

WISDOM FROM OUR MOTHER

God's Wisdom In The Life And Sayings Of Verna Lynn

By Rev. Dr. Jerry Lynn



*Reach out to Jesus and reach out
To one another with His love.*

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INTRODUCTION

My mother, Verna Lynn, became spiritually born again in Jesus Christ at age 58. It was 1977 when she saw Jesus' face, and that changed her life forever. For the next 34 years she loved and served Him completely. In difficult times she would say, "Don't worry, I have seen His face." She saw Him again around 1984. Jesus' appearances greatly sustained her.

God gave Mother Verna the blueprint for this church, our Bible Institute, our radio ministry, and other ministries, which came forth from this church. She was steadfast in her faith in and devotion to the Lord. Her life's motto was "I am eternally grateful to Jesus". She often said, "I want all that God has for me".

Mother operated powerfully in many gifts of the Spirit, including "ministry", "teaching", "exhortation", "giving", "leading", "the word of wisdom", "the word of knowledge", "faith", "gifts of healings", "prophecy", and "discerning of spirits". She was perhaps above all an extraordinary counselor. She never gave an opinion or made a decision on spiritual matters without first hearing from Jesus. He was her everything.

As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of our church, I want to share with you some of the wisdom from God, which this extraordinary woman lived and shared. In spiritual matters she spoke little, but it was straight from her heart and the throne of God. Mother was a master of the "one liner".

The purpose of this booklet is not to lift up Mother Verna. She never called attention to herself, and she even instructed that no funeral or memorial service be held at her home going on March 21, 2011. I simply want for others to be edified by her example. May we all walk with, serve, and love the Lord Jesus as she did every day of our lives.

Her dearest friend Barbara Gardner once said "Verna is the heart and soul of this ministry". I suppose she always will be.

May God enable you to live and share the wisdom of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jerry Lynn
July 3, 2013

My Years With Verna Lynn (my best friend ever) ~ Barbara Gardner

God is faithful and provides all our needs. For me He provided a second family in the Lynns. Verna, Mort, Jerry and I became close friends, sharing many aspects of our private and church lives for over fifteen years.

I have never met another person quite like Verna. She was a wonderful friend, fiercely loyal, caring, loving, honest, tough, and blunt. When I first met Verna, I was a worldly woman with much to learn about doing things God's way. As a young Christian I was taken to task by her many, many times, without any sugar coating. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger, and I learned a hard lesson in accepting correction. I am sure she was God's choice as my teacher.

God used Verna in the lives of so many people to help them, sometimes by a word of knowledge from the Lord, sometimes by her extraordinary kindness, sometimes by her tough love, or many other combinations.

God gave her an almost unfailing gift of discernment. She could spot a phony a mile away, although she did not always share that information. She let God lead the way. She worked on one principal always. Will my Lord be pleased? Her faith in the Lord never, ever faltered. I went with her to two doctors, who both examined her and verified that her tests showed she had cancer, plus she had signs in her body that there was a problem. She felt the Lord told her that she would not have an operation, and she stood on that promise. When she went to a third doctor, he did not see any sign of cancer, and Verna lived to nearly 92, without ever having surgery. That is faith and faithfulness.

Verna was not one to ever toot her own horn, and she would not be pleased with anything written to attract attention to herself. She would be the first to say she had, to some extent, a checkered past, as all of us do when not living for Christ. God chose her and did amazing things through her.

I am forever thankful to God for the gift of her friendship and companionship in my life, and I'll miss her every day until I see her again.

Gratitude from Jackie Johnson in 2012

Mother Verna changed my and my son's life forever about 5 years ago, by bringing us closer to God than we ever experienced before. I was on my way out of church and Mother Verna stopped me and suggested something was wrong. She did not ask me what was wrong. She already knew something was wrong. I knew her relationship with God was at a very mature stage, the stage most Christians strive for. I told her I was concerned with my son's future. She began to shake and told me she could feel the Holy Spirit around me. She advised me to pray with Jahlon every night. I thought it was a great idea, but I had no idea how those few words would change my relationship with God and my son forever.

I took her advice, and we have prayed together just about every night. God intervened through Mother Verna on our behalf. My son is now 17 and I can't picture us giving up kneeling down by my bed almost every night. I know one day soon, as Jahlon ventures off into the world, our praying together will no longer be an option. I believe God will ensure that he is well equipped to bless others through prayers and the Holy Spirit.

Over the years, I have gotten to know my son as I never would have if we did not pray together. Thanks to Mother Verna, we are able to face life's obstacles because we bring our requests together to God every night. The Bible says that where two or more are gathered the presence of God is that much more powerful.

