

June 2013

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The City Temple Times



**tribute to our
mothers & dads**

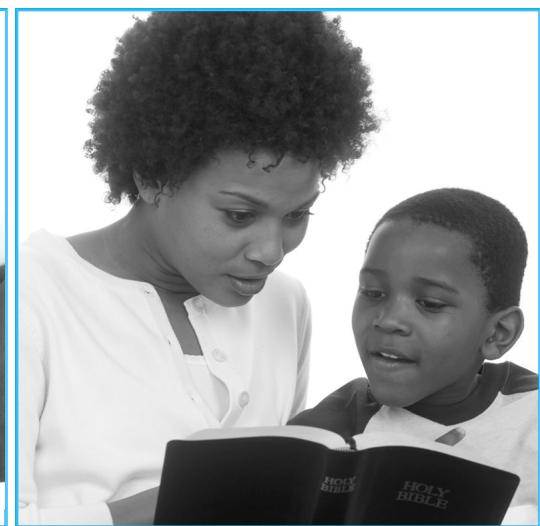
I HATE that my mommy is not just downstairs

I've learned so much from watching their life together

He wasn't a respecter of persons—he brought enough for everyone



You are the definition of what a woman is



I will always miss my momma

We hear often that parenting is one of life's most rewarding yet most challenging jobs, but I wonder how many children believe that? While I've spent over thirty years as a child and only 20 months as a parent, I am squarely in the camp that believes it. The transition has been apparent—you go from being the needy to the needed; the comforted to the comforter; the provided to the provider; the person to whom someone else is responsible to the person responsible; and the decision taker to the (Lord help us) decision maker. Yes, parenting is a tough assignment, but not a thankless one. Read on as our church members pay thanks, honor and tribute to our modern heroes: our parents. Happy Mother's and Father's Day City Temple!

Thanking God for the Sunshine

"I want to be the kind of father my mother was," a poet penned in tribute to his mother in a book bearing the same title.

My mother was indeed that kind of mother, operating in the dual roles of a single parent by God's grace.

We had the grace of a mother who raised seven children alone, home-schooling two of them, and who was also a founding member of Sesame Street magazine. "Fight for your rights," she would say nearly every day. Most importantly, she introduced us to God, whom she always called Great, and was the first to explain to us the purpose and process of Jesus' redemptive suffering.

She taught us to pray at night, to inter-

cede for others, and in greatest distress was not ashamed to call on Jesus.

She taught us to believe God the Father for the big things, praise Him in advance, and praise Him greatly even for those blessings seen as small, or perceived as trials.

I'm learning to thank God the Father for the rain and storms, because of His Son.

But whenever sunlight shafted through the windows of our apartment, our mother would say, "Thank God for the sunshine," and we did. And even now, when sunlight floods through windows at the height of day or pierces through clouds with its radiance, I am still prompted to thank God for it. Because of

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WW Payne Outreach Center
in partnership with
Baltimore City Community College
sponsors

F R E E GED Preparation Classes

City Temple of Baltimore (Baptist)
W.W. Payne Center
317 Dolphin Street
Baltimore, MD 21217

Initial Meetings:
6/25/13 at 9 a.m. for morning classes
6/25/13 at 5:30 p.m. for evening classes

GED Pre-Test Will Follow the Meeting



*Morning classes are M, W, F from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Evening classes will be held on T, W, TH from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.*

For registration and more information, contact:

Pat Payne (410) 292-7864
Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday - Friday

Together We Can Make A Difference!

THANKING MOMMA

As I write these words my eyes begin to fill with tears wondering why is it that Mother's Day is only celebrated once a year, when love and affection she gives every day. Momma, you could have selfishly let me slip away, but because of the love you have inside you, you decided to carry me for nine months.

Thank you for my life. Thank you for the many tears you have shed for me. Thank you for going to God and asking Him to follow me through the rest of my days and keeping me in the hollow of His hands. Thank you for your prayers. Momma, you are kind, you are thoughtful, you are loved and appreciated for so many reasons. Thank you for the memories of your smile. I can still feel your warm embrace.

My only regret is I never got to say these words face to face, before you left this place. Momma, thank you for giving me your best. Now rest in the bosom of the Lord.
I am okay.

Lovingly, Your Child.

