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Here's Hope - Mother's Day

Motherhood, A Gift

What a gift it is to be a mom. It is a gift to the moms themselves. Not all get to have and/or raise children. In the big picture some are allowed to bear the honor of "motherhood." Some women are given the gift of mothering because of unexpected circumstances that life brings. It is usually those who do not have children who realize the honor of this job. To have received the chance to have or take care of children is possibly the highest honor any woman may hold. It is a gift greater than any gold medal or Nobel Prize. It is also a gift to the world. We who are not moms should never neglect to appreciate what our mothers have done for us. Dads are often preoccupied. Moms are focused on the "little people." Moms care for and "raise" children in a manner to which dads can only aspire. Maybe it's the connection of having borne this person. Maybe it's a "mothering" thing. I mean, maybe God supernaturally equips moms with the ability and desire to take care of the most vulnerable. I do know that most charity work is carried on the backs of very caring women. Men often don't have that compassion. Just saying.

This role of motherhood is of immense importance. Not to oversimplify, but God gives in three areas. He gives us *things*. We receive houses and achievements and abilities. A second gift of God is *opportunity*. Not everyone receives the same opportunity from God. Some receive the opportunity to teach. To another God gives the chance to be an athlete or an entertainer. Not everyone receives the opportunities we have in the United States to serve in political office. Not all are given the opportunity to lead in great endeavors like the leaders of our culture. Opportunity is a wonderful gift... from God. Sometimes God gives a third gift. Sometimes he gives us *people*. Those who are happiest in life have around them people who nourish, care for, and provide support. We often sing the praises of technology. Technology, however, by itself is just a *thing*. In the hands of the right person, technology can become a powerful *tool*. Opportunity is given to many who don't see nor appreciate it. But, the *person* who sees and grasps an opportunity can make things happen. In motherhood we have all three gifts. At once and at the same time motherhood is an opportunity. It is an opportunity in the hands of a person. Motherhood is also a thing crafted by God, given by God, and used greatly by God. As such, motherhood is a role of powerful potential.

Whatever you call motherhood, however you see this job, it is valuable. It is more valuable than all our entertainment or technology. It is far and away more important than who sits in the Oval Office. It is the mother who makes the child. It would be very easy to rush to esteem our *things or achievements* over these *people*. Much has been said in our "virus" culture about the heroes who are making our recovery happen. What about the heroes who make our homes happen? What about the mothers who build our children and mold their character? A single day is not enough to honor and appreciate mothers and motherhood. They are a gift. Their role is a gift. When God created motherhood He gave us more than our prairies, mountains, and the wonders of the created order. When God designed this role and responsibility He did a big thing. Mothers and those who mother deserve our honor, our appreciation, and our support. If you've had a good mother, then you've had a great thing.

What a gift to be "mothered"

Jerry Rea