



You will need...

- Examples of 4 women that have achieved great (or peculiar!) things in the past year.
- A way of displaying Proverbs 31: 28-30 (v30 remains hidden until later).

The story

There are some women who have achieved real greatness this year. Let me show you a few;
(Below are some examples from 2017, to give you an idea of the sort of achievements you might look for, as you bring this talk up to date)

- 1) (Ppt) Amal Clooney – She is a barrister specialising in international law and human rights. And has worked on many high profile cases around the world. And incidentally, did it all while being married to a certain man!
- 2) (Ppt) Nina Tandon – is a biomedical engineer who founded the world's first company to grow bones for skeletal reconstruction.
- 3) (Ppt) Helen, Niki, Frances & Janet – 4 working mums from Yorkshire who broke a world record rowing across the Atlantic. It took them 67 days and they are the first and oldest all female crew to cross an ocean.
- 4) (Ppt) Theresa May – is the second women in history to become the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

But how many of them do you think would

- Wash your underwear? or
- Sit down at the kitchen table to help you with your homework? or
- Go to work to earn the money to buy your next pair of trainers?

Can I tell you the answer? None of them would do that. I am sure.

Let's look at some words from Proverbs 31:
Show Proverbs 31: 28-29 (not v30)

These words tell us about the children and the husband who wake up each morning remembering that they have a mother and wife who loves them very much.



Read Proverbs 31: 28-29 - Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.'

The children jump out of bed and shout, "Hey Mum, you're great!"

Her husband looks up from his bowl of cereal and says, "There's some pretty amazing women in the world, who can do all sorts of great stuff, but you're better than all of them."

These aren't just nice words to say on Mothering Sunday.

This is the truth that is worth saying every day of the year.

A good mum is more precious than a Prime Minister, a Gold medal winner or a famous scientist- because she's your Mum and she loves you.

I hope today you've thanked your Mum for her love for you and told her how wonderful she is. But I hope you do that tomorrow as well. And the next day.

Before we finish, can I show you the next verse in this proverb?

Show and read Proverbs 31: 28-30 (now including v30) 'Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.'

Charm, which is when someone makes you feel special, can be a lie. They might not think you're special at all. But they know how to pretend.

Beauty, which is when someone looks great on the outside, won't last. I'm afraid to say that all of us look a little less beautiful on the outside as we get older.

But the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Because trusting the Lord can't be a lie. Because trusting the Lord lasts forever, even after death. The truth is, is that being a mother or a wife doesn't last forever, but trusting God, knowing Jesus as our King does. That never fades, grows old or stops.

That's why if you have a mother who trusts in Jesus, and teaches you more about him, you should thank her for that, more than anything. Tell her to keep going, trusting Jesus as her King.

Our children today will be giving a flower to *every* woman in our Church family, please make sure you have one before you leave, because if you fear the Lord- you are worthy of great praise.



Let me pray.

Dear Father in Heaven, Thank you that Mums are your idea. Thank you that so many of us have had excellent mothers who are so precious to us. Please help us to tell them often how much we love them. Thank you also that because of Jesus, every woman, who is trusting in you, is perfect in your sight, without sin, made ready for Heaven. May we encourage your women to keep on trusting Jesus, as their king, every day. Amen



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!