

## Lesson: Mother's Day

**Purpose:** Our lesson this week is not connected to the lectionary. Our lesson will focus on portions of Proverbs 31: 10-31, which describe a woman of God (of noble character). We will connect these random verses to ways our mothers are involved in our lives making them very special women in our lives. In turn, we will learn how God asks us to honor her for all that she does.

**Introduction / Hook:** Ask the children to close their eyes and try to picture the person you describe. Say, "Think of a woman in your life that has spent more time helping you than any other person."

Share with the children a picture of your mother, as the person in my life that not only helped me, but guided me to be the woman I am today.

"Today we honor our mother's on a special day, which actually started as a celebration in a church." Share the following points about Mother's Day.

- The modern holiday of **Mother's Day** was first celebrated in 1908, when **Anna Jarvis** held a memorial for her **mother** at St Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia.

- She always traced it back to the moment when, in 1876, she heard her mother recite the following prayer after teaching a Sunday School lesson: "I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mother's day commemorating her for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life." When her mother died in 1905, she vowed to fulfill that dream.
- **President Woodrow Wilson** is usually seen as the "father" of **Mother's Day** — for signing a proclamation on May 9, 1914, declaring the second Sunday of May "a public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country"

I chose verses from Proverbs to read and discuss. These verses tell us about the ideal woman, the Godly women. As I read these verses, I thought about amazing women in my life. I have highlighted a few of the verses on which we will focus.

Now, does your mother carry a purse? Most mothers carry a purse. In fact some carry a great big purse. Let's pretend that this is your mother's purse. You might be surprised at what we might find inside. Let's take a look. (Pull out each item and talk about how it relates to what a Christian mother might teach a child.)

Begin pulling out things from the purse.

- Pull out a ruby earring. I highlighted the second part of verse 10 that mentions rubies, let's read this together.  
Wow, mom's are worth a lot! I learned that rubies are an exceptionally durable red stone. Fine-quality **rubies** are some of the most expensive gemstones, with record **prices** over \$1,000,000 per carat. I imagine your mother is worth a great deal!
- Now there is a pair of **work gloves** in this purse. Verse 13 tells us that a mother works with eager hands. Let's read verse 17. Yes, mothers do work a lot! I know my mother was always busy! They must also be strong for they take care of so many people. Have you ever seen your mother helping others out?
- This is interesting! I found an **apple** in this purse. Verses 14 and 15 both talk about how a mother will make certain we are well fed. In fact, I know I even will still have food with me to feed hungry grandchildren.
- Who would have thought I would find a **flashlight** in this purse? Verse 15 tells us that a noble woman will get up while it is still night and verse 18 mentions that the lamp stays on all night. Oh, yes when we are sick during the night, mom will be there. Often mother's will get up early in the morning to be ready for us before we get up.

- Here is a **wrapped gift**. I love verse 20. It tells us how a mother will open her arms to help whenever she is needed. I am certain you can think of a time your mother helped someone beyond the family.
- Would you read verses 26 and 27 with me? Look I have pulled out a **mirror and a Bible**. There are times that I think mother's have a special mirror, in which they can see things we do when we think they are not looking or have answers to many of our questions. Mother's are amazing for they seem to know everything! The fact that she makes certain you attend Sunday school to learn about God.
- Pull out a **Mother's Day card**. For the last verses on which to focus are the beginnings of 28 and 31. This is where we come in! God calls us to honor our mother. God asks us to listen to our mothers, follow their guidance and let them know how much they are loved!

I hope you will take time today and every day to let your mother know she is appreciated and loved. The greatest gift you can give your mother today is you!

Let us pray,

Dear God, we thank you for Godly mothers. We are thankful that they are always prepared to help their children and to lead them in the right path. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Make a card for your mother. (You may create one of your own or follow the steps for a card found at this site.)

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/18084835991860285/>

Proverbs 31:10-31 New International Version (NIV)

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10 [a]A wife of noble character who can find?

She is worth far more than rubies.

11 Her husband has full confidence in her  
and lacks nothing of value.

12 She brings him good, not harm,  
all the days of her life.

13 She selects wool and flax  
and works with eager hands.

14 She is like the merchant ships,  
bringing her food from afar.

15 She gets up while it is still night;  
she provides food for her family  
and portions for her female servants.

16 She considers a field and buys it;  
out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

17 She sets about her work vigorously;  
her arms are strong for her tasks.

18 She sees that her trading is profitable,

and her lamp does not go out at night.

19 In her hand she holds the distaff  
and grasps the spindle with her fingers.

20 She opens her arms to the poor  
and extends her hands to the needy.

21 When it snows, she has no fear for her household;  
for all of them are clothed in scarlet.

22 She makes coverings for her bed;  
she is clothed in fine linen and purple.

23 Her husband is respected at the city gate,  
where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.

24 She makes linen garments and sells them,  
and supplies the merchants with sashes.

25 She is clothed with strength and dignity;  
she can laugh at the days to come.

26 She speaks with wisdom,  
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

27 She watches over the affairs of her household  
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children arise and call her blessed;  
her husband also, and he praises her:

29 "Many women do noble things,  
but you surpass them all."

30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;  
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

31 Honor her for all that her hands have done,  
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.