

God's Mother's Day Card

Today is the day when Moms get the special treatment, right? You know, breakfast in bed; homemade Mother's Day cards from the kids; flowers from your husband; lunch at your favorite restaurant; and absolutely no house cleaning! (How come I'm seeing some of you ladies give your husbands 'the elbow' or looking disappointed?)

I have a **PROBLEM** with Mother's Day! It's not that I don't **LIKE** Mother's Day ... or that I **DISAGREE** with it ... or that I **DREAD** it. My **PROBLEM** is ... that I don't know how to preach a good Mother's Day sermon. Mother's Day is perhaps (for me) the most difficult sermon to preach all year. I have preached many Mother's Day sermons.

WHY is it so **HARD** to preach a Mother's Day message?

BECAUSE ... While Mother's Day can be a very happy, joyous day ... it can also be a very sad day ... a day of pain & grief. Not everybody looks forward to Mother's Day.

- o Maybe you have recently lost your mother ... and you are experiencing the pain of your loss.
- o Maybe you have lost a child ... and your heart grieves on Mother's Day.
- o Maybe you are having difficulties with your mother ... your mother wasn't the **IDEAL** Mother we like to preach about ... and you have bad memories of your mother.
- o Maybe you have some guilt feelings about your motherhood ... and you have children with problems ... or marriage problems.
- o Maybe you were never able to have children ... and Mother's Day isn't a joyous occasion for you.
- o Maybe you never had a real mother ... and were raised in a foster home, or by relatives.
- o Maybe you are a single Mom ... and are struggling with being a good mother to your children and you alone carry the burdens of single parenting that married couples never do.

Not every home is like the "Cleavers" ... or the "Brady Bunch" ... or "Father Knows Best" ... or the "Ozzie & Harriet Nelson Family".

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Maybe your home is more like the “Ozzie Osbourne Family” than it is the “Ozzie Nelson Family”!

Some of you have been raised in good Christian homes ... HAVE wonderful parents ... and ARE wonderful parents. I thank God for you ... and you should thank God, too ... AMEN?

TODAY, I want to ENCOURAGE each of you ... especially the mothers. Each of you has been affected by Motherhood in 1 way or another ... Everyone here either: **HAS** a mother ... **HAD** a mother ... **IS** a mother ... is **MARRIED** to a mother ... or **KNOWS** a mother.

Today is your day mom and honestly, you deserve it. I mean, being a mother is one of the most important, most influential, most difficult, and yet is sometimes the most thankless role a person can ever have. So today we say **“Thank you Moms”** for all you do.

Being a mom is not only a challenge but at times it is hard! You’ve got to be a housekeeper, a taxi driver, a cook, an appointment manager, a nurse, a judge, a referee, a teacher, a counselor, a beautician, a friend, a disciplinarian, and a loving ear when you kids need to be heard.

Being a mom is tough. Even though being a mom can be the greatest and most rewarding privilege there is, it’s still tough. So, this morning **God wants to encourage you and God has a Mother’s Day card for you.**
HO & PP

When you feel discouraged. Isaiah 40:28-31; 41:10; Philippians 4:13

Discouragement can come to a mother at any given time.

- When your kids act up and do the same stupid things you’ve told them over and over not to do.
- When you can’t get a break from the kid’s sicknesses or accidents or both.
- When you feel an emotional distance between you and your kids.
- When you feel like your husband isn’t helping you with parenting as much as he should be or there is no husband in the picture at all.

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- When others look down on you because of the way you choose to parent.

Discouragement can be a very real force in a mother's life. But when that discouragement comes and tries to steal your joy, remember that God is with you and will help you with what He's called you to do.

Listen to the encouragement that God gives you in **Isaiah 41:10**.

"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, yes, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

God is here and will help you to be the Mother He's called you to be. ... and then you can say along with the Apostle Paul ... ***"I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."*** - **Philippians 4:13**

When you feel angry. Ephesians 4:26-27

Now you've never gotten angry with your kids, have you? Why our kids are so precious and perfect that there's never a need for anger in our household. "Okay!" Let me be honest - kids can make us angry!

"You used my eyeliner to draw a picture!"

"You did what to the cat?"

"Why did you try and cut your own hair?"

"Son, you know you can't wear the same underwear three days in a row!"

Now, anger is a normal emotion that can be used for good – that's as long as we don't let our anger control us to the point that we cause harm to others. Anger out of control only causes more problems. So, when you feel angry, read God's message to you from **Ephesians 4:26-27**.

"Be angry but do not sin. Do not let the sun go down on your anger. 27 Do not give place to the devil."

Anger out of control can allow Satan to drive a wedge in your family's relationships. Out of control anger can create emotional scars that take a lot to heal. Mom's, anger is normal and even expected under certain circumstances. But let God help you control it instead of it controlling you. Don't allow Satan to get a foothold or ground in your family.

