



TRIBUTE LETTER: Building a Relational Legacy

Is there someone who has had a tremendous impact on your life, your faith, and your character? This person may be a parent, teacher, or friend. Have you ever thanked or honored him or her in a special way?

You can express your appreciation through a letter, video greeting, or framed art collage that celebrates this person. If the intended recipient is no longer living, you can share your tribute project with others, including their family members and friends.

Below are five simple steps to help you reflect on your unique relationship with this person and the blessing God has given you—“*Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise*” (Proverbs 13:20, ESV).

1. **Preparation:** Set aside uninterrupted time to pray as you think about the person you’re honoring. Consider how God sees him or her—His child, created in His image.

2. **Recollection:** Next, identify specific memories and write them down.

Focus on joyful events and positive things that he or she taught you. You may be surprised that recording one memory will trigger others. Here are some questions to help you:

- What were some memorable conversations you had?

- What were your happiest moments together?

- Did this person teach you any specific skills?

- What did you enjoy doing together?

- Did you have any shared traditions?
- What activities did he or she encourage you to pursue?
- What do you admire most about this person?
- What values did he or she pass on to you?
- Because of his or her investment in your life, how did you change?
- Because of this person's example, what do you want to share with others?

3. **Organization:** Next, organize the information you've gathered. Decide whether you're going to order what you've written categorically or sequentially, then choose which memories you're going to focus on. Determine whether you're going to write a letter, create a scrapbook or collage, or record a video.
4. **Construction:** It's time to bring everything together! In your project, include a note about why you're honoring this person and share the significance of your relationship.
5. **Sharing:** After you've completed the project, plan a time to present the tribute, either to the person you're honoring or to their family members if the person is no longer living.