

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

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## *Listen to Your Mother*

WORDS TO LIVE BY

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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