



May 2020

# ListenLovePray

Newsletter vol. 4, issue 4

## What Happens When a Mom Prays

An excerpt from the May 12, 2018 article by Karen Isbell

**A** mother in waiting, a mother of little ones, a grieving mother, a spiritual mother, a grandmother, a mother of tweens or teens, a mother of adult children...

Fellow momma, whatever the role looks like for you today, our prayers matter. Our prayers will outlast the years we walk this earth and echo into eternity. Every prayer whispered in grief, sorrow, joy, fear, love, desperation and hope is heard by our Heavenly Father.

When we pray, we invite God to move. Motherhood is messy. It's impossible to get out of it without mud on our white jeans, but that was by design. We are broken and sinful trying to lead broken and sinful children, it's a beautiful mess that points us to Jesus and pulls us to our knees.

When we pray, we invite God into the brokenness and mess to work in the hearts of our children like only He can. We can't control their salvation, their obedience, every choice they make or their circumstances. But we can partner with God and ask Him to move.

The work of prayer is done in the unseen hours and moments of our days and the fruit doesn't come overnight. Your prayers are mighty momma, keep pressing in.



### A Message from the Executive Director

The love of a mother can give us a glimpse of what God is like. "In a loving mother, we see Christ, who longs to gather his people like a mother hen would gather her chicks under her wings (Matthew 23:37)" says Tyler Holley of [desiring-god.org](http://desiring-god.org). Mother-figures also play a part in molding and filling our souls; teachers who nurture, neighbors who give hugs and cookies, friends who act as spiritual guides. "Mothers are everywhere, if we only have eyes to see them" notes Mr. Holley.

Spiritual mothers extend God's kindness, patience, and tender care to others. Years ago, we had a Nigerian pastor over for dinner. He told us stories about his childhood with his parents and siblings, and then he knelt, grabbed my hand

and said, "bless me, my spiritual mother". Thankfully, God helped me formulate words, and I prayed a blessing over him and his far-away family.

But motherhood doesn't always look like what we think it should. Some mothers are unable to nurture well, perhaps because of their human frailty or the conditions in which they themselves were raised. In this edition, we have included The Mother's Blessing - a CHM prayer that offers healing and restoration from the effects of being raised by an absent, broken, or wounded mother.

Carol Burnett was raised by her grandmother and when she got her first job in New York, she called her

and said "Nanny, I'm going to be on television Saturday morning.' She said, 'Well, you gotta say hello to me.' We figured this out - to pull my ear - and that was my signal to her."

These pages are our "signal" to all of the different mothers in our lives. We honor you and thank you for giving us life. We appreciate everything you have done to love and care for us. May the living words of Numbers 6:24-26 shower down upon you.

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."*

Lucinda Nelson, Executive Director, LLP

*"The love of a mother can give us a glimpse of what God is like"*

**Grace Evelyn Babylon**

*(Sarah Dorrance's mom)*



*Filled with faith,  
Joy, Grace*

**Marian Banfield**

*(Kelley Banfield's mom)*



*Loving, Faithful,  
Generous*

**Helen Binkley**

*(David Lichtenstein's mom)*



*The Best,  
Dear One*

**Diana Condon**

*(Kathy Cinnamond's mom)*



*Patient, Loving,  
Generous*

I was adopted at birth and had the best Mom possible! Many years ago, she gave me this poem.

*Not flesh of my flesh,  
Nor bone of my bone,  
but still miraculously my own.  
Never forget for a single minute;  
You didn't grow under my heart but in it.*

