

When you thought I wasn't looking

by a Child . . .



When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw you feed a stray cat, and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw you make my favourite cake for me and I learned that little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I heard you say a prayer, and I knew there is a God I could always talk to and I learned to trust in God.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw you give of your time and money to help people who had nothing and I learned that those who have something should give to those who don't.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I felt you kiss me good night and I felt loved and safe. When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it and learned we have to take care of what we are given.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw how you handled your responsibilities, even when you didn't feel good and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw tears come from your eyes and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw that you cared and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I learned most of life's lessons that I need to know to be a good and productive person when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I looked at you and wanted to say, "Thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking."

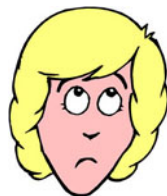
Each of us, parent, grandparent, uncle, aunt or friend, influence the life of a child.



Morning Prayer

So far today, Lord, I've done okay. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, selfish or mean. I'm really glad about that.

But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm going to need a lot of help. Amen.



Everything

**If you meet me and forget about me,
you have lost nothing of value.
If you meet Jesus Christ and forget about Him,
you have lost everything of value.**



A Mother's Prayer

Lord, when they scribble on the walls, please help me to see a rainbow! And when I've said something a hundred times, please give me the patience to say it a hundred more.

And on those particularly annoying days when I tell them to act their age, please help me to remember that they are!

And while we're on the subject of age, Lord, when I begin to lose my temper, please help me to remember to act mine!

And through it all, Lord - the fingerprints and runny noses, messy rooms and unrolled toilet paper, destroyed videotapes and broken knick-knacks - please help me to remember this:

Someday, these will be the days I will long to have back again!

"Morning Prayer", "Everything", and "A Mother's Prayer," are from "Stories for A Woman's Heart," compiled by Alice Gray.