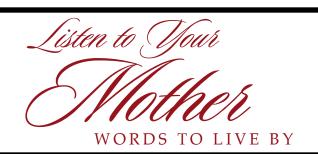
It is estimated that a mother's annual compensation package in fair market value is \$138,095.

"My momma always said, 'Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get.'
—Forrest Gump

"Stupid is as stupid does." —Forrest Gump

Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

-Proverbs 1:8-9



Many of us were blessed with wise, godly mothers. As we approach this Mother's Day, let's take time to honor our mothers, remember their instruction, and emulate their example.

Listen to Your Mother (Words to Live By)

1. Happiness

My mother believed a good attitude was important for having a good day. She always found a way to enjoy life.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. —Psalm 118:24

2. Smile

My mother had a "yes" face. She went out of her way to brighten others with her warmth and smile.

A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed. —Proverbs 15:13

3. Work

My mother was a sixth grade public school teacher for almost 40 years. She worked and supported my dad's efforts.

4. Service

My mother gave to others through her service. For many years, she taught a seventh grade girls' Sunday School class and continued teaching until the final days of her life.

Serve the LORD with gladness! —Psalm 100:2

5. Gratitude

Both my parents were examples of gratitude. They always remembered to say and to write "thank you."

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

—1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV

6. Generosity

My mother believed, ... God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy (1 Timothy 6.17) and seldom suppressed a generous impulse.

It is more blessed to give than to receive.

—Acts 20:35

7. Study

My mother always told me I would never regret getting a good education. She challenged me to think.

8. Go

I received my mother's "go" gene. She loved to travel and make trips with her family.

9. Punctuality

My mother never wanted to be late for anything.

10. Consideration

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. —Philippians 2:4

11. Pray

... pray without ceasing... —1 Thessalonians 5:17

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. —James 5:16

12. Faith

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold for those who walk uprightly. —Psalm 84:11

"No man is poor who has had a godly mother."

—Abraham Lincoln

