

## Mothers

*“The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother.”* Author Unknown

*“One good mother is worth a hundred schoolmasters.”* - George Herbert -

### **Read through the Bible in 2016!**

(Submitted by Mike McKnight)

Suggested chapters to read so that we might read through the entire Bible during 2016! **This week’s “schedule”:**

- **Day 123** - Psalm 106-107 Monday
- **Day 124** - 2 Samuel 5:11-25; 2 Samuel 6:1-23; 1 Chronicles 13-16 Tuesday
- **Day 125** - Psalm 1-2, 15, 22-24, 47, 68 Wednesday
- **Day 126** - Psalm 89, 96, 100, 101, 105, 132 Thursday
- **Day 127** - 2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17 Friday
- **Day 128** - Psalm 25, 29, 33, 36, 39 Saturday
- **Day 129** - 2 Samuel 8-9; 1 Chronicles 18 Sunday

### **May Birthdays**

2 Peggy Woodruff      15 Kena Brown

#### **Regular Meeting Times**

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
Mike McKnight

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# Indio Informer

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## **Mother’s Day**

### **Honor Thy Mother**

By R.W. McAlister

As I’m sure we know, today is “Mother’s Day.” I hope we honor our mothers, or their memory, on this special day – and not only today, but every day.

Mothers have an incredible job with no pay. No position in the business world compares to the physical, emotional, and spiritual commitment she has in motherhood. Don’t ever make the mistake of asking a lady, “Do you work, or stay at home?” The only thing worse you can ask is when she’s due if you’re not 100% sure she’s expecting!

Mothers listen as you pour out your heart, they have a sympathetic ear – always have had – and even as an adult, you’ve gone to her when you want someone who will really listen and understand. She’ll always be on your side. For her young children, she clears her schedule so she can run them around from place to place. She gives up opportunities so they can have more opportunities.

For we adults w/living mothers, let me share this letter read by Dr. James Dobson on the “Focus on Family” radio program—a letter from an 80-year old woman to her children on her birthday:

*To all my children:*

*I suppose my upcoming birthday started my thoughts along these lines...This is a good time to tell you that what I truly want are things I can never get enough of, yet they are free. I want the intangibles.*

*I need your patience when I don’t hear what you say the first time. I know how tiresome it is to always be repeating, but sometimes I must ask you to repeat. I need your patience when I think too much about*

*the past, with my slowness and my set ways. I want you to be tolerant with what the years have done to me physically.*

*Please be understanding about my personal care habits. I spill things. I lose things. I get unduly excited when I try to figure out my bank statements. I can't remember what time to take my medication, or if I took it already. I take too many naps. Sometimes sleep helps to pass the day.*

*Well, there you have it: time, patience, and understanding. Those are priceless gifts that I want.*

*Finally, in his Philippian letter, the Apostle Paul wrote, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." I know I can, too! It's a wonderful feeling to know His eye is on the sparrow and I know He cares for me. I guess being old isn't so bad after all! Love, Mom*

We always liked to talk to mom – she would listen – but now she's older, she has issues, and now it's your turn to be her "rock" and take time to listen. "But, she's always complaining, she talks about herself a lot, she asks same question over and over..."

In their older days, our parents have many fears and anxieties – and perhaps a few increasingly annoying habits. May we treat them as we hope to be treated when the day comes that we find ourselves in their shoes! That is, attentively, patiently, and lovingly.

Exodus 20:12: "*Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.*" "Honor" – "glorify, or reverence." This is binding as long as your mother lives. Another command says "*Children, obey your parents,*" but this becomes less binding when the child leaves home and begins his own, but "honor" is different. It is an obligation that endures as long as one's parents are alive. They must always be respected. If the husband is the head of the home (Ephesians 5:23), then the mother is the heart. Don't break her heart.

"Ok, but my mother isn't honorable." The Bible says nothing about that. It doesn't say, "Honor thy mother only if you think she's deserving of it." It says, "*Honor thy father and thy mother...*" Don't shut her out, don't turn your back on her, but show her a measure of

respect. By the way, Exodus 20:12 is the only one of the 10 commandments which includes a built-in promise of blessing.

Mom needs a sincere "Thank you," and not just today, but from a genuinely thankful heart when least expected. There's nothing too good for her, we could never repay her, but we ought to die trying before she does! If your mother was/is as good as mine – as good as my children's mother is – she didn't/won't spend on herself unless all your needs were (or are) met. Thanks be to God for loving mothers!

## **A Gift for Mother**

By Arthur Pigman  
(Modified/personalized)

It is a good custom that children remember their mothers on that special day called Mother's Day. What is the best gift we can give? A card or candy is always nice. Flowers of any kind or color are usually appreciated - even a flower from the yard or flower garden is very special if coming from a small child. But these gifts are not the greatest that we can give!

If our mother is a Christian, she has taught us to live as a Christian. She has been involved in teaching us about God, and Christ, the Son of God (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14,15). Our mother has been interested in us learning about the church that Christ purchased with His own blood (Matthew 16:18; Acts 20:28). And when we became old enough she was thrilled that we were born again by becoming a child of God (John 3:3-5). As we became old enough to leave home she was naturally concerned about us. When we established our own home she was proud and thankful that we had grown to maturity.

Now that it is Mother's Day, what can we give our mother? The greatest gift we could give to her is to be a faithful Christian. "*I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth*" (3 John 4). In the context John was talking about his spiritual children, but it is also true that Christian mothers can have no greater gift than to know that their own children are living faithfully as children of God. If we and our mother live faithfully then someday we can both live with God eternally in heaven.

***"Honour thy mother"***  
Ephesians 6:2