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The Best Piece of Advice

At the recent CCA annual convention in North Carolina, the Auxiliary coordinated the traditional Friday night activity, promoting fun and fellowship and a little competition!

You may have seen photos in the recent CCA Bulletin of the putt-putt golf game we played. Each contestant established potential points earned for questions asked by putting on a par-three-putting-green mat. A questionnaire had been mailed to attendees, prior to the convention, requesting personal answers to various queries.

Getting to read all the responses to the 15 questions asked, I was moved to interest, laughter, and even tears. I thought about answers to one question in particular last week, upon hearing the beautiful Christmas song "Mary Did You Know?" The question: *Name the best piece of advice given to you.* I'm sure you're wondering what that question and the song would have in common. Well... as I pondered the lyrics of such a moving song, I envisioned the mother of Christ and how she would have advised her little boy. How would a young lady gently, lovingly, and wisely instruct the Son of God?

That led me to thinking about a few responses given to the above-mentioned question. The first response came from *Dr. Arlyn Jacobus*. His answer was, "My mother always said to me, 'Any problem, run to Jesus.'" I can only imagine that Dr. Arlyn has encountered a few "problems" along the path while being a husband and father and achieving doctorate degrees in Chiropractic, Medicine, and Philosophy! I was blessed to meet Dr. Arlyn several years ago at a CCA convention and even more blessed by his attendance at numerous conventions thereafter. His love for people demonstrated by actions is apparent. At 70+ years old, he still frequently serves on short-term mission trips all around the world, teaching and loving people to Christ.

Another response was from *Dr. Mark Ford*, "Via my mom, 'Mind your manners...you might marry a princess someday' - she was right, I did!" Another man who was wise to mind his mother's advice! Dr. Ford and his lovely wife Glenda have indeed been an inspiration to me. I can't help but think of Dr. Mark gallantly chaperoning his princess via her wheelchair due to Glenda's ongoing challenges with multiple sclerosis. They, too, share God's amazing love with so very many as they faithfully serve on short-term missions.

One other response specifically attributed to a mother came from *Marlene Jacobus*, Dr. Arlyn's wife. Marlene stated, "After I had broken up with Arlyn in college, my mom said, 'Go back to him!'" I have to say that I'm very grateful for wise advice from another mother! Marlene has been an enormous blessing to her husband, faithfully serving alongside Dr. Arlyn for decades. Too, she is a marvelous blessing to those of us in the CCA who have gotten to know her from attending the CCA conventions.

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Best Piece of Advice, continued,

Perhaps it is the loss of my own mother earlier this year that stirred deep-felt emotions concerning a mother's words of wisdom. Complications from Alzheimer's ended her earthly life back in February this year, but frequently, I "hear" her voice shooting me another pearl of wisdom as I encounter a situation, be it small or more significant.

This Christmas especially, I tend to think that as I enjoy that precious song "Mary, Did You Know," tears will flow easily with gratitude for the One who came to deliver each and every one who trusts in Him! I ask God to continue that heart of gratitude within me throughout the celebration of His birth and into the New Year, and whether for reasons of praise or problems to "run to Jesus" each and every day.

It, too, is my hope that many more of you will join us next year at our annual CCA convention, because God truly doles out some great blessings in the midst of believers who come together to pray, praise, and serve through the bonds of Christ and chiropractic.

*Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy would one day walk on water?*

*Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy would save our
sons and daughters?*

*Did you know
that your Baby Boy has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.*

*Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy will give sight to a blind man?*

*Mary, did you know
that your baby boy will calm the storm with His hand?*

*Did you know
that your Baby Boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little Baby you kiss the face of God?*

*Mary did you know.. Mary did you know
The blind will see.
The deaf will hear.
The dead will live again.
The lame will leap.
The dumb will speak
The praises of The Lamb.*

*Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy is Lord of all creation?*

*Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy would one day rule the nations?*

*Did you know
that your Baby Boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?
The sleeping Child you're holding is the Great, I Am.*