

# *The Keeper of This Life*

A big, black book in her small fragile hands  
The words she read I was too young to understand  
Between the thees and thous and the verilies  
I watched my Mother live the truth in front of me

A little boy wakes from a dream in the night  
Runs down the hall to where she left on the light  
But I stopped when I saw her down on her knees  
Where she prayed every night for me - In a whisper, I heard

Jesus, Keeper of this life - You are my Refuge, my Savior, my Guide  
Watch over my little one tonight - and guard his every footstep  
As he travels this life - in some quiet moment  
Draw him to Your side - That he may come to know You Jesus  
As the Keeper of this Life

(Lyrics from the Song "The Keeper" by Geoff Moore and the Distance)

It was a warm and cloudy day in September of 2014 as my family and I prepared for my Mother's funeral. I was to perform this song during the ceremony as a tribute to her and to say that it was difficult would be an understatement. As flashes of memories flooded my head as I began to sing it became more and more of struggle just to get through it. Everyone in attendance was very supportive and understanding as I basically sobbed through the last few lines of the song. I had performed this song before in churches once or twice for Mother's Day but never with her present. This would be the last time I would perform the song for a while.

As you can tell my mother was a great influence on me. She was a prayer warrior and especially when it came to praying for the family. Believe it or not I was a very, very, very hyperactive child and I'm sure I drove my mother to brink of insanity. With my father serving in the military the burden of raising my sister and I fell on her and that included church attendance and being a Godly influence. It was very hard for her but I am a result of her prayers and witness. I remember the many talks we had about Jesus, scripture, and end time events. She is the reason for my love of studying Eschatology and prophecy in God's word. I recall her telling me many times, "*Jesus is coming soon and you need to be ready!*"

My mother was not perfect and if she were alive she would tell you so. She did the best she could under the circumstances set before her. As all mothers do who walk with Jesus on a daily basis and want to raise their children to know the Lord. Please do not forsake time with your mother (or adoptive mother) or ignore their advice. It may seem of little value now but as time goes by you will appreciate the precious moments spent with her. **Proverbs 6:20-22** says, "*My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you.*"

Keep the faith,

*Bro. Andrew*