Submitted by Mary Viola Williams



continued from P1

my mother.

Thanking God for the Storms

God is my Father, but my dad was something else. He spoke 4 languages fluently: Haitian Creole, French, Spanish, and English. A lawyer in his native Haiti, he came to this country with little and managed to secure jobs as a journalist for a Spanish-speaking newspaper as well as a teaching position.

While I cannot say that I knew him very well, I can say that he did manage to accomplish much in this world, both in his homeland and here in the United States. Intelligent, shrewd and well-versed in history and philosophy, you would always find him at the library, researching for the books and articles he was interested in publishing. And while I cannot say that we were ever close, I can give thanks that God has been step-

ping in to speak comfort and compassion into the void that that lack made room for.

We don't all have the blessing of those idyllic two-parent households; but sometimes we have the blessing of someone who cares enough to drop by with money, diapers, groceries from time to time if that's the extent of what they can cheerfully do. He wasn't a respecter of persons--everyone recalls that he brought enough for everyone.

Our mother taught us to thank God for the sunshine, whenever we saw a bright shaft of light illuminating our often dark apartment. But sometimes it's the dads that teach us to thank God the Father for the shadows and storms that come about for, as the Word says, "Iron sharpens iron."

So I honor what my dad did do when I did see him, and I thank God the Father for what He does for me every day. I don't know who I will see in the next life, but I'm glad that God the Father has a permanent place in my life forever.

Submitted by Roz Dames

Happy Big Sister & Brother Day

Now, you would think that at some point (25 years and counting) you would stop missing a loved one. Such has not

been the case for me. As a Momma's Boy, I will always miss my momma. But it's great to know that there have been people who loved and prayed for me through bereavement and beyond. They understood my needs.

I can think of two people in particular who made Mom's departure bearable. I would like to wish Happy Mother's and Father's Day to my Big Sister and Brother, Adina Carter and Jerome Richards. Love ya always for always being.

Submitted by Brother Gilbert H. Richards

I HATE THAT MY MOMMY

Is so far away from me
doesn't prepare daily meals for me anymore
doesn't purchase all my clothes (and irons and hangs them up)
doesn't enroll me in ballet and modern dance classes to keep me active
doesn't take me to choir rehearsal (so I can sing for the Lord)
is not just downstairs
would tell me NO
can't feel my arms around her
can't see her youngest child more frequently
can't feel my emotional struggles

continued on P4

A DATE WITH MY FATHER AND MY MOTHER

© 2005 VonDelisa

*This was a day unlike any other
Before or after
How I cherished the laughter
We shared
On that Monday afternoon
So glad it was sooner rather than later*

*As I sat across from my exquisitely beautiful parents
My gratitude is much more than I can confide
To them at that moment
Seemingly ageless for most of my life
I begin to notice the unavoidable process of
Maturity setting in*

*Hair a little thinner
Gait a little slower
But, just as deliberate
Just as meaningful*

*I treasure this time together
For, what I see before me
Are two people who have endured
Tragedy, disappointment, pain
Catastrophes that would have driven others insane*

*Misunderstandings, heartbreaks and grief
Cries toward heaven for a little relief
Times when they didn't know how
The bills would get paid
Yet, thankful to see another day
That's how they've faced life
With one foot in front of the other
I look in amazement from across the table
At my father and my mother*

*Though the sunset years
Is where they now stand
I still catch a glimpse of them
Holding each other's hands
Not diminished by time
The love's still there
I've learned so much from watching
Their life together*

*Instructing me on how to live
There is nothing I would trade or give
For my parents
And I realize even more
On this day that is unlike any other
How truly blessed I am
To be on a date
With my father and my mother*



continued from P3

through good and bad times
can't taste my latest vegetarian
dish (no, I am not a vegetarian)
can't hear my voice (right now)
to tell her how much I love her
and appreciate what she has done
for me.

All the small things mom did
for me as a child has developed
me into the productive adult I am
today. So while I HATE that my
mom doesn't do those things for
me now, I am grateful that she
taught me the life lessons to navigate
those activities. And even
though she is not right down-
stairs, I get to talk with her as
often as I can while visualizing
we're sitting at the kitchen table
(eating something, of course).

Mom, I love you more than
you'll ever know and I wish you
an awesome Mother's Day.

