

Mother Knows Best

Another Mother's Day comes and goes, making us realize that we cannot thank our mother only once a year. A Chinese renounced author described Mother's love well. She wrote, "Mother, why do you love me.' Mother put down her thread and needle, answered me softly, 'Not because of anything, just because you are my daughter.'"

It is hard to give birth and nurse children, however, to educate and cultivate them are even more challenging. To raise good Christian children in this "e" generation is indeed very difficult.

Perhaps we can learn from Mary who lost Jesus for three days after the Feast of Passover in the temple (Luke 2: 41-52).

1. It took Mary a full day to realize that Jesus was missing. Mothers, do you know where your children are at this moment? In the old days, Mencius' mother moved three times to find a better environment for her children. Are your kids associated with the right crowd? Do they believe in the Lord? Are they growing in the right direction spiritually?

2. During the three days of searching for Jesus, Mary was anxious, worried, and angry as we can imagine. When she found Jesus in the temple, she was astonished. She told Jesus about her feelings. It is a valuable lesson for mothers. Communicate your feelings not criticisms to your children. That will make the generation gap narrower.

3. Mary treasured up what Jesus said although she did not fully understand. It was very wise of her to do so. Mothers cannot always understand everything about their children. Be patient. Let them have their space.

Let us pray: **O Lord, bless all the mothers and may they grow in wisdom and favor of God and people. Help all mothers to bring their children to know you and serve you. Amen.**

母親最了解

母親節匆匆的來，也匆匆的過去了。母愛的偉大，真不是一朵鮮花或一頓晚餐便可盡表謝意的。名作家冰心如此描述她母親的愛，她說：「母親，您為什麼愛我？」母親放下手中的針線，慈祥地望著我。輕聲地說：「不為什麼，只因妳是我的女兒。」

母親對孩子有養育之恩，生兒育女，眠乾睡濕，當然艱辛。但教育子女，也不簡單啊！特別在這世風日下的社會裏，要子女成材，比孟母三遷還要困難哩！

我們可以從耶穌十二歲時往聖殿過節，竟與父母失散了三天的事件中學習一下母親教育子女之方法: (路加 2: 41-52)

1.馬利亞在歸程上走了一天，才發現耶穌不見了。母親們：妳是否知道妳的子女現時在什麼地方？不單是留意他們生理的成長，更加關心他們的心理發展及靈命的增長。你的子女信主嗎？你子女的交友情況如何呢？他(她)是否有與基督徒朋友常來往呢？

2.馬利亞在尋找耶穌的三天裏，受盡了憂傷、焦急、忿怒的情感之困擾，找到耶穌後，又加上希奇的心。幸好她能善用情感的表達方式，用「傷心」二字向耶穌說出自己的感受。妳也應善用言語對子女表達妳的感受，以增進兩代之間的溝通。

3.馬利亞對不明白的話都存在心裏。這真是大智大慧了。兒子日漸長大，很多現今世代的文化及想法，都不是母親所能了解的。妳們也不要尋根問底了，把他們的話存在心裏，終有一天妳會明白的。讓他們有點自己的空間吧！

請禱告：主啊！求祢賜福給天下的母親們，使她們的智慧，並神與人喜悅她們的心，都一齊增長。又求祢使天下的母親，都能盡她們的天職，帶領子女認識祢，事奉祢。阿們。