

## These Three Words

- **John 19:25 – 27 (NLT)** *Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and his mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, "Dear woman, here is your son." <sup>27</sup> And he said to this disciple, "Here is your mother." And from then on this disciple took her into his home.*
- Some of us have never been taught HOW to love our mom. Here are some thoughts:

### 1. LOUDLY

- **Proverbs 16:23, 24 (NIV)** – *The hearts of the wise make their mouths prudent, and their lips promote instruction.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>24</sup> Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.*
- If your mother is still around and able to hear you, let her HEAR that you love her.

### 2. RESPECTFULLY and HONORABLY

- **Proverbs 30:17 (GNT)** – *If you make fun of your father or despise your mother in her old age,<sup>[a]</sup> you ought to be eaten by vultures or have your eyes picked out by wild ravens.*
- *Respect – to hold in high esteem; to show regard or consideration for.*
- **QUOTE:** *Learning to respect and honor parents is a master key for long life and prosperity.*
- This is true, even when they don't seem honorable!!
- Honor & Respect come from the same foundation. However, **respect focuses on behavior** (doing the right thing), while **honor focuses on the heart**. Respect acknowledges a person's position in your life, while honor ascribes value and worth to the individual themselves.

### 3. GRATEFULLY

- **Philippians 1:3 – 5 (NCV)** *I THANK MY GOD EVERY TIME I REMEMBER YOU, <sup>4</sup> always praying with joy for all of you. <sup>5</sup> I thank God for the help you gave me while I preached the Good News—help you gave from the first day you believed until now.*
- We live in a very thankless society. bMotherhood is a very thankless role.
- Let the mothers in your life know that you are thankful for them and all the sacrifices they make.

### 4. UNCONDITIONALLY

- **I Peter 4:8 (TLB)** – *Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love makes up for many of your faults.*

## Before I was a Mom

*Author Unknown*

Before I was a Mom  
I made and ate hot meals.  
I had unstained clothing.  
I had quiet conversations on the phone.

Before I was a Mom,  
I slept as late as I wanted  
And never worried about how late I got into bed.  
I brushed my hair and my teeth everyday.

Before I was Mom I cleaned my house each day.  
I never tripped over toys or forgot words of lullabies.

Before I was a Mom  
I didn't worry whether or not my plants were poisonous.  
I never thought about immunizations.

Before I was a Mom  
I had never been puked on  
Pooped on  
Spit on  
Chewed on  
Peed on  
Or pinched by tiny fingers

Before I was a Mom  
I had complete control of:  
My thoughts  
My body  
And my mind.  
I slept all night.

Before I was a Mom  
I never held down a screaming child  
So that doctors could do tests  
Or give shots.  
I never looked into teary eyes and cried.  
I never got gloriously happy over a simple grin.  
I never sat up late hours at night watching a baby sleep.

Before I was a Mom  
I never held a sleeping baby just because I didn't want to put it down.  
I never felt my heart break into a million pieces  
When I couldn't stop the hurt.  
I never knew that something so small  
Could affect my life so much.  
I never knew that I could love someone so much.  
I never knew I would love being a Mom.

Before I was a Mom  
I didn't know the feeling of having my heart outside my body.  
I didn't know how special it could feel to feed a hungry baby.  
I didn't know that bond between a Mother and her child.  
I didn't know that something so small  
Could make me feel so important.

Before I was a Mom  
I had never gotten up in the middle of the night every 10 minutes to make sure all was okay  
I had never known the warmth  
The joy

The love  
The heartache  
The wonder  
Or the satisfaction of being a Mom

I didn't know I was capable of feeling so much, *Before I was a Mom.*