

**Church at Home Pack – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**  
**Join us online for our 10:30am service on Sunday**  
<https://ccwsm.org.uk/service-type/sunday-service-online/>

If you like, join in with the discussion on Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

**In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to you or the different people in your family or life group than others. We're not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!) Choose the ones which best suit you.**

*Our verse for the year is the same as last year's verse as we think about the difference being with Jesus makes to our lives*

**When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.**

*Acts 4:13*

## **GATHER TOGETHER**

### ***A prayer to start –***

Thank you, God, that you are as tender as a mother.

You give us life, and care for us like a mother who will not forsake her children.

We pray for mothers today, putting them into your hands

And we ask your blessing on all our relationships in our homes, our churches and our communities.

**Amen**

### ***Action reminder –***

From the top of my head

*(Touch head)*

to the tips of my toes;

*(Touch toes)*

from the lobes of my ears

*(Touch ear lobes)*

to the end of my nose;

*(Touch nose)*

from my back, to my front

*(Turn round)*

to my wiggly fingers,

*(stretch out arms and wiggle fingers)*

God loves me!

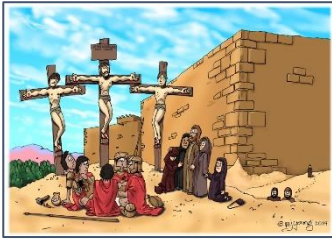
*(jump up and down)*

## READ TOGETHER

*John 19: 25-27*



### International Children's Bible (ICB)



<sup>25</sup> Jesus' mother stood near his cross. His mother's sister was also standing there, with Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> Jesus saw his mother. He also saw the follower he loved standing there. He said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to the follower, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this follower took her to live in his home.

### New International Version (NIV)

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," <sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

## WATCH TOGETHER



Just for fun:

***An open letter to Moms from Kid President! -***

<https://youtu.be/pQ4Rnba85o8>

## TALK TOGETHER

- What does it mean to be 'mothered'?
- Who are the women in your life who have cared for you and helped you to grow as a person and a friend of Jesus?



## STUDY TOGETHER

In this week's study we're going to think about the relationship between Mary and Jesus. If you're using this in your life group, we would suggest **not reading the sermon passage** until you come to it in the questions below.

- *Read Luke 2:8-20*

Mary already knew that the child she had given birth to was unique but this event with the shepherds seems to have brought it home to her in a much bigger way.

- What do you think her thoughts might have been (v19)?

➤ *Read Luke 2:25-35*

- What did Mary and Joseph learn about Jesus from this encounter with Simeon in the temple (v29-35)?

➤ *Read Luke 2:41-52*

In this passage we see the two sides of who Jesus was: a human boy with parents who worried about him and the Son of God going about his heavenly Father's business.

- Put yourself in Mary's shoes. How do you think she felt about what happened and what Jesus said?

Jesus is now only 12 years old but already Mary has built a picture of who Jesus is and what he has come to do.

➤ *Read John 2:1-11*

Jewish weddings celebrations were lavish affairs which often went on for a week and were taken very seriously. When things went wrong there could be legal consequences. So, Jesus producing more wine wasn't just enabling the party to continue. He was also saving the bridegroom from a huge embarrassment and public shame.

- Why do you think Mary tries to involve Jesus in the situation?
- In English, the way Jesus talks to his mother seems a bit rude. In Greek there is no disrespect intended but it is a bit formal. What do you think Jesus is trying to say here (v.4)?

➤ *Read John 19:25-27*

Even now, as Jesus is dying and as his death is bringing salvation to the world, he thinks of his mother and we see this very personal picture of care and compassion.

- Think back through all that Mary has seen and learnt about her son. Do you think she understood what was happening?



Acts 1:14 shows that after Jesus' resurrection and ascension, Mary continued to meet with the other believers to pray. She holds a unique position of being the mother of Jesus but also needing to trust in him as the Son of God and the Saviour of the world.

- What can we learn from the relationship between Jesus and Mary to help us in our own relationship with Jesus or in our relationship with our mother or children?

## MAKE TOGETHER

### *Thank you cards for special women*

Using whatever you have available, make a card to send to a special Mother, Grandmother, Aunt, Godmother or woman who cares for you and is there for you. You can do this on any day...not just Mothering Sunday!



### *Here are some ideas:*



You can use scraps of paper, wrapping paper, magazines, newspaper, buttons, cupcake cases (to make flowers!), paint, pens, crayons, glue, stickers – and your imagination

The most important thing is that you are recognising a person who is special to you and telling them how much you value them. Someone who has shown you, love and care. Maybe someone who has shown you what a difference knowing Jesus makes!



## PLAY TOGETHER



### *'Every day Mum...' Memory game*

Take it in turns to say 'Every day Mum'..... and think of one thing that your Mum or the person who looks after you does every day. When it's the next person's turn, they have to say the thing that the last person said and add one more thing to it, so as the game goes on the list gets longer and longer to remember!

So you might say, 'Every day Mum.... goes to work'. Then the next person might say, 'Every day Mum.... goes to work and helps me with my schoolwork'. Then the next person might say, 'Every day Mum goes to work, helps me with my schoolwork and loves me!' And so on and so on.... How many things will you be able to remember?

