



full
of
Grace
Creative
Communications
Sample

PRAYERS AND DEVOTIONS FOR MOTHERS



Full of Grace



Grace. Graceful. Gracious. When you read these words, do you think of beautiful ballerinas floating on air? Perhaps you think of a stylish woman who never falters or fails. True grace is not in the way you move or the clothes you wear. Genuine grace comes from God whose steadfast love endures forever, whose faithfulness extends to all generations (Psalm 100:5). The unrelenting, ever present love that would cause our Creator to give his only Son as a sacrifice for our ungraceful sins—now that is grace!

We become grace-filled women, not because of how perfect we seem. No, God sees inside. He sees our crude, stumbling, corrupt ways. He reaches down every time we fall, and lifts us up again, giving us his grace so we can carry on. All those who give motherly care know how necessary that grace really is.

—Stephenie Hovland

Graceful Caring



For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

EPHESIANS 2:8-10

THE LOVE WE SHOW to our children comes through us from God. We may read all the best parenting books and articles. We may even have had a terrific example of a mother ourselves. But, know this. You couldn't love another human being, if God didn't love you first. His grace and love flows through us. He prepares mothering "works" for us to do.

While we may feel like dirty diapers and sweaty sports socks are not graceful or glamorous, we know that they are part of our job as mothers. We may relish the scent of a newborn baby's head and giggle along with that silly toddler, but the ups and downs of mothering are all part of the package.

We serve others in many ways, but mothering is special.

prayer

Gracious God, help me see all the things on my to-do list as good works you have prepared for me. Amen.

Graceful Patience



And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

ROMANS 8:27-28

WAITING TO BECOME a mother. The impatience of potty-training. The teen's curfew. We mothers always find ourselves waiting. Sometimes, we wait peacefully, patiently. Other times we worry, fear and anxiety eating away at us.

The Holy Spirit intercedes for us when all we have is worry and short tempers. We close our eyes and breathe. The tears soak our pillows. We can't sleep, because the waiting is too intense. That's when we remember: it's not our worry that makes all things go well. It's God who has a purpose and will for us. We know that he is gracious and loving. Our prayers to our Heavenly Father, no matter the length and sincerity, are always accompanied by the prayers of the Spirit who knows exactly what we need at that very moment. Allow him to carry your concerns to heaven and hand them over to the Father.

prayer

Holy Spirit, look deep into my heart right now and bring me the solace of knowing you are carrying every burden to heaven on my behalf. Amen.

Graceful Love



Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

1 JOHN 4:7

YOU MAY REMEMBER the story of Baby Moses from Exodus 2. Jochabed had great trust and courage to send her daughter Miriam to Pharaoh's palace in order to place that baby in the hand of the enemy. The princess knew her father wanted Hebrew babies dead, yet she nurtured him and provided for him, bringing him into the reigning family.

That's a dedicated mother full of love. Moses was given up by his mother and ended up delivering the Israelites from slavery. Certainly Mary, Jesus' mother, came to know that same faith and love. She also loved her son, who delivered us from our slavery to sin. Love can be painful as well as rich and deep.

As we love our children and they require constant grace from us, let us remember the love of God, living in us.

prayer

Beloved Father, thank you for sending your Son, that we may know love and share it with our children. Amen.



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RECEIVE ENCOURAGEMENT as a faithful mother, grandmother, stepmother, care-giver with this handy two-week devotional prayer booklet. Through fourteen grace-themed reflections in *Full of Grace*, author Stephenie Hovland provides a spiritual moment each day to reflect and recharge under the fountain of God's all encompassing love, power and grace.