

A Plumm Summer

❌ Paramount Home Entertainment | Starring William Baldwin, Henry Winkler, Lisa Guerrero, Brenda Strong, Owen Pearce, Chris Massoglia | Rated PG

Thirteen-year-old Elliott Plumm is trying to figure out how to fit in. His dad, Mick, loves boxing and wishes his oldest son were more interested in the sport than photography. It seems Mick is holding out hope that there is still a chance his younger son, Rocky, will catch the boxing fever. Meanwhile, Elliott's mom is so busy trying to pay bills and keep her husband on track she can't give her oldest son the individual attention he needs.

Love Takes Wing

❌ 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment | Starring Lou Diamond Phillips, Cloris Leachman, Sarah Jones, Haylie Duff

Love Takes Wing, the seventh installment of Janette Oke's Love Come Softly series, is now available on DVD. The story of Dr. Belinda Simpson (Sarah Jones) continues as she and her best friend, Annie (Haylie Duff), travel West for Belinda's new post as a town doctor in Missouri.

A Mother's Love: Priceless

This week, moms across the country will be showered with gifts and heart-felt words from their loved ones in recognition of Mother's Day. I'm glad someone thought to set aside the second Sunday in May to honor the faithful women who love and care for their families.

Decades ago gospel singer Shirley Caesar penned a song that I believe characterizes the depth of a mother's love—and God's love for us. *No Charge* is a song about a young boy who charges his mom a fee every time he completes his chores or helps out around the house.

For mowing the lawn, \$5

Taking out the trash, \$1

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For mowing the lawn, \$5

Taking out the trash, \$1

Running errands, 50 cents

Making his *own* bed, \$1

“Playing” with his brother, 25 cents

The boy includes a few more chores to the list, adds it up, and hands his mother a bill for \$. Had that been my mother and me, she would have told me to sit down and be quiet—or else!

But the woman responds to her son the way I believe Jesus responds to us.

“For the nine months I carried you, growing inside me, no charge / For the nights I sat up with you, doctored you, prayed for you, no charge / For the time and the tears and the cost through the years, there is no charge ... / For the nights filled with dread and the worries ahead, no charge / For advice and the knowledge and the cost of your college, no charge / ... When you add it all up / The full cost of my love is no charge.”

The Bible says for God so loved the world that He gave His only Son (see John 3:16). The Son, in turn, gave His life for us and paid the price for sin. So be encouraged as you render selfless service to your family. Jesus is your role model, and He is pleased to know you are following in His footsteps.

Happy Mother’s Day!

British Airline ‘Wipes’ Israel Off Map

British Midland Airways Limited (BMI) reportedly omitted Israel from in-flight charts on flights bound for the Holy

Land, according to *Times Online*.

“Passengers were shocked to discover that Israel had been wiped off the map by Britain’s BMI airline, which omitted the Jewish state from its digital charts on flights from London to Tel Aviv. Neither Jerusalem nor Tel Aviv itself, which is Israel’s largest city, were shown on the airline’s in-flight map.” To read more, [click here](#).

God Has Pushed a Great Big Reset Button

Put on your seat belt. What we are experiencing is so much more than an economic recession.

Unless you are Rip Van Winkle and have been asleep for years, I’m sure you feel the daily convulsions that are rocking our world. Change is hitting America right between the eyes. Everything that can be shaken is being shaken—from banks and insurance companies to car manufacturers and media empires.

Trusted brands, including Chrysler and United Airlines, may go out of business within months. Newspapers are laying off employees in droves as readers go digital; bookstores like Borders can’t compete with Amazon.com. Pontiac is officially dead, and the city of Detroit—once the proud global headquarters of the auto industry—is rusting and jobless.

Becoming a Woman of Influence

Finally I could slow down long enough to have a cup of coffee with a new friend. I had taken a week's vacation from work and had been looking forward to this time of relaxation and unhurried conversation with a sister in Christ I had met a few weeks earlier.

We found we had much in common. We talked and laughed, and as the morning turned into afternoon, we grew excited about how God seemed to be orchestrating our lives in similar ways. We prayed and encouraged one another and shared our plans for the future.

Just then, the phone rang. I picked it up and heard my husband's voice on the other end. In a faltering tone, he told me that a friend of ours, Doris, had died, succumbing to a 19-year battle with cancer.

Entertainer Danny Gans Remembered for His Faith Offstage

✘ The Las Vegas entertainer best known on stage for his masterful celebrity impressions is remembered offstage for his faith in Christ.

Danny Gans, who died in his sleep Friday at age 52, was honored Sunday at several services held at the charismatic church he attended, The Church at South Las Vegas. In an interview with the local NBC affiliate, pastor Benny Perez

said Gans “wasn’t just an entertainer that said ‘I believe in God.’ He actually lived out his faith.”

In addition to supporting several charities, Perez said the entertainer donated several CDs to the church to raise funds for its building project.

Yearning for More of God

The path to the higher realms of the Spirit has always led through the barren wilderness. It is there we realize the desperate hunger and thirst within that only God can satisfy.

Turn Your Thoughts to Him

The believer who is utterly in love with the Lord will not even desire the things that might offend the object of his affection. It is only by complete abandonment, however, that it is possible to reach a total victory in subduing your senses and your desires.

Why is this so?