**Patty Duke**  
(Patti Messick's mom)



*Affectionate, Charming,  
Green Thumb*

**Margaret Evans**  
(Carol Pennington's mom)



*Strength, Love,  
Perseverance*

**Susan Gorham**  
(Lulu Nelson's mom)



*Creative, Energetic,  
Positive*

**Vonnie Keltner**  
(Kristie McMullen's mom)



*Compassionate,  
Kind, Thoughtful*

*"The love of a mother can give us a glimpse of what God is like"*

**Marty Kirkpatrick**  
(Judy Winfield's mom)



*Kind, Selfless,  
Great Cook*

**Beverly Lawson**  
(Ginger Burndt's mom)



*Compassionate,  
Loving, Loyal*

**Betty A. Michael**  
(Bruce Michael's mom)



*Loving,  
Devoted, Servant*

**Ezilda Lisboa**  
(Edi McHenry's mom)



*Devoted to God,  
Creative, Pianist*

My mom was extraordinary. She did not have an easy life as she had to physically care for my father for 42 years after he was paralyzed from the waist down in 1972. She never complained, was always cheerful, pleasant and obedient to his needs. As a faithful church goer, Mom made sure her children grew up going to Sunday School and Church.

**Esther Murphy**  
(Maureen Armacost's mom)



*Creative, Independent,  
Family-focused*

**Lucinda Nelson**  
(Kristin Nelson's mom)



*Selfless, Brave,  
Unwaivering*

**MaryLou Nelson**  
(Ken Nelson's mom)



*Caring, Committed,  
Curious*

**Joanne Ranshaw**  
(Carolyn Bonifant's mom)



*Generous,  
Thoughtful, Funny*

When I think of my mom and what she gave me in faith, I will always remember her kneeling at her bed saying prayers, and at dinner after dad had said grace, mom would still be in prayer (Dad would joke she was keeping secrets with God).

I also think of the Orthodox church and the faithful generations before me (my mom would say she didn't know what they were saying so she would pray for a husband. God answered her prayer when dad moved to town.

*"The love of a mother can give us a glimpse of what God is like"*

**Anne Taylor**

*(Ed Taylor's mom)*



*Resolute, Giving,  
Compassionate*

**Diane Thompson**

*(Roxie Watson's mom)*



*Funny, Caring,  
Brave*

Ed Taylor's Mom shared this with him many years ago

***A Tandem Ride with God*** (Author unknown)

I used to think of God as my observer, my judge, keeping track of the things I did wrong, so as to know whether I merited heaven or hell when I die. He was out there, sort of like a president. I recognized His picture when I saw it, but I didn't really know Him.

But later on, when I met Jesus, it seemed as though life was rather like a bike, but it was a tandem bike, and I noticed that Jesus was in the back helping me pedal. I didn't know just when it was He suggested we change, but life has not been the same since I took the back-seat to Jesus, my Lord. He makes life exciting. When I had control, I thought I knew the way. It was rather boring, but predictable. It was the shortest distance between two points.

But when He took the lead, He knew delightful long cuts, up mountains, and through rocky places and at break-through speeds; it was all I could do to hang on! Even though it often looked like madness, He said, "Pedal!" I was worried and anxious and asked, "Where are you taking me?" He laughed and didn't answer and I started to learn to trust. I forgot my boring life and entered into adventure. And when I'd say, "I'm scared", He'd lean back and touch my hand.

He took me to people with gifts that I needed, gifts of healing, acceptance and joy. They gave me their gifts to take on my journey, our journey, my Lord's and mine. And we were off again. He said, "Give the gifts away; they're extra baggage, too much weight." So I did, to the people we met, and I found in giving I received, and still our burden was light.

I did not trust Him, at first, in control of my life. I thought He'd wreck it, but He knows bike secrets, knows how to make it bend to take sharp corners, jump to clear high rocks, fly to shorten scary passages. And I am learning to shut up and pedal in the strangest places, and I'm beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face with my delightful constant companion, Jesus.

And when I'm sure I just can't do any more, He just smiles and says... "Pedal."

**Evelyn Thompson**  
(Nancy Everstine's mom)



*Loving, Kind,  
Generous of Heart*

**Marcia Winfield**  
(Ted Winfield's mom)



*Loving, Christian,  
Matriarch*

Marcia is still going strong at 89. Her passions include quilting and the Nationals. She rarely misses a Nationals game on TV. The World Series win provided a huge thrill last year.

