



## You will need...

- ppt

## The story

Today is Mothering Sunday. So, we have a fun, quick quiz, about mothers in the Bible.

Can you guess the famous mothers? *A (Left arm up), B (Right arm up) or C (hands on head)*

- P/p** The great-grandmother of Jesus.
  - Hannah
  - Elizabeth
  - Ruth** [Click to reveal answer](#)
- P/p** She was childless for many years, but after much prayer, became mother to Samuel the prophet.
  - Rachel
  - Hannah** [Click to reveal answer](#)
  - Eve
- P/p** The wife of Abraham who gave birth to Isaac when she was over 100 years old.
  - Sarah** [Click to reveal answer](#)
  - Eve
  - Mary
- P/p** She was the mother of Jesus.
  - Eve
  - Rachel
  - Mary** [Click to reveal answer](#)
- P/p** She was the very first mother. The mother of mankind!
  - Eve** [Click to reveal answer](#)
  - Rachel
  - Esther



Each one of those mums was special - God made them part of his big plan to save people for his kingdom.

Whether we are children or adults, God has given each of us a mother.  
Don't say it out loud, think of an answer in your head - P/p Why is your mum special?  
Today is a day to thank God for her.

You see, 400 years ago, people in this country decided that one Sunday, wherever you lived, whatever your job, whoever you were, on one Sunday in the year, you could take the day off and take your mum to your home church. It was often the only day in the whole year when a family would all be together. It was a way of saying "thank you" to her. We have kept doing that every year on Mothering Sunday. That's today!

I don't know what you think is special about your mum: she cooks delicious food, washes dirty clothes, helps you with homework, is patient, makes you laugh?

I think, very often, mums are very good at caring.

That's not a surprise to God. Look what he says in the Bible:

**P/p** *The Lord says: "As a mother comforts her child,*

If we're fortunate enough to have a loving mother, then we know that she comforts us, which means she cares for us.

That's one of the very special things about mums, they can be wonderfully good carers.

When we're sad- it is often our mums who are there to cheer us up.

When we're hurt- it is often our mums who are patient with us as we recover.

When we're frustrated or down- it is often our mums who encourage us and remind us of our blessings.

The Bible says that God is like the best mum imaginable

**P/p**

*So I will comfort you"  
Isaiah 66:13*

The Lord God is there to care for us. As a mother cares for her child, so God is the one who cares for us.



Some of us have had mums who didn't care for us. All of us who have had mums who sometimes have found it hard to care for us. Can you imagine a mum ...

who is always with you?  
who knows exactly how you are feeling?  
who is powerful enough to help, no matter what the problem?  
who understands what you're going through?  
who never loses her patience?  
who always listens to you?  
who always has something to say to help?

That's what God is like. If we trust Jesus, we know it's true.

By His Spirit, He is always with us  
As our Creator He knows exactly how we are feeling  
As the Lord of His Universe, He is powerful enough to help, no matter what the problem  
As His Son walked amongst us, experiencing a life like ours so He understands what we're going through  
As the very definition of love, He never loses his patience  
As the one who hears every prayer, he always listens to us  
As the author of the Bible, in His Spirit's power, He will always have a word to say to help.

Most of all, God sent his son, Jesus Christ, to die to rescue us. He has done everything so we can enjoy his comforting care now and forever.

**P/p** *The Lord says: "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you"*

The reason God does that is because his love for us is unimaginably large. Whatever our experience of our mothers has been, there is one who offers the deepest comfort, today.

Today is a day to say thank you to God for all the ways your mum cares for you, and thank Him that He cares for us even better than any mum can.

And if your mum is with you, or a phone call away, say thank you to her today, too.

**Let's pray...**

Our Father,  
We praise you for your huge love.  
Thank you that you invented mothers and gave us each a mum.



Please help us to see how much our mums have cared for us, and to thank them today if we can.

Thank you that mothers help us to understand a little of what your comfort is like.

You care for us perfectly and we thank you that Jesus makes sure we can enjoy knowing you forever.

Amen.

At the end of the service children will be coming around to give every woman a daffodil. Don't be surprised if a small child bounds up to you with a big smile and holds out a flower.



## Top Tips

**Warning:** for those women who wish they were mothers, or have lost children, this can be a difficult service, so we try to show gracious love and understanding by ensuring that the children give a flower to every woman. Ask the youngest child in each family to give the flower to their own mother, while the older children can do a check that every woman has a flower. Ideally, you would practise with the children how to present a flower, making eye contact and saying, "Thank you for showing love" rather than a "dump and run" approach!