

An Experienced Mom ... Ten Things to Know Before Becoming a Mom

Love:

You need to be established in your love for your child when you have certain experiences, like a photographer exclaiming that they've never had a child act that way before. You aren't always going to be popular with friends, relatives, or photographers.

Humility:

When successes come, you need to be established in thankfulness and not haughtiness and boasting.

Strength:

You need to know that great endurance is needed, especially during sickness, and other trying times.

Faithfulness:

A few small things can be very significant if you stick with those things over a period of years, like having meals together.

Faith:

It's good to be established in faith and expect goodness as opposed to worry. Then be prepared for occasions to test this, like having a son being deployed to Iraq for almost a year.

Prayer:

We need to know to pray for our children.

Joy:

Be prepared for great joy at being a mom. There's almost nothing like it.

Help:

Our children will need our help, financially and otherwise. It cost money to have children.

Wisdom:

You don't want to be the "blind leading the blind." You need your sight.

Mercy:

You can't do everything perfectly, and it's not all on you. You need to know that there is mercy. Things can turn out very well in the long run ... even with photographers!