When you need wisdom. James 1:5

Sometimes it's hard to know what to do as a mom. So many decisions that need to be made. Important, life-changing, and life-altering decisions. Questions about your kid's education, your kid's moral issues, health concerns, paying for college, when they should start dating, (never), and all other kinds of things.

Things as simple as, *“How can I get my kids to go through one day without fighting?”* Or things as crucial as, *“How can I help my kids understand that God loves them even when life is hard.”*

[Visiting with a mother of a child with cancer or another serious illness.]

But moms always remember that God will give you the wisdom you need to be the best Mom you can be. Look at what is said in **James 1:5**. *“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.”*

Now, this doesn't mean you'll always have just the right answer to the questions of life. But it does mean that the Lord will help you know how to handle the situations that He allows to come into your life. When you need wisdom remember these verses.

When you feel alone. John 14:18; Hebrews 13:5; Matthew 28:20

Now that might not seem like a legitimate need to some people. I mean, you've got your kids with you all day. You aren't alone, you've always got someone to talk to. But even though a mom can have her kids around her all day long, there are times when she can still feel alone. A Mom can feel alone when:

- Her husband works so much that he's either mentally gone even physically gone most of the time.
- Her husband is no longer her husband or a father to the kids.
- Her kids are too young to have an adult conversation with her.
- Her kids are the only ones throwing a temper tantrum in a crowded restaurant or at Wal-Mart.

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These are just a few of the things that can cause a mother to feel alone.

So, when those times come remember that you aren't alone.

- In **John 14:18** Jesus said, ***"I will not leave you fatherless. I will come to you."***

- God tells us in **Hebrews 13:5c** - ***"I will never leave you; I will never forsake you."***

- When Jesus left this earth to return to His Heavenly Father, He left this promise for you in **Matthew 28:20c**, ***"...I am with you always, even to the end of the age."***

You are not alone! Because of the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life, you will never, ever, ever be alone. In those times we must remember this truth. God is with us and within us in such a way that we are never alone. Call out to Him in those times and ask Him for reassurance; Ask Him for comfort; Ask to sense His presence. He is with you and always will be.

Isn't that great? I'm so glad that we don't have to walk through life alone. God is with us. So, remember that when you feel lonely.

When you feel tired. Matthew 11:28; Isaiah 40:29-31

Now men let me ask you a question. Have you ever said to your wife something like, "Just why are you so tired?" "I worked all day. What did you do?" You know what happened right? You found yourself on the losing end of an hour-long argument of comparing your job with her life and just who should be tired around here. Mothering is tiring. Just because a woman isn't punching a clock in the factory doesn't mean she shouldn't get tired.

You see, not only is a mother doing lots of manual labor called housework like cleaning, cooking, washing, and then cleaning up again. She's also dealing with emotions and decisions and relationships that all take energy. **Matthew 11:28** – ***"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest."***

So, moms, instead of brewing another pot of coffee or gulping another Monster or Red Bull energy drink, go to the Lord when you need some strength. **Isaiah 40:29-31** reads:

“He gives power to the faint, and to those who have no might He increases strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, 31 but those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint.”

Our God wants to give you the strength to do all that you need to do. So, when your strength is failing, and there's nobody around to give you a break, that is ok, and remember that you can rely on our all-powerful God who will give you the strength to carry on.

And finally, something that most mothers can relate to, you can go to this card for some encouragement:

When you're worried. [Philippians 4:6-7](#); [1 Peter 5:7](#)

I think Mothers tend to worry because they care so much about their kids. They laugh when their kids laugh. They cry when their kids cry. They hurt when their kids fail. They rejoice when the kids triumph. Moms want their kids to have the best and be the best.

But sometimes Moms worry when things don't go as planned. Sometimes Moms worry when they foresee problems and pain coming for their children. Worry comes when things seem like they're out of your control and going badly. [1 Peter 5:7](#) – ***“Cast all your care upon Him, because He cares for you.”***

But ladies, you don't have to be the perfect mom for your kids to turn out okay. You can and will make mistakes. Trying to be the perfect mom isn't a realistic goal. But what you can be is the mom that God's enabled you to be. Stop comparing yourself with your neighbor, with someone you saw on tv, or with someone you read about in a book. Be the mom that God has created you to be, do your best, and leave the results up to Him.

And when worry comes, remember [Philippians 4:6-7](#):

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with gratitude, make your requests known to God. 7 And the peace of

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God, which surpasses all understanding, will protect your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

When you're worried, go to God who will calm your heart and give you peace. Isn't God good? You can go to Him when you feel **discouraged**, when you feel **angry**, when you need **wisdom**, when you feel **alone**, when you feel **tired** and when you feel **worried**.

Keep this Mother's Day card handy and refer to it often. Moms, being a mother is a high calling, and God wants to and will help you as you seek Him to love your children into adulthood. Happy Mother's Day!