

## *Gifts for Mother*

Three sons left home, went out on their own, and prospered. They discussed the gifts they were able to give their elderly mother.

The first said, "I built a big house for our mother."

The second said, "I sent her a Mercedes with a driver."

The third said, "You remember how our mother enjoys reading the Bible? Now she can't see very well. So I sent her a remarkable parrot that recites the entire Bible. It took the elders in the church 12 years to teach him. Mama just has to name the chapter and verse and the parrot recites it."

A wonderful gift, the brothers agreed. Soon thereafter, their mother sent out letters of thanks.

"Milton," she said, "the house you built is so huge. I live only in one room, but I have to clean the whole house."

"Gerald," she wrote, "I am too old to travel. I stay at home most of the time, so I rarely use the Mercedes. And that driver is so rude. He's a pain!"

"But Donald," she penned, "the little chicken you sent was delicious!"

A little humor to start your day. But the lesson is significant. Good communication is important. Don't presume that the recipient knows what you have in mind.

--Beecher Hunter