



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“Without mothers, none of us would be here.”

Make Every Day Mother’s Day

“The modern holiday of Mother’s Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at St Andrew’s Methodist Church in Grafton, WV. Her campaign to make Mother’s Day a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her mother died. Anna Jarvis wanted to honor her mother by continuing the work she started and to set aside a day to honor all mothers because she believed a mother is “the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world”.¹

“In 1908, the U.S. Congress rejected a proposal to make Mother’s Day an official holiday, joking that they would also have to proclaim a “Mother-in-law’s Day”. However, owing to the efforts of Anna Jarvis, by 1911 all U.S. states observed the holiday. Then in 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother’s Day, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.”²

But there is a little unknown twist to Mother’s Day. The founder Anna Jarvis originally wanted a memorial mother’s day for those mothers who passed commemorating their matchless service that render to humanity in every field of life.³ The first celebration was a memorial service for her mother. Anna Jarvis, who never was married nor knew the joys and sorrows of motherhood, soon became resentful of the commercialization of the national holiday. For the next 23 years, she organized boycotts, lawsuits, protests and petitions in an effort of stopping of Mother’s Day. “Jarvis believed that the companies had misinterpreted and exploited the idea of Mother’s Day, and that the emphasis of the holiday was on sentiment, not profit. She argued that people should appreciate and honor their mothers through handwritten letters expressing their love and gratitude, instead of buying gifts and pre-made cards.”⁴ She became so possessed with these efforts that she was arrested and later committed to the Marshall Square Sanitarium in West Chester, PA. The very people that she was against, the floral and greeting card industries, paid the bills for her being in the sanitarium, where she later died.⁵

None of us had a choice of who birthed us. Our sex, looks, nationality, name and genes came from our birth mother. For most of us, this is the same person who raised us. This person is defined as our Mother. Our Mother also determines our environment, experiences, relationships and often our faith during our formation years. “The way that you carry a conversation, respond to failure, form relationships with others, and generally behave is in part related to your genetics - but your world and life experiences also shape your attitudes and behaviors. This combination of your genetics and experiences ultimately forms your identity and influences your behavior.”⁶ Yes, you will change some of your behavior as you get older but basically, who you are comes from your Father and Mother.

There is no such thing as a perfect Mother. They all make mistakes and have different and at times challenging personalities. But God had chosen a specific Mother for you for a reason. We need to thank both God and our Mother for their foundation which we have built on to become who we are today.

Mother’s Day should not be just one day a year. You should honor and thank her often.



My mother BettyLou.

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“Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.” Eph 6:2-3



^{1 2 4} en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mother%27s_Day ^{3 5} en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anna_Jarvis

⁶ www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/mcat/behavior/behavior-and-genetics/a/genes-environment-and-behavior

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