For several decades, she has made several quilts each month for the children at St. Jude's hospital. The St. Jude's staff and Winchester Star newspaper in Virginia have recognized her for her dedication.

**Shirley Louise Tucker**  
(Tandi Tucker Toni's mom)



*Faithful, Strong,  
Generous*

## FaceTime & Zoom

The healing love of Jesus cannot be stopped by this quarantine. LLP has embraced technology for private prayer appointments and in every session (16 in 3 weeks) hurting people have found peace, hope, strength, and healing.

To schedule your appointment, please contact: [judylistenlovepray@gmail.com](mailto:judylistenlovepray@gmail.com).

## Find more encouragement

Check out the new YouTube messages from LLP co-founders, Ken and Lucinda Nelson.

Stay current by tapping the "Subscribe" button underneath any of our 78 teaching videos and testimonies.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9EvNdJsX-RY9YTE9890talg/videos>

*Healing Prayer Services in May are still on hold.  
please see our website or YouTube channel for  
ways to connect. We miss you!*

# ListenLovePray Events

## All May Events on Zoom

**May 5/12/19 Soaking Prayer**  
7:00 pm

**May 7/14/21/28 Deliverance Class**  
7:00 pm

## Save the Date

**June 5/6, 2020 Healing Prayer Level 2**  
More details to come

**Jan 29-31, 2021 LLP Retreat at Hallowood**  
Comus, MD  
More details to come

## Helping Hands Fund

COVID-19 is a major problem at the moment, but any of us can face unexpected challenges at any moment in life. While our primary mission is to Listen – Love – Pray for the hurting and hopeless, we have also felt led to establish a Helping Hands Fund to glorify God and assist folks facing financial hardship or unforeseen personal struggles. All donations will be tax-exempt and can be sent via PayPal ([listenlovepray.org](http://listenlovepray.org)) or by check to LLP, 8555 Dollyhyde Road, Union Bridge, MD 21791 (memo: Helping Hands Fund).

## A Mother's Blessing (Adapted from the CHM prayer)

A mother's assignment is to nurture, to love, to tend, to treasure, and to teach her children. Maybe your mother was wonderful; maybe she wasn't. In our fallen humanity, there are no perfect parents. We might have been wounded by our mothers and need to receive the healing that comes from a mother's blessing.

*My dear child, I know that the Scriptures command you to honor me; and I want you to know that you will honor me best by becoming and being all the Lord intends you to be. I ask the Lord to richly bless you. I ask the Lord Jesus Christ by the power of His Cross and Blood to set you free now from any harsh or cruel words that I said, especially the ones you keep remembering over and over. I am so sorry.*

*If I ever made you feel less than or not good enough, I am deeply sorry and ask you to please forgive me. May the Lord set you free from trying to get from me what I never had to give you. I'm so sorry. May the Lord set you free from blaming me for failing you, not because I need that, but so you can be free to grow, to receive, to achieve, and to be creative in ways you have not yet imagined.*

*May the Lord give you all the things I was unable or unwilling to give you. May the Lord guide you in ways I never could and grant you peace. May the Lord free you from any of my grief, fear, and anger. May the Lord free you from expectations you are still trying to live up to.*

*I pray that God will help you to see that the hurt and pain I caused you came from my own childhood. It limited me, and I am so sorry if it has limited you. I pray that God will remove from you any belief that you were not wanted or loved. I want you to keep all of the good that came from me and give the rest to God.*

*My precious one, I love you. I am so proud of you. I am so glad you were born. Be released now to be the person that God created you to be. Be free, my love, and live!*

## ListenLovePray Foundation

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LLP Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity.

Your generous donations of time, effort, and money empower the healing transformations that Jesus does here through LLP. To donate, visit our website. All donations are tax-exempt.

Lord, continue to bless the spirits, minds and hands of our loving donors. Keep LLP ever faithful to your call and your word. May each soul touched by LLP feel the healing love of Jesus. Amen.



LLP works in recovery centers, churches, and the community. Jesus still heals and delivers people today!