

Finding IT: Getting to the Heart of Motherhood

Dedicated to all mothers – especially the ones mentioned below who found IT and inspired me to write about IT.

You're IT – Celebrating the Significance of Motherhood

As I capture important “firsts” for my three-month-year-old son, Gavin, I realized that I have an important first coming up – my first Mother’s Day. Do you remember your first Mother’s Day? A second mother to me, Viv Pasche, emailed me a poem titled “Before I was a Mother...” Before I was a mother, I never realized so many things - especially the true significance of a mother. While Mother’s Day is a day to honor the significant role of a mother, every day is a celebration for their significant contribution to their children’s lives and the world.

IT Happens for a Reason – Believing in God’s Plan For You as a Mother

Jodi Davis, a gifted speaker, shared in a recent presentation how to turn the adversity of your life into gifts; even the worst adversity a mother could experience - the death of a child. She shared how the death of her 13-month-old daughter years ago has helped her cherish life. Her courage is a gift we all can cherish.

Just Do IT – Embracing the Daily Journey of Motherhood

Maria Shriver shared on Oprah that part of her mission as California’s First Lady is: “Motherhood: a 24/7 job – are you man enough to do it?” My dear friend, Sara Zittlow, has embraced motherhood wholeheartedly. She stays at home with her three children (ages 4 and younger), reads a ton of parenting resources and shares her celebrations and tribulations with other mothers like me. She teaches us that motherhood is a daily calling not to be taken for granted.

Pay IT Forward – Sharing the Gift of Motherhood with Others

Kathi Tunheim gives Mother’s Day gifts to other mother’s in her life. I was so touched when she gave me my first ever Mother’s Day gift - a beautiful cross with a baby boy accompanied by this card: “It’s your first Mother’s Day. God gave you a baby to cuddle and love, to teach about Jesus and heaven above, to guide every step and rejoice in each coo. May God bless and keep baby and you.” I look forward to passing on your kindness.

That’s What IT’s All About – Leaving your Motherhood Legacy

An article I read in a parenting magazine said that children are the message we send into the world. I’m so grateful for the legacy of these three women: Jacque Bower, my mother-in-law, for raising such an incredible husband and father (John); Gladys Honnold, my grandmother, for raising the mom every daughter wants to have; and especially Sheila Opatz, my mom, for being the mother I dream of being.

Janae Bower is an inspirational teacher, business consultant and award-winning author of the book *The Little Girl Who Found IT*. She works with organizations and individuals to help get IT. You can contact Janae at janae@findingIT.com, 612-554-1367 or www.findingIT.com to find out more about the book and her work.