

Listen to Your Mother
Pastor John Hicks
First United Methodist Church

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother, seeing an opportunity for a moral lesson, told them, "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'"

Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

A woman invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" "I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied. "Just say what you hear Mommy say," the mother answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

Many of us have had good mothers or mothering types who influenced us in a positive way. Some have not. But even those whose mother wasn't that great can still celebrate a great achievement of their mother – their birth!

Furthermore, we can all learn from women, mothers, sisters, daughters, and wives; even more so when these women are Christians. A godly mother is priceless.

In honor of mothers everywhere, of future mothers and mothers past, and of those special mothers with have no children of their own but are mothers to children anyway, I share important things my mother taught me:

TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE. "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."

RELIGION: "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."

LOGIC. "Because I said so, that's why."

More LOGIC. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."

FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."

STAMINA. "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."

CONTORTIONISM. "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck?"

HUMOR. "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

ANTICIPATION. "Just wait until your father gets home."

JUSTICE. "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"

Mothers, we thank God for you, for all that you do and are. We love you with all our hearts!