I know Mother Verna's mansion is pretty impressive for all the lives she touched while here on earth. I will forever be grateful to her for helping Jahlon and me get closer to God and to each other. I have given the same advice she shared with me to other mothers. I frequently told them to start getting down on their knees with their children every night, and promised that God will do the rest. My son is a proud 17 year-old virgin. He does not drink, and nonbelievers his age are drawn to him, as he proudly proclaims God to his football team and others. Thanks mother Verna. I know God's first words to you are going to be "well done good and faithful servant". Thanks for being one of God's earthly angels.

Remembrances From Carol Coggins

*Verna said "to heal a bad husband-wife relationship by asking for forgiveness for anything you yourself had done wrong."

*Verna said to read "My Utmost for His Highest" and "Lord Change Me". She also loved "Hinds Feet On High places" by Hannah Hunnard, "Christ The Healer", and the prayers of Germaine Copeland.

* She was always about me, not herself. That was the secret. She never focused on herself. She would not even allow a funeral or a memorial service in her memory. She was the most selfless person I ever knew.

*She could give advice and rebuke without hurting your feelings, and you heeded her words. She never got "personal" when she gave an exhortation or rebuke. She was just delivering a message from Jesus. She had no "filter". She never calculated how one might receive her message, she just delivered what she felt and what she thought the Lord was telling her. Sometimes it stung a little, but it was always right on target. I never felt a sting. After my first prayer meeting she looked me straight in the eye and told me to come to church on Sunday. I did.

*She was always plugged in to the Lord. It was as though she had a direct pipeline from Jesus. You never saw her, just him. I want to be that way--to live in the high place. (Read "Hinds Feet On High Places". It is free on the Internet.)

*Mother was always trying to bless others and the Lord, not herself. She may have forgotten about herself much of the time, but Jesus never did.

*When the Lord spoke she did it and didn't care what people thought.

*She didn't get into dislikes of people.

*If you felt like giving up she'd say "What else would you do if you quit?"

*When you lose your mother, you lose the center of your universe. That's how I feel about my mother, as does Pastor Jerry, and perhaps you as well.

Recollections From Michelle Joyner

Lately I hear Ms. Verna's words. These are the sayings I remember.

Business:

- *Beware.
- *God is a God of first class. He deserves our best.
- *Pray about everything, He hears you and will answer.
- *People always need to feel welcome -- become a greeter.
- *I really don't know anything, but God's grace is sufficient, and God is Faithful.
- *Slow down.
- *God will raise up another (if we don't go) – submit.
- *If He gave it to you, He will take care of you!
- *You're a Pioneer -- don't let anything stop you.
- *Remember to give -- He is a great rewarder.

Relationships:

- *(With her laugh) Everyone is not your friend.
- *Betrayal -- it hurts always.
- *(In marriage) Are you still having sex? Good, you're still intimate; work it out! (Only Mother Verna 😊)

Life:

- *Self Control
- *Enjoy it
- *Family (first after God)

Attire:

- *A bar of soap and water are not expensive.
- *Maintain your class.
- *Pretty is as pretty does.

Verna's Wise Actions

*(When facing a tough decision) ~ She did not seem to go through a thinking process of weighing one alternative with another. She was quiet. She listened, and then she acted, or she spoke. It was though she had no mind of her own, but was simply waiting for instructions.

*(Regarding questioning or being angry with God) ~ I never heard her criticize, or blame, or speak ill of God in anyway. I never heard her complain in anyway.

*(On what others might think) ~ She did not seem to really care what others thought about her, or what she said or did. She seemed to be looking only to Jesus.

*(Regarding emotions in the face of problems) ~ She did not indulge her emotions. She was very disciplined and very focused on the mission.

*(Regarding ministry personalities) ~ She was not a follower of anyone. She had only one Man in mind spiritually, Jesus.

*(On arguing) ~ She would not argue. When she had a message from the Lord, she would deliver it. Then her responsibility was finished.

*(On the gifts of the Spirit) ~ She operated in her gifts without promotion or calling attention to self. [She was the most gifted person I ever knew.]

*(When ministering healing) ~ her hand became warm.

*When feeling the Spirit in prayer she would feel an electric current, jump, and say ~ Did you feel that?

*(Regarding size of church attendance and offerings) ~ That was God's business, not hers. She looked to Jesus, ministered, went home, and slept.

*(Ministry focus) ~ She gravitated towards the "wounded bird" or the "underdog", always ready to minister, and lift up, and heal.

*On hurt feelings ~ She carried very little extra baggage. She was quick to forgive.

*(On worry) ~ She grew to learn to live in peace and to rest in Jesus.

