



Honor your Mother & Father

Losing a loved one is never easy. I am back home after nearly a month away, and I feel emotionally drained. I have been through some things in life, and the Lord has always helped me to take those events and use them to something positive. I have been trying to set my heart on that today.

The miracle I asked for was for my mom to be healed. Her 67 old body wasn't healed. Like anyone I have questioned my own faith, my own prayer life, asking myself did I just not get through. And then the thoughts hit me. I prayed for twenty years that my momma get saved. A couple of years ago I got a call and there on the other end was my mom asking me to forgive her of anything she had ever done to me. She had gotten saved. Not long after I had the opportunity to baptize her. Nearly 20 years of prayers and I see today, that was my miracle. As much as I wanted my momma to be around, as much as I would love to call and hear her voice right now, I know that she is so much better off. I am not disappointed with God, how could I be - He gave me my momma back a couple of years ago.

I want to speak to honoring your parents. I went through a period in my life where I didn't. I was a rebellious teenager and my rebellion carried on into my early 20's. I mistreated both of

my parents. I spoke to them terribly and I neglected our relationship. I certainly didn't value them. One day that all changed. The blinders that were lifted from my eyes the day I got saved caused me to see many things, one of which..... how wrong I was. God helped me to see..... and allowed me to rebuild those relationships. My dad passed in 2008 and we were in a better place than we had been my whole life. Credit can only be given to God above. It didn't happen by accident, I set out to follow God's command, I set out to honor my earthly father. I sought what I believed God wanted and set out to be that man with my parents.

I continued after dad passed to set out to honor my mom, the woman my daddy loved with all of his heart. I tried to do right by the Lord and by my daddy. I was given several years with my mom. I had the opportunity to take her on trips, places she had always wanted to go, but never had. From the top of the arch in St. Louis to Amish country, and I have those memories to hold onto forever.

After daddy died, momma made me "list" often. I would make special trips home to take care of those things. Fixing outlets, repairing floors.....just whatever momma needed. When I think of the miracles, I realize God changed me and gave me a heart to honor my mom. I don't have regrets today, I loved my momma..... and the miracles I have enjoyed are right there in front of me. She didn't get more time here, but because of my Lord she has an eternity elsewhere. Can I share something solid with you? Don't get so caught up in this life that you miss those opportunities! I didn't have perfect parents, and I haven't been a perfect son but my perfect God gave me a fresh opportunity to love and honor my folks and that without a doubt is a miracle worth celebrating. I love and miss them both.

Honor your parents

God bless – Pastor Paul