

**Conclusion:** Let us know that mothers have a very important job: As Dr. Tony Campolo traveled around the world on speaking tours, his wife, Peggy chose to stay home to bring up their two children. On those rare occasions when Peggy did travel with Tony, she found herself engaged in conversations with some of the most •accomplished, •impressive, •influential, •sophisticated people in the world.

After one such trip, Peggy told Tony that sometimes she feels intimidated – *even questioning her own self-worth!* So Tony said to her: **“Why don't you come up with something you could say when you meet people that will let them know that what you do is very urgent, crucial, and important.”**

Then, *not long after that*, Tony and Peggy were at a party when a woman said to Peggy in a rather arrogant tone: **“Well, my dear, what do you do?”** Tony heard his wife give this answer:

**“I am nurturing two Homo Sapiens into the dominant values of the Judaeo-Christian tradition in order that they might become instruments for the transformation of the social order into the kind of eschatological utopia God envisioned from the beginning of time.”** Then the other woman said: **“O my, I'm just a lawyer.”**<sup>2</sup>

Even without fancy words, **mothers can and should play a very important role in the upbringing of their children – especially in daily teaching them God's Word and modeling what it means to be a forgiven child of God!** So, on this *Mother's Day 2010*, let us → trust in our Savior and → honor our mothers! And all God's people said: *Amen!*

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<sup>2</sup> Tony Campolo adapted by James Moore, Collected Sermons, [www.Sermons.com](http://www.Sermons.com)

# Mothers

## God's Knitting Room and Channel of Great Blessing to Their Children!

Based on Psalm 139:13-18; Isaiah 66:13a NIV



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – 2010

Mother's Day – May 9 → 8:15 & 10:45

**Introduction:** Dear members of Bethlehem, *my brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ*, on this **Mother's Day 2010** we turn our attention to ✦ the Lord's work to create us, ✦ the Lord's knowledge of our earthly lives, and ✦ the blessings we receive from our mothers AND from the Lord!

### 1. **The Lord's Work to Create Us:**

- a. <sup>13</sup> **“For you created my inmost being...”** – as the Lord created the heavens and the earth, *so He literally created our kidneys* – our internal parts!
- b. **“...you knit me together in my mother's womb.”** As every knitting loop is individually made, *so the Lord has made every part of our bodies!*

c. <sup>14</sup> **“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made...”** As we look at each other, *or in a mirror*, we should be filled with **fear** and **wonder** as we think about God’s awesome work! Even today, *with the blessing of medical technology*, God gives us a glimpse into His knitting room – *the womb!*

2. **The Lord’s Knowledge of Our Earthly Lives:** <sup>16b</sup> **“All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”** Though we are bound by time, *the Lord is not*; therefore, He knew everything about every one of our days – *even before we lived a single one of them!* Then David prayed: <sup>17</sup> **“How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!”** May we also ✦ be in awe of God, ✦ be humble, and ✦ fully trust in Him for all things!

3. **The Blessings We Receive from Our Mothers and from the Lord:**

a. **An example of a mother’s love:** It was •April 8, 1974, •the Atlanta Braves home opener, and •Henry Aaron was up to bat; he had previously tied Babe Ruth’s record of 714 home runs, *now he was trying to break it!*

This was the situation: Many in our country were opposed to Aaron, *a black man*, trying to break the record of Ruth, *a white man!* That year, Aaron received nearly 1 million letters – most were fan mail but about 100,000 were hate letters, *some with death threats!*

Now, back to the game: As Al Downing of the Dodgers pitched, Aaron ➔ swung, ➔ connected, and ➔ made history! As he crossed the plate his team surrounded him and celebrated; there was also a short 68-year-old black

woman who latched onto him and wouldn’t let go. Finally, Henry turned and said to her: **“Mom! What are you doing here?”** Then – *thinking about the death threats her son had received* – she said: **“Baby, if they’re gonna get you, they’ve gotta get me first!”**<sup>1</sup>

**Most mothers sacrifice much for their children; some are even willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to protect their physical lives!**

b. **The Lord went a huge step further** – *far beyond the ability of every mother* – by making the ultimate sacrifice to rescue us from *eternal pain* by freely offering us *eternal joy!* **First** – *God enables us to trust in Jesus as our Savior*; that means we are ✦ forgiven, ✦ alive in Christ, and ✦ ready for heaven! **Second** – *God enables us to live for Christ; never to earn heaven, but to thank God for the gift of heaven!*

c. **Notice today’s LFL bulletin insert:** The Lord has seen the wonderful comfort given *by mothers to their children*; therefore, He said: **“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you...”** (Isaiah 66:13 NIV)

i. **In this life** – God can say to those who trust in Jesus: You have sinned, *but I have forgiven you!* You have needs, *but I will help you!* You may feel alone, *but I am with you!*

ii. **In the life to come** – The Bible says that God **“will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain...”** (Rev. 21:4 NIV) *We have so much to look forward to in Jesus Christ!*

<sup>1</sup> Pat Williams, *A Lifetime of Success*, (Grand Rapids. MI: Fleming H. Revell, 2000), 109-110, adapted by Robert Green