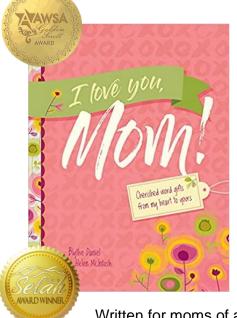
# CELEBRATING THE MOM IN YOUR LIFE I Love You, Mom! Book Gives the Gift of Words



How can you celebrate and thank the mom in your life for all she does? The one who has loved you as a mom or is the mom of your children deserves to know how valuable she is.

In their gift book/devotional, *I Love You, Mom! Cherished Word Gifts from My Heart to Yours* (Tyndale House, March 22), mother-daughter duo, Blythe Daniel and Dr. Helen McIntosh, join together to celebrate all things mom. Perfect for Mother's Day, birthdays or "just because," this beautifully designed gift book/devotional helps moms to know how much they are loved and appreciated.

"God chose you to be a mom," says Daniel. "That's a gift you have unwrapped! He has always known the dynamics of your child from his or her early years through adulthood."

Written for moms of all ages of children, from infants to adults, *I Love You, Mom!* gives a voice to the feelings many have about their mom. Going beyond a traditional greeting card, the book is beautifully designed with cheerful full-color artwork in a hardcover package. It contains 25-word gifts, each focused on a character quality for mom and designed to express affirmation and encouragement that moms dream of hearing.

Each devotion includes a Scripture verse, a story from Daniel and McIntosh about the related word gift or a biblical story, and a pre-written reflection from the perspective of the child to his or her mom using a word gift such as "You are forgiven/fearless/a servant". Devotions include topics like leaving a legacy, making time for yourself, choosing joy, connection, serving one another, and more.

"Being a mom can sometimes be a tiring, thankless job," says McIntosh. "But when we take a step back and realize the impact we are making on our child's life, and the critical role we play, it's humbling."

The book also includes a place for the giver to write to mom and several pages for mom to write her own reflections, creating a keepsake that can be looked at for years to come.

"We are a nation drawn to love stories," says McIntosh. "And what better love story is there then the love between a mom and her child? So many mothers and grandmothers long to leave a legacy of love and blessings to future generations. We are influencers way beyond just genetics." The book can be given to anyone whose mothering instincts have nurtured you.

**I Love You Mom!** is a perfect companion to Daniel and McIntosh's previous book, *Mended:* Restoring the Hearts of Mothers and Daughters.



**Blythe Daniel** is a literary agent and marketer. She has written for *Proverbs 31 Ministries, Focus on the Family*, Ann Voskamp, and *Christian Retailing*. Her agency markets books represents books to publishers. The daughter of Dr. Helen McIntosh, she lives in Colorado with her husband and three children. She and McIntosh have written *I Love You, Mom!* and *Mended: Restoring the Hearts of Mothers and Daughters*.

**Dr. Helen McIntosh** (EdD, Counseling Psychology) is a counselor, speaker, educator, and author of *Messages to Myself* and *Eric, Jose & The Peace Rug*®. Her work has appeared in *Guideposts, ParentLife*, and *HomeLife* magazines. She resides in Georgia with her husband Jim. They have two children and five grandchildren. She and her daughter Blythe Daniel have written *I Love You, Mom!* and *Mended: Restoring the Hearts of Mothers and Daughters*.

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## **Summary**

This collection of words and stories is a tribute to moms of every kind everywhere. Whether you are still on the parenting journey or enjoying the grand mothering phase of life, you will be blessed and encouraged by these inspirational thoughts and special affirmations of love.

Beautifully designed with cheerful full-color artwork in a unique layered hardcover package, this special all-occasion gift is a thoughtful, meaningful way to celebrate Mom and let her know how much you love, cherish, and appreciate all that she is and does!

## **Suggested Questions**

- I Love You, Mom: Cherished Word Gifts from Our Hearts to Yours is a book for any mom to read and that a child or adult can give to a mom or grand mom. Why did you want to create a gift book for moms?
- The innate desire of every mom is to know that her job was and is being done well this book is an affirmation of that message that goes straight to the heart. Do you feel this is missing for many moms?
- How can mothers leave a legacy of love? Maybe your mother didn't leave a good legacy.
  How can a mom change that for her own children?

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- What are some of the topics of the devotions in the book?
- Our country thrives on love stories, and the love between a mother and her child is probably one of the strongest bonds that exists. Why is the mother/child relationship so foundational?
- You say that this book is like a greeting card but has more in it! Describe what all is in this book.
- How does *I Love You, Mom!* help the person giving it to feel like they're able to say what they'd like to say to their loved one? Why is that so important to you?
- What does it mean for a mom to be a blessing giver?
- How can a mother share her gifts and traditions with her children?
- What encouragement do you have for the person who had a difficult relationship with his or her mother? How can mothers and their adult children see their relationship in a new and fresh way?

## **Reader Quotes**

"This book is like a big beautiful card. It is a tribute full of affirmation and I would even say permission to soak in gratitude." - Somer

"I love the affirmation because, I am now an empty nest mom and there are days that I can really spend too much time with the should have's and shouldn't haves. But you remind us on the pages that no matter the situation we can take relief when we fail. God loves our children perfectly. He models that love for us so we can love our children better each day. And I find comfort in that even now that they are not home." - Cheri

"It's a cup of refreshment for worn-out younger moms and it will unfold beautiful memories for older moms. *I Love You, Mom!* is a personalized message, devotional, and blessing all in one beautifully illustrated book." – Andrea

"The book is broken down into attributes about your mom, such as "You are abundant," and "You are a legacy." Each attribute is with a related Scripture and devotional thought intended to affirm and encourage. I love the simplicity and thoughtfulness of these messages to our mothers. Young busy mothers might find these encouraging words a lifeline in the sleepless nights and overflowing to-do lists. Grandmothers might cherish these words over a quiet cup of coffee." - Kristen

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## **Interview Topics**

### **Celebrating Mom**

Whether rocking her newborn, comforting her middle schooler, or lending a listening ear to her young adult, the bond between a mom and her child is perhaps one of the strongest examples of love. How do we thank her for all she does for us? *In this interview*, Blythe and/or Helen share sentiments you can use to encourage and uplift your mom and offer practical ideas for celebrating her. They'll also discuss how to honor mom even when the relationship is hard.

#### Leaving a Legacy of Love

One of the heroes of faith who taught us we have God's power and love inside of us is Paul. He was writing to Timothy, whom he was mentoring, reminding him of his lineage of faith that began with his grandmother and mother—quite a legacy of women, it seems. Wouldn't we like to be known as women who pass on a strong faith to our children and grandchildren? *In this interview*, Blythe and/or Helen share how moms can pass on their faith to their children, practical ideas for making memories no matter the child's age, fun traditions in their own families, and how to be intentional about making memories.

### **Becoming a Mom who Prays**

Moms can find a great gift in praying with each other for their children. Knowing that someone cares enough to pray for you through your pregnancy or as you raise your child is a treasure beyond compare. *In this interview*, Blythe and/or Helen encourage moms on how to pray for their child, how to get involved in a prayer group, why praying with others makes a difference, and how God speaks to us through payer.

#### **Choosing Joy in Motherhood**

Joy is like good cream in your coffee. It adds a splash of light and a beautiful design to what you are taking in. Still, it's tough to be joyful in some of life's most difficult circumstances, isn't it? Motherhood can sometimes be filled with challenges, but we can still be joyful. *In this interview*, Blythe and/or Helen discuss what true joy is, how joy can be found in everyday motherhood, what to do when it feels hard to choose joy, and how moms can model joy for their children.

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