Submitted by Mellonie Boyd

Mom & Dad Forever In Our Hearts

One of my earliest memories
is of Mom coming in from work
and all six of us running to the
door. Everyone had a story to tell.
Mom always said, "Can I get in
the door first?"

These days I smile when I remember
that because, after having my own kids, I know why she
said that.

Mom has always been a
warm, loving, giving and kind-
hearted person. She will always
give her last to someone in need.

Although we are all grown
now, she still tries to give us all

she can. Any of us (children,
grandkids, and great-grandkids)
can simply say, "I want" or "I
need", and she still tries to fulfill
the request. I learned how to be a
Mother from my Mother!

Mom will always and forever
be Mom!

Daddy was always around the
house fixing things into what we
call "James Allen's creations." I
always felt safe at night knowing
he was home. I always thought he
was the strongest man in the
world just from watching him lug
things around the house.

He never said much. If any of
us did anything that Mom didn't
want to deal with, she would always
say, "just wait until your father
comes home" and we all
would dread that moment. All he
had to do was raise his voice—
that was enough to make me cry.

Dad did everything in a quiet,
unassuming way whether it was
fixing something, buying us a
treat, or taking all six of us somewhere.
He never made a big deal
about things. We all knew we
could depend on him to find a
way out of no way for us.

I still miss him; although
being very much grown up when
he died, I could still go to him
and lay my head on his shoulder
when trouble came, always
knowing he would fix it if he
could.

Mommy and Daddy, forever
in our hearts.

Submitted by Phyllis Day &
Delores Allen

kid's fun page

games, puzzles & trivia



match Game

HELP THESE BIBLICAL PARENTS *round up* THEIR CHILDREN.

ADAM AND EVE

JESUS

ISAAC AND REBEKAH

ISHMAEL

ABRAHAM AND SARAH

BENJAMIN AND JOSEPH

MARY AND JOSEPH

CAIN, ABEL, AND SETH

JACOB AND RACHEL

ISAAC

DAVID AND BATHSHEBA

ESAU AND JACOB

ABRAHAM AND HAGAR

SOLOMON

UNSCRAMBLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS TO GET SOME GREAT ADVICE. FOR A HINT, SEE EXODUS 20:12.

RNOHO

HYT

HEFRAT

NDA

TYH

ORTEHM

Grace & Mercy

Tribute to Maxwell Miles and Pauline Smith Bigby

Submitted by Maxine Bigby Cunningham

When I was young, grown-ups' talk about God's "grace" and "mercy" was commonplace—not just in church but in my home, in the car traveling down the road, in the stories about "days gone by". Although I could not define them precisely, I did understand that these two five-letter words had something to do with God's protection. God's way of shielding us from hurt, harm and danger.

I thought that perhaps Grace and Mercy were sort of like twins—conceived in a single egg to produce a double blessing. The spiritual meaning of the number "5" is "Grace," God's unmerited favor. The name "Mercy" means God's compassion. Other five letter words remind us of "Whose" we are.

Some words communicate life.

- Alive
- Aware
- Being
- Birth
- Blood

Some words contain memories.

- Child
- Heart
- Music
- Place
- Voice

Some words convey feelings.

- Bliss
- Clear
- Enjoy
- Peace
- Ready

Some words conjure up visions.

- Color
- Dream
- Focus
- Image
- Sight

Some words call to action.

- Begin
- Dance
- Plant
- Reach
- Solve

Some words define our relationship with God.

- Bless
- Faith
- Power
- Truth
- Whole



Mom,

There are really no words to express how I feel about you. I first want to thank you for allowing God to use you to carry me in your womb and give birth to me. Throughout my life, you have always been there with protective arms to encourage, inspire, and love me. You have taken whatever life brought and transformed it with love. You have helped me get through the toughest times and have been there to celebrate with me in the good times.

I appreciate you and respect you for your courage, your strength, your wisdom, and your understanding. You have taught me so many things, but what stays with me the most is that you said to always put God first and love myself and everything else would fall into place.

When Jaidan was diagnosed with leukemia and less than a year later, I was diagnosed with breast cancer, you were my rock through it all. You spread out your wings with grace and rose above the adversities we were facing.

