

Gifts for Mama

Four brothers left home for college. They became successful doctors and lawyers and prospered. Some years later, they chatted after having dinner together. They discussed the gifts that they were able to give to their elderly mother who lived far away in another city.

The first said, "I had a big house built for Mama."

The second said, "I had a hundred thousand dollar theater built in her house."

The third said, "I had my Mercedes dealer deliver her an SL600 with a chauffeur."

The fourth said, "Listen to this. You know how Mama loved reading the Scriptures. And you know, too, she can't read anymore because she can't see very well. I met this priest who told me about a parrot that can recite the entire Bible. It took twenty priests twelve years to teach him. I had to pledge to contribute \$100,000 a year for twenty years to the church. Let me tell you...it was worth it. All Mama has to do is name a chapter and verse and the parrot will recite it."

The other brothers were impressed. After the holidays Mama sent out her thank you notes. She wrote:

Dear Milton,

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

Thanks anyway. Mama

Dear Manny,

You give me an expensive theater with Dolby sound. It could hold 50 people, but all my friends are dead, I've lost my hearing and I'm nearly blind. I'll never use it.

Thank you for the gesture just the same. Mama

Dear Marvin,

I am too old to travel. I stay home. I have my groceries delivered, so I never use the Mercedes...and the driver you hired is a Democrat.

The thought was good. Thanks anyway. Mama

Dearest Melvin,

You were the only son to have the good sense to give a little thought to your gift. The chicken was delicious.

Thank you. Mama