



IOU Ministries

The music lasts a short time, the message lasts a lifetime.



Christopher Hylton

Selflessness

Philippians 2: 1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Mother's day is this weekend so I wanted to share my feelings about Moms. A mother's love is



Lynda Hylton

Recently a lady asked me a question about my vehicle. I started answering her question when I realized she wasn't even listening to what I said. I just stopped talking mid sentence and immediately she started talking about something else. I laughed to myself because I thought she must have been preparing her response without listening to me at all. I wondered how many times I had been guilty of the same thing.

When someone is wanting to talk to you about their problems, do you really listen to them or just patronize them by saying, "Yes,

instinctual and forever. It is something that is very special. She will lay her very life down to protect or defend her children. A true mother is selfless. She thinks of the betterment of her children before herself.

There have been times when I disappointed my mother but she never made me feel unloved or unwanted. Her love is unconditional. It is an instinct given by God. It's hard to understand how a mother can endure disappointments that her children can sometimes bring, but somehow she delivers love in a strategic and direct approach to thier heart.

As you all may know, I lost my Father in July of last year. I don't think I could have made it through that tragedy without my mother. Even in her hurt and confusion, she was still thinking of me and my emotions rather than her own. She is an amazingly strong woman and I am so blessed and honored to have her. We should all try to see through a mother's eye when looking at people in the world today, not seeing their faults but recognizing their potential.

I would like to leave you with a conversation I overheard at a convenient store two days after those tragic storms. A young lady working behind the counter was talking to the person in front of me and said, "*I don't have any money; I barely make it on what I get here at the store. I*

I understand; I will be praying"? How much do you really listen?

Listening...it sounds easy, but do we really listen? Most of the time we are thinking about something else or thinking what we are going to say next and don't pay attention with a clear mind. The next time someone starts talking to you, stop and think...am I really listening. Do I really care about what they are saying? It would make a big difference in someone's life if we paid attention to what they say and respond by letting them know that we care about their problem or their ideas.

Many years ago I owned a beauty shop and I had a lot of older clientele. I knew that I wouldn't remember everything they talked about during their weekly visits, so I made an index card for every patron. I wrote down the things they said about their children, about their lives, about the things they cared about enough to share with me. The next week I would ask them about it to see how they had dealt with the problem or perhaps it was their children's birthday. It would bring a smile to their face and they would ask, how do you remember all that stuff. It was my responsibility to show them I cared about them. I listened to what they were saying; I became a part of their life.

Jesus cares about us and He cares about the things that concern us. It may be something trivial, but He is listening when we cry. He listens when we are upset over the simplest of things. He hears us when we whisper, He hears us when we think, He listens. Will you listen too?

know I can't help with money, but I can give myself, so I volunteered on my days off this week to go down there and help any way I can. I can help them clean up or look for things." I thought, WOW, what selflessness. She is a mother of two and barely making it on her own, but wants to give of herself to others.

God help us to be selfless when dealing with others.

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IOU Ministries

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IOU Ministries is a multi-faceted ministry consisting of preaching, music, song, recordings, and graphic design. We believe that you spell ministry...w-o-r-k. For over twenty years we have been working endlessly to promote the gospel of Jesus Christ through any means necessary. Jesus said, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel.' IOU Ministries has had the privilege of ministering in over 10 countries of the world and the best is yet to come.

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