



LETTER WRITING

The paper and pen may be your best friend.

Some say we are losing the art of letter writing to the abbreviated form of electronic mail. Maybe so, but let's not let that happen when it comes to writing letters to our spouse and children. Your letters can be a special treasure.

Sometimes it's easier to write than to speak and when we write kind, tender, loving thoughts, our spouse can read and reread the letter. With this in mind let's look at some tips on letter writing.

WRITING TO YOUR LOVED ONE

Keep in mind that you're writing to the most important person in your life, your beloved, so do it up first class.

Use appropriate stationery. Perhaps add stickers, or other forms of adornments.

Begin your letter with a nickname or endearing name you use only for him or her.

Say something nice, like what you admire about them, or something to encourage them in whatever they're doing. Show interest in their activities, wants, needs, dreams, etc. Ask if you can be of help.

Express your concerns, wants, needs, dreams, worries, deep feelings, and what they can do to help, if it's important to you.

Think of something positive to tell them,

something that will make them smile - a cute story, a joke, a positive way in which you're changing, a drawing or poem.

Perhaps you need to say "I'm sorry". Can you please forgive me?"

End with an expression of your love, and your pet or special name.

Good luck and God bless your efforts. Remember God is love and where love is, there God is.

WRITING TO SONS, DAUGHTERS AND GRANDCHILDREN

Children love to get mail. Write stories to your children. Make up characters. Use a picture to get ideas.

Write to them about things you liked to do when you were young.

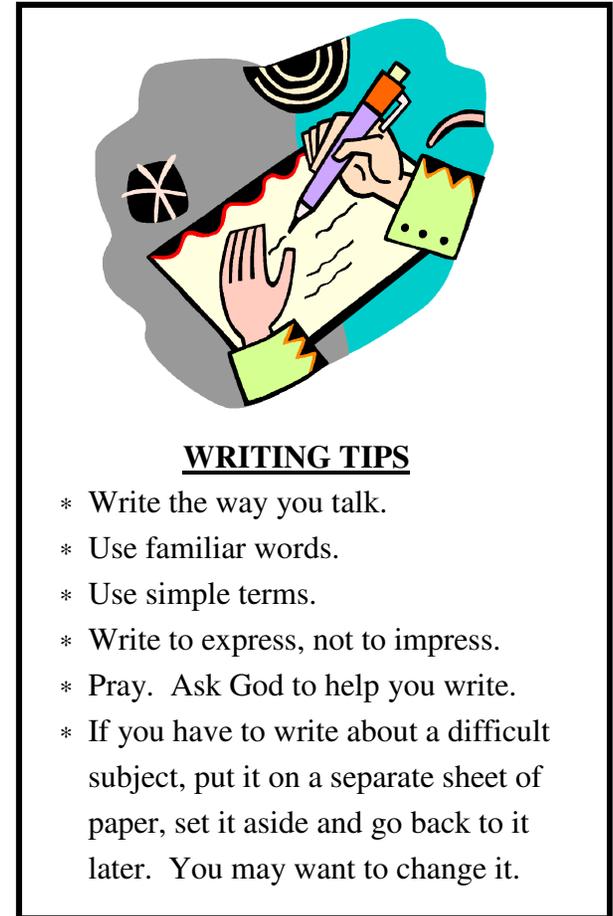
Write to sons about sports, cars, how you spend your day, etc.

Write to daughters about music, friends, what your day is like, etc.

Keep the lines of communication open and in good shape.

Tell them you are sorry if you have hurt them.

Encourage them to write to you by asking questions- about school, job, friends, fears, how they feel about you, etc.



WRITING TIPS

- * Write the way you talk.
- * Use familiar words.
- * Use simple terms.
- * Write to express, not to impress.
- * Pray. Ask God to help you write.
- * If you have to write about a difficult subject, put it on a separate sheet of paper, set it aside and go back to it later. You may want to change it.

WRITING TO OLDER CHILDREN

Consider their hobbies or interests. Send clippings. Add your own comments. Write about a shared memory. Write about your hopes, dreams, fears. Be honest and, if possible, be light-hearted. Try to focus on the positive.