

## So That We May Believe

You are going to put someone's eye out. How many times have we heard that dire warning? How many times has it actually given us pause? I don't know about you but every time I have heard that warning, I have at least considered that perhaps what I am doing is not such a good idea. Mothers are famous for making such predictions. Another one that mother has been known to say—is: "I brought you into this world...I can take you out!" While that sounds funny and is often said with humorous intent—there is the slight hint that the statement could be true. It's not the belief that your mother is going to kill you, it's the belief that she might and that she is actually capable of doing it that makes that statement have its desired effect. Another great tool that Mom's have is the ability to see what you are doing even when she is not there.

Don't drink out of the milk carton—get a glass!

I know you weren't where you said you were!

How does she do it? And she only needs to be right once to make a permanent impression on you. Of course most of the time what she says is for your own good, and to help build your character—the part of your personality that governs what you do when no one is looking. Your mother wanted you to grow up to be someone who make her proud; be someone others would admire; and be someone others could trust. In other words Mom wanted you to grow into someone she would be proud to call her child.

While the statement that Jesus makes in today's scripture (John 17: 20 – 26) is not a threat, it is intended to have the same effect as Mom's dire warnings. Jesus wants us to be not only people who are worthy to be called Christians

but we are also to be the ones who are worthy to see His glory and to be with Him for all eternity. Not only do we believe that Jesus was here, we know Jesus is coming back. Why do we believe it? Because Jesus said he would.

Why do we believe that Mom has the ability to know what we are thinking? Because she said she could. Just like a mother takes care of a child, Jesus nurtured and cared for his disciples, and so when it came time for them to be out on their own, Jesus gave them something to help them remember all of the things he taught them.

Moms shape our lives with their wisdom and their insight. They leave us with bits and pieces of memories that continue to shape our lives today. They never stop loving us even when we do things of which they don't approve. A mother's love is the closest thing on earth to the love that God and Jesus have for us in heaven. So on this mother's day let us say thank you God for giving us our mothers and thank you God for giving us Jesus so that we may believe. Amen.