



Date: _____
Series: Mother's Day
Spring Year 1, Lesson 58

Give Your Mom a Hand

Take Home Point: *Bless your mom—give her a hand. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Proverbs 31:10-31

Key Verses: Proverbs 31:27a, 28a, "She keeps a close eye on the conduct of her family... Her children and her husband stand up and bless her."

We will help kids know:

- Moms are a blessing from the Lord, demonstrating his love and nurture.
- Children need to show their gratitude to their mothers.
- Children need to pray for their mothers.




We will help kids feel:

- Aware of what their mothers have done for them.
- Tenderness and honor towards their mothers.

We will help kids do:

- Recall typical things mothers say in their parenting, and learn to appreciate why they say them.
- Identify ways their mothers are a blessing.
- Make coupon books that share why their mothers are a blessing and include a "thank you" to them through actions.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Kids list ways their mothers are a blessing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paper • pencils
Large Group 	4 7	Overview Proverbs 31 is read and groups rewrite a passage of it into today's language, relating it to mothers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paper • pencils
Small Group Application 	4	Kids each make a coupon book that shares how his/her mom is a blessing and also includes an act of kindness the student will do to give his/her mother a hand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • colored construction paper • fun foam, cardstock, etc. for book covers • scissors • hole punch • key ring for each student OR • yarn, ribbon • pencils, pens, markers

Small Group Warm Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

As kids gather: *Listen to memory verses from last week and give coupons for memory verses, remembering to bring your Bible, and bringing a guest*

Supplies: paper and pencils

Since it is Mother's Day today, what do you think our discussion will focus on? That's right, our moms. If you do not have a mom living with you, think about a person in your life that takes the role of a mom, such as a grandma, aunt, or special friend.

All of our mothers are different, but in some ways they are all the same. What are some of the common things mothers say?

Examples:

- "Why? Because, I said so, that's why!"
- "If everyone jumped off a cliff would you do it, too?"
- "I'm going to give you until the count of three."
- "I'm not talking just to hear my own voice."
- "Money doesn't grow on trees."
- "It hurts me more than it hurts you."
- "I'm not running a taxi service."
- "It's all fun and games until someone gets hurt."
- "I've told you three times to...."

What are other statements your mom says?

Let's count some of the ways our mothers are a blessing to us. First we need to understand what a blessing is. A blessing is when something good happens and we know the person behind it is God. God uses mothers to give good things to us.

What are some blessings your mom has given you? I would like you to write these down on this piece of paper as you think of them.

Hand each child a piece of paper and pencil. Collect them before going to large group, and return them during their project in small group application.

One way my mom was a blessing to me was she made good meals. She also bought me clothes and washed them. What are other examples of blessings our moms have given us?

Direct the conversation to conclude that mothers help their children grow spiritually or lead them to the Lord.

If the above conversation ends before it is time for large group, discuss the question that will be presented in small group application: **What are things we could do to bless our mothers?** Have them write this list on the back of their paper. Then say:

****Bless your mom—give her a hand. All of the things listed on your piece of paper will be used later to make a special present for your mom.***

Give kids pencils and paper to take to large group. Also have them bring their Bibles.

Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Proverbs 31 is read and groups rewrite a passage of it into today's language, relating it to mothers.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion, but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

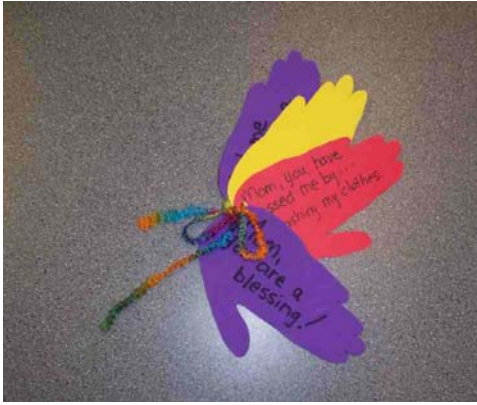
Observation Questions: What happened?
/Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Covered in large group.

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Application Activity:

Supplies: colored construction paper; fun foam, cardstock, etc. for book covers; scissors; hole punch; key ring for each student or yarn, ribbon; pencils, pens, markers



Say:

A blessing is receiving a good thing from God. Mothers are blessings to us. But, we can be a blessing back to them by showing our thankfulness.

