

A Word From the Publisher

I really felt bad about not being able to write a little something about Mother's Day, as I am so blessed to have the most wonderful mother! As many of you have noticed, our paper has been a little smaller these days as we struggle through this crazy 'corona' time. I'm really over it and ready for things to get back to some kind of normalcy.

Even though we are going through challenging times, we (Roger & I) still made time to see our precious mothers for Mother's Day! We had my Mom and Dad, my brother Gus and Christie (wife), at our house Friday before Mother's Day to celebrate special time with our mom! Mom is such a special lady. I'm so thankful she's mine. I don't think there has ever been a time that I have seen her angry. She has such a wonderful personality and smile that just reaches out to everyone. She never tires of giving and caring. She is an angel that faithfully relies on the Lord to take her through life. She went through several health issues a couple years ago and came out better. She's always there when any of her children call (all 5 - actually 10 because she calls all our spouses her children, too). Somehow she always has time for us. Thank you, Jesus for blessing me with a God-loving mother!

We visited Roger's mother on Mother's Day! She is so special. She is 93 but doesn't miss a beat. Somehow she keeps up with all of us! She, too, is a God-loving woman who is faithful and true to her Lord. She is a prayer warrior for all of her children and extended family. She has been extremely strong during this pandemic, as she doesn't want to get sick. She so misses seeing her friends at church but she talks to

several of them on the phone during the week. God has truly blessed me with precious role models in the joy of mothering.

Motherhood was one of the best things in my life. That's something we girls dream of and my dream came true in 1985 and 1987. I know when Jenny was born I thought I pretty much knew about it all. I had kept my sister's children a lot and was a babysitter. Wow, does it change when it's yours! I survived but not without many calls to my mom for advice. I will never forget when they went through chickenpox. Jenny was in Kindergarten and Levi was still home with me. Jenny didn't have them that bad but when it rolled around to Levi...oh my! I had told mom how bad they were on the phone and she just laughed. Shortly after, she came over and said, "I've never seen them that bad!" I mean, she had 5 children and never seen them like this. I was panicked! Poor little Levi survived and so did I!

Treasure your times with your children, because before you know it, they will be gone. And you never get those times back. They are precious gifts from God...and yes, sometimes you must walk away. That's the only way to keep your sanity. My hats off to all you parents that have stepped into the 'teaching' field and congratulations for making it! Thank you Jesus for our teachers! Amen! Your children will love you for this crazy year! God bless you all. This too shall pass!

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West