Today, you still continue to give your all, especially on the really bad days. Your love and dedication to me and my family is extraordinary and is appreciated more than I will ever be able to say. Throughout this journey, I have realized how amazingly unconditional God's love is and how wonderfully unending maternal love is.

This has truly been a very difficult time in my life but, because of the strength of your love, the power of your heart and your endless faith, you did not allow me to write the eulogy on my hopes, my dreams, and my life. You have flooded my life with love beyond compare and have shown me the true meaning of friendship.

For you, your love and your friendship, I am eternally grateful.

Love Forever,
KoKo

Sunday, July 21, 2013
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Druid Hill Park
Columbus Pavilion

ANNUAL **Church-wide Outing**

Bring your own basket!

Church will provide:

Hotdogs

Hamburgers

Beverages

Dessert

Entertainment/Games



If you would like to make donations of food, sodas, ice, water, etc., please see Pat Ward or Ellen Harvey.

You may also bring your donation to the park on the day of the Outing.



that's my Mama



When I first got the news, my heart skipped a beat, Remembering just how much you meant to me.

When I first got the news, My heart skipped a beat, Remembering just how much you meant to me.

You are the definition of what a woman should be, My Mama so beautiful and so full of grace, She'd worked through a storm with a smile on her face.

She's smart and she's pretty, she's compassionate and she's witty.

She's sharp and she's sassy, she's down to earth and she's classy.

That's my Mama! She's blessed by the best and envied by the rest; She's humble by far In my eyes, she's a star! That's my Mama! Hot meals and holidays, front yard and school days, Babysitting and going to church, Strutting her stuff and making things work.

That's my Mama!

Submitted by Annie Brown's Children





HAPPY BIRTHDAY



June

Dylan Anderson
Robert Bailey
James Baylor
Wilma Bond
Monifa Brooks
Curley Brown
Rochelle Cooper
Hazel Cullings Johnson
Kim Dennis
Lauretta Fallin
Marguerite Ford-Lacy
Marcia Friend
Ashley Graham
Jimmy Hines
Maurice Mattison
Kim Pettigrew
Tyrek Robinson
Gladys Smith
Tara Stevens
Emily Tilghman
Shanay Wallace

Lawrence A. Williams
Patricia Yeargin

July

Jacquelyn R. Allen
Gloria Jean Baylor-Cook
Gloria Carroll
Donna Cooper-Knox
William Dowery
Christina Gaskins
Bessie Mae Gray
Phyllis Hall
Anajahsia Handy
Gloria House Catlett
Latanya Jackson
Jalen Lashley
Dorothy Lawson
Sanaa Lovelist
Brenda McDougal
Monae Rich
Shirlonda Scott
Doretha Sykes

Theresa Thomas
Rodney Thompson
Geraldine P. White
Bernette Young
Jermari Young
Norma Young

August

Deborah Anderson
Maxine Anne Boyd
Amani Brightful
Clyde Brown
Marian Brown
Joyce Campbell
Tracie Carter
Tracey Cheeks
Beverly Clinton
Vanessa Coates
Kiara Collins
Tyra Curley
Geraldine Davis
Thomas Dawkins

Bernadette Edwards
Ira Glover
Bobbie J. Hargrove
Chianti Jackson Harpool
Annette D. Hart
Nadena W. Holden
Loni Howe
Shirley Hughes
Lennard Jackson
Alan James
April Jones
Oradale Knight
Michael Lewis
Candace McNeal
Davina Morton
Rebecca Pettaway
Samuel Rather
Gregory E. Reed
Vonda Reed
Regina Stevenson
William E. Stewart
Hallie Tucker
Lanita Wilkerson

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

The deadline to submit any articles, pictures or other content for publication in our September 2013 issue is Sunday, August 18, 2013.

THE TIMES ON-LINE OR BY E-MAIL

See the latest and past issues of The Times in color at <http://www.thecitytemple.org/times>. The Times can also be e-mailed to you. Send an e-mail to times@thecitytemple.org to join our e-mail list!

JOIN THE CITY TEMPLE TIMES STAFF!

Think you enjoy reading The Times? Why not try working with us?

The City Temple Times Staff is looking for information gatherers, editors, and writers. From novice to expert, all who are interested are welcome!

If you would like to help contribute to our church's newsletter, please contact April Jones at times@thecitytemple.org or you can approach her at church. We look forward to working with you!