

Joseph Maimone's Sermon for Youth Sunday (5/11/14)

On a special day like Mother's Day, I am reminded that although being obedient is sometimes hard, it is something that we often choose to do because of all the good things that our parents have done for us. So where did our parents learn to do all the good things they do for us? It was taught to them by their mothers and their fathers. But I also remember that we are all made in God's image and God's spirit lives in all of us - So therefore God is the originator of all the good we do for others. How much more then should we also be obedient to God!!

I know that God desires the best for us and I think that is why God gave us Mom's. They are often like the glue that keeps the family together and they help us with all of our important needs like making sure we eat good foods and staying dry and warm when it rains or is cold outside.

God gave us Mom's to help us get through the rough times too especially when we are sick or feeling sad.

I am especially thankful to Moms for teaching us about God. When I was often concerned about going to school, my Mom taught me a simple prayer that helped me calm down before leaving the house for school. I would repeat the words, Jesus is the power, Jesus is the light, and Jesus is my shield. That prayer got me through a lot of times when I felt nervous about taking a test or starting something new or something difficult.

My Mom also taught me to not just lean on her, but that it was more important to trust in God. And because she also taught me to pray, I know how much God does love me. I often feel close to Jesus even when I am all alone. My parents are the first ones to share with me the good news, and the good news is that Jesus came to save the world and lives in our hearts. God loved us so much He sent His only Son to die for us.

I know it's a day to show appreciation to our Mother's for all the wonderful things that they do for us. But just like most Moms who know God, my Mom won't take the full credit. She reminds me every day to celebrate all that God has done for us. I know one thing - I feel blessed to have a Mom who cares about me, but I feel extra blessed to have a Mom who loves God and has shared with me the wonderful stories about Jesus. I know that because my mother listens to God, I want to also. Thank you Mom for sharing with me the greatest gift of all. I know because of Jesus, my life may not always be easy, but I will always be loved.