## SING TOGETHER

*We are family* – NewSpring Worship: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhVJaoHjYcQ>

*One family* – Ablaze Music:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b62Da8KQGzk&list=RDb62Da8KQGzk&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b62Da8KQGzk&list=RDb62Da8KQGzk&start_radio=1)

*A Mother's prayer* – Kristyn & Keith Getty, featuring Moya Brennan:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoy74orJu10>

*Beneath the cross* – Keith & Kristyn Getty: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drmyCBYjrE>

## REFLECT TOGETHER

### Mothers Loss...



Mothering Sunday can be a time of joy as we celebrate those who love and care for us. But, for many, it's a difficult day marked by longing, grief and loss.

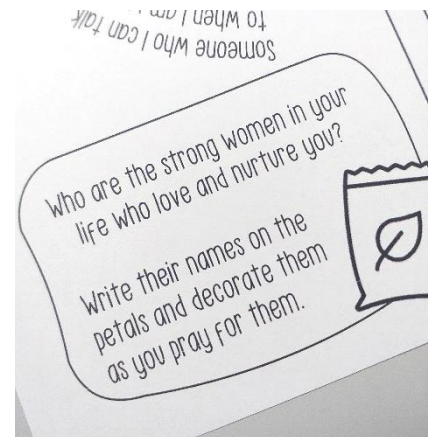
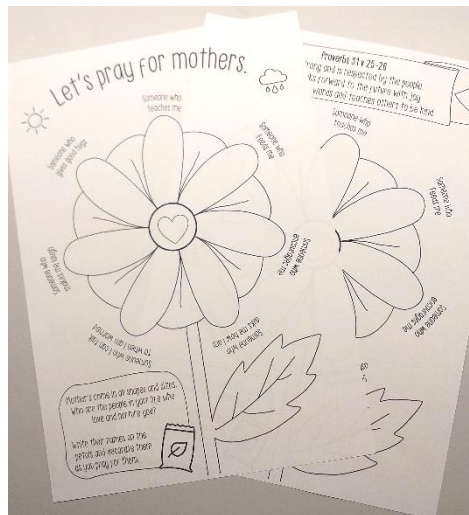
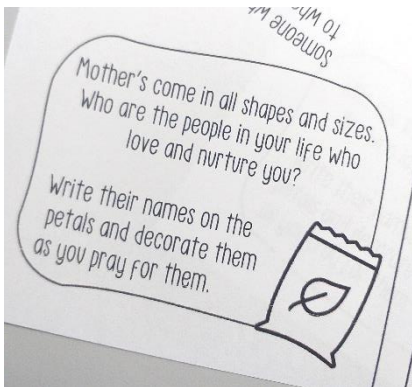
If today is difficult for you. Take some time and if you are able, light a candle. Reflect on these words from Psalm 34: 18

***The Lord is close to the broken hearted.  
He saves those whose spirits have been crushed.***

Jesus experienced pain, sadness, loss and grief. He knows. He is close. He will comfort you.

## PRAY TOGETHER

### Flower Prayers



If you are able, you can print out these flowers to use in prayer:

**Pray for Mothers -** [https://af51dd98-adab-4c43-ba03-c87e019551a5.filesusr.com/ugd/ebdd71\\_136b03a69689419a9f2966cd28f6b255.pdf](https://af51dd98-adab-4c43-ba03-c87e019551a5.filesusr.com/ugd/ebdd71_136b03a69689419a9f2966cd28f6b255.pdf)

**Pray for strong women who love and nurture –**  
[https://af51dd98-adab-4c43-ba03-c87e019551a5.filesusr.com/ugd/ebdd71\\_4274ade7dc294c0580ed505ca0f27577.pdf](https://af51dd98-adab-4c43-ba03-c87e019551a5.filesusr.com/ugd/ebdd71_4274ade7dc294c0580ed505ca0f27577.pdf)

**Or**

Draw a flower outline. In the petals write the names of mothers or women who support, love and nurture you. Women who you can turn to in difficult times. Women who have shown you what it is to have faith in Jesus.



### **Pray a Blessing**

If you live with your Mum or are able to see her or another significant person in your life, take some time to sit and pray a Blessing on them. Put your hand on theirs if you can. If you can't see them or be with them, then maybe you can phone them, video call them or send them a Blessing message.

***Dear God, please bless my mum (or their name) and be with her/him in all that she/he does.***

***Thank you for her/him.***

***Amen.***

### **DO TOGETHER**

Today we've thought about women who love and support us. What can you do today to show that you love and support them too?



If it's someone you live with, perhaps you could make them a cup of tea or do some cleaning round the house so they don't have to.

If you don't live with them, maybe send them a card to tell them how much they mean to you, or send them a thank you gift. You could even cook them a meal or make a cake and drop it round to their doorstep.



[family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk](mailto:family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk)

*Action Reminder taken from*

*© ROOTS for Churches Ltd (www.rootsontheweb.com) 2002-2020 Reproduced with permission*

*Prayer to start adapted from 'The book of a thousand prayers', ed. Angela Ashwin*