

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday May 8, 2023 – Micah 7: 18-19

18 Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. 19 You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

Read Micah 7 for meditation and inspiration.



Dear Lakesiders and friends,

Motherhood is the greatest “Hood” which one can inhabit. To one mother who prayed for Jesus to bring healing to her child, Jesus said clearly, "Woman, you have great faith! Let your wish be granted" (Matthew 15:28). Over the span of time moms have been praised for going above and beyond in the love, wisdom and strength they offer their kids — and there have been plenty of other powerful motherhood quotes to accompany those sentiments.

Everyone from actors to poets have publicly lauded their own mothers with memorable quotes, Celebrity mothers have shared their own thoughts on motherhood. Abraham Lincoln famously said, "All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother" about his mom, Nancy, who died when he was 9-years-old. In 2017, Halle Berry tweeted, "For me, motherhood is learning about the strengths I didn't know I had, and dealing with the fears I didn't know existed."

Here is a great story, a father who worked as an electrical engineer was helping his 14-year-old daughter with her online schoolwork. After explaining the properties of alternating and direct current, the daughter looked up from her screen and said, “Dad, you're so smart you should be a woman."

As parents, when your child goes off to college or moves away to start a career or family of their own, suddenly, God gives you a break. You no longer see the hours of helping them with online schoolwork, messy rooms, or hear the shouts of rebellion. And suddenly, you realize that in your God-given life, you have known something of the mystery of Divine Love -- that desperately intense, unconditional love and care which nothing can shut out. And your child is transfigured before your eyes, so completely that it reinforces your belief in the wonder and glory of God. Motherhood is both a gift and an inspiration, a calling and a model of God's love.

The mother in the Matthew 15 story is a "Canaanite woman," Matthew tells us. The term "Canaanite" is used here by Matthew to indicate that this woman is an outsider -- a non-Jew. But she drew upon all her courage and with fear and trembling approached this Jewish man to help her child. It was like walking on hot coals of scorn and hatred cast at her by others but for her child she would have done that and more.

Celebrating Christian Mothers

Roger

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