

Steeple News

June 2025 Mother's Day Revisited

In the Mother's Day sermon this year, I made reference to a phrase I heard many times as a young child. It was the simple healing message of my, and many other mothers, "I will kiss it and make it feel better."

How many hundreds of scratches and cuts are presented each day with the plea, "Kiss it better."? For to children, mothers seem to have some healing power, better than Band-Aids. It is the power of love.

And even when the children have outgrown the idea that a mother can kiss a hurt better, they still seem to come to wherever she is in the home. They bring their battered and bruised egos, shaken up from an indifferent world. They look to her to guard them against fear and worry and self-doubt. They know that she will notice when no one else does, the little victory, the hidden beauty, for she has loved them longer than any other human person. She has loved them when they were yet a baby, loved them when they stumbled over their own feet in learning how to walk, loved them when they looked at her out of eyes too new to focus, loved them when they faltered and failed at learning how to be.

While kisses may not heal the cuts and scratches, unconditional love is full of healing. Mother's love is the most powerful force in the life of an unfolding personality. The mother's task is not a small one. There are those who would diminish her power, equating motherhood with drudgery as if she scrubbed sinks and polished floors all day, instead of adding luster to external human beings. A mother's work is the main business of life, the development of personality and character. To develop this, even in common measure in the average life, it seems necessary that at the point when the child is first making the effort to become a person there should be some quiet brooding, some leisurely companionship of the beloved, a rich and generous sharing of some larger life, always near when needed... a mother.

A mother is a healer in the truest sense of both physical and emotional hurts. She helps the child achieve wholeness through the power of her love – No small task in a world of broken hearts and shattered personalities.

Rev. Hans Lillejord