families," said God.

"And the pretty pieces," the angel asked, "what are they?" "They are the mothers," God answered. "They sure are pretty, but fragile, too, huh God?" God replied, "Don't let their looks deceive. They are small and pretty, but most of them are stronger than men. You see, mothers need to look pretty, but they are strong inside. Their greatest strength is their love and their tenderness. They love ugly men and runny-nose babies."

"What are the little pieces?" "They're the children," God answered. "They make the families complete. Fathers and mothers conceive the little children, but I give them a soul."

"I hope it works," the angel sighed. "It has to," God said. "Mothers hold the family together."

I pray that every mother will feel loved, honored and appreciated as we celebrate "Mothers Day." Here are seven things every mother must know.

1. Embrace the purpose of your existence. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you." Remember, you are not God's adult; you're His child. God knows you and He is absolutely crazy about you. He has called you to be a helper. You're chosen to raise royal men and women of God.

2. You're beautiful; inside and out. Surrounded with dirty laundry, messy house and runny noses it is hard to feel beautiful. But God put true beauty inside of you. You don't have

to perform; you ARE beautiful. Everything God makes is first class!

3. You can forgive and forget. I know many women who are caught in the past. You may have been bruised, betrayed and wronged but do yourself a favor – forgive! Until you let go of the past, God cannot open the great future ahead of you. Focus on what's right rather than what's wrong.

4. Your strength comes from God. Isaiah tells us, "Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength." Do you feel weak, lonely and discouraged today? Well you're the best candidate to receive God's strength. The Scriptures says, "My strength is made perfect in (your) weakness."

5. See the big picture. When you feel your emotions rising, ask yourself; is it a 5 minute, 5 hour or 5 year problem? Go easy on the first two and focus on the long term. "Live like you're dying," as one country song goes. If you had six months to live, what would be your perspective in life? Would you get so easily offended? Would you hold onto hurt, bitterness and anger?

6. Invest in yourself. What brings you joy and pleasure? What makes you laugh? Sometimes you are so focused on taking care of others you forget to take care of yourself. Stop Mom! Take care of yourself too -- guilt free!

7. Enjoy this moment. Too many Moms are either stuck on yesterday or dreaming about the future. Like children, God wants us to live in the present. Enjoy the little footsteps you hear running towards you. Savor on the complements your family gives you. Have fun doing the chores that need to be done. Remember, the season you're in will not last forever. What you choose to do at this moment will determine what kind of memories you'll have to look back on.

Happy Mother's Day!