- *(On selfish emotions) ~ Eyes on Jesus ~ no self, drama, or moodiness.
- *(On prayer) ~ She prayed once, put it on the altar, and left it with God.
- *(On interaction) ~ She listened much, but talked little.
- *(On bargain shopping) ~ Any fool can pay long price.
- *(On money) ~ She was conservative in spending, generous in giving.
- *(On family) ~ She was a Proverbs 31 woman ~ God first, family second.
- *(On ministry) ~ She ministered as the Lord led, not in her flesh.
- *(On ministry) ~ When she ministered, she ministered. When she was done, she was done. She did not labor under a self-imposed burden. She simply did what Jesus told her, went home, ate, and slept.
- *(On socializing) ~ She had no use for small talk, affairs of this world, idle gossip, jokes. Every encounter had to center on Jesus Christ. She had no other way to relate to anybody except in and through Jesus Christ.
- *(On attitude and speech) ~ She wasn't negative, silly, foolish, weak, or complaining. Her conversation was always uplifting and centered on Jesus and what he was able to do. She always had a positive confession.
- *(Her focus) ~ One eye on Jesus, the other on the clock. *"Only one life, 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last." C.T. Studd*
- *(Her focus) When she heard from the Lord, she went forward. She didn't care what anyone thought. Only one opinion mattered to her, that of Jesus.
- *(Her discipline) ~ She was always disciplined in caring for her person. Her body was the temple of the Holy Spirit and she was not self-indulgent.
- *(On pleasing) ~ She was more of a God pleaser than a people pleaser.
- *(On lifting up pastors) ~ She would lift up Jesus instead.

Verna's Wise Sayings

*(Regarding a problem) ~ Put the problem (or person) in a red box, put the box on the altar, and give it to Jesus.

*(When asked her opinion on spiritual matters) ~ I don't know. I have not asked Jesus. I will let you know what He says. (And she did.)

*(On my worrying) ~ I will let you know when to worry.

*(On our mission) ~ Don't get distracted—just get the word out.

*(On our parishioners) ~ There are many churches they could go to. We are blessed to have them.

*(On letting God lead) ~ It helps to be dumb. You are just an order taker. Do what God tells you to do.

*(On meeting strangers) ~ Do you know any born-again Christians?" (If "yes") then "we are too"; (if "no") then "Jerry, tell them about Jesus".

*(On the baptism in the Spirit with tongues) ~ Salvation is the nail and the baptism is the hammer.

*On meeting someone in need, she reached in her wallet, pulled out a \$50 or \$100 bill, and said to me ~ Match me.

*(On my wanting to quit the ministry) ~ What else would you do?

*(On worship music) ~ You can't really worship until you really know the songs. Then you need to really "work them".

*(On changing worship music) ~ Keep the music, the people will change.

*(On fleshly worship) ~ That's just Saturday night on Sunday morning.

*(Regarding grieving) ~ I asked if she grieved for her late husband and younger son ~ She simply said "No, they are with Jesus".

*(Regarding self – she paid no real attention to self) ~ I want no funeral or memorial service upon my passing.

*(Her daily question and focus) ~ what happened in church today?"

*(On seeking someone to pray) ~ Who has the hot hand?

- *(When asked for prayer) ~ Let's pray right here and now.
- *(On distractions) ~ Get back on the wall. (See Nehemiah).
- *(On our Bible teaching) ~ It is like a college classroom.
- *(On hearing God) ~ Keep your spiritual antenna up.
- *(On being challenged)~ I know what God told me.
- *(Regarding a problem) ~ This too will pass.
- *(Regarding a problem) ~ Always something (in German).
- *(On living life) ~ Go nonchalantly.
- *(On being criticized) ~ Another country heard from.
- *(On witnessing about Jesus) ~ Just tell them about Jesus. It's a matter of numbers. Some will say "no", some will say "yes".
- *(On wrong thinking) ~ Watch your thinking.
- *(On wrong thinking) ~ Check and see who you have on the other end. (That is, Satan)
- *(On going through trials) ~ Ask what is the lesson I am supposed to learn in this trial?
- *(On going through trials) ~ Pray for everyone else going through the same thing.
- *(On going through trials) ~ God doesn't waste a thread.
- *(On complaining) ~ Be careful lest a fate worse than this befall you.
- *(On holiness) ~ Holy Spirit, turn up the furnace another 100 degrees and burn out of me all impurities.
- *(On the unsaved) ~ They have not been touched. Don't be critical or frustrated. Have compassion and pray for them.
- *(On raising her children) ~ I am not running a popularity contest.

*(On outward beauty) ~ Pretty is as pretty does.

*(On being careful about Bible teachers) ~ Don't eat from every pig's table.

*(On admiring someone) ~ I'd like to know what he eats for breakfast.

*(In everything) ~ God told me He goes first class!

*(In a difficult case) ~ We need a testimony here, Lord.

*(Before getting out of bed each morning) ~ Thank you Lord for this day, for breath, for strength, and for life.

I am eternally grateful to Jesus

**Verna Lynn
1919-2011**