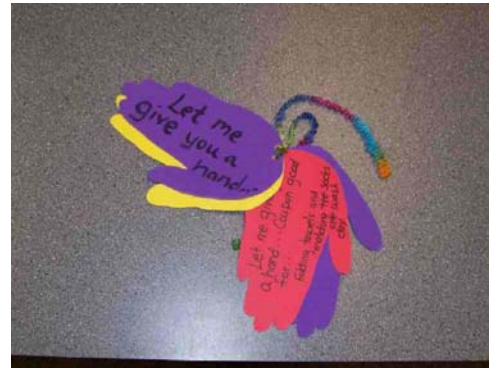
Today we will make a Mother's Day gift for our moms. It will be a booklet of your handprints. You will trace your hand with fingers closed several times on different colored construction paper. Then, cut these out and on one side write, "Mom

you have blessed me by..." Use the list from small group warm-up to complete the sentence.

When kids have done this step, continue with:

Next, turn the hand over and write, "Let me give you a hand..." or "Coupon good for..." Complete the sentence with a way you can bless your mom. Some examples of this are:

- 1) Wash and dry dishes
- 2) Set the table
- 3) Hugs and kisses
- 4) Make supper
- 5) Rake the leaves or mow the lawn
- 6) Clean my room
- 7) Do the laundry
- 8) One hour of quiet time
- 9) One free car wash
- 10) I will pray for you about _____
for one week



Make several hands to put together in a coupon type book.

To make the cover for the books, use whatever medium available such as foam, construction paper, cardstock. Again, have kids trace their closed hand two times and cut them out. On the front cover have kids write, "Mom you are a blessing..." and on the back cover write, "Let me give you a hand."

When kids are done with the pages and cover, have them punch a hole in the wrist part of each hand and attach them together with yarn, string or key ring. *This could also be stapled together.*

Then conclude with:

The key verse for today from Proverbs 31:27a, 28a says, "She keeps a close eye on the conduct of her family... Her children and her

husband stand up and bless her.” Because our moms are such blessings to us we want to *bless our moms and give them a hand.

Closing Prayer:

Have students spend time praying for their mothers (or other mother-figure), thanking God for them and asking God to help kids be a blessing back to their mothers.

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Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

A Woman to be Praised

Proverbs 31

Supplies: Bible, paper, pencils

Reading Proverbs 31

Today we will **bless our moms, and give them a hand.* We will read from the book of Proverbs about a woman to be honored or blessed. Proverbs is in the Old Testament and is filled with wise sayings. It is very poetic and Solomon wrote much of it.

The last chapter, chapter 31, talks about a woman to be praised. Today we praise our mothers, and thank God for them. I will need a volunteer to help me as I read this passage of scripture. This person will lead you in clapping at the end of each sentence.

Select a volunteer. Show the volunteer the signal for the group to know when to clap. Have him/her begin with his/her hands waist high, one palm up and one palm facing the floor. Then have him/her bring one hand up to chest level and one hand down to hip level. This will be the starting signal. When the volunteer brings his/her hands together in the middle, everyone will clap.

Our volunteer will lead you in clapping at the end of every verse as we read “A Woman to be Praised—A Proverbs 31 Woman.” You can also follow along in your Bibles.

Read Proverbs 31:10-31 allowing the volunteer to lead in clapping.

Proverbs 31 in Today’s Language

It would be fun to put this into today’s language. Shepherds, I will assign you verses for your small group to work on. Divide those verses among the children in your group.

For example, verse 15 says, “She wakes up while it is still dark and gives food to her family...” This might be rewritten to say, “She gets up before six and makes us all oatmeal.”

Assign the verses according to how many groups there are. If you have a small number of children, choose only a few of the verses to use. This scripture can be divided as follows:

- 1) Verses 10-12
- 2) Verses 13-15
- 3) Verses 16-18
- 4) Verses 19-22
- 5) Verses 23-25
- 6) Verses 26-29
- 7) Verses 30-31

Allow kids five minutes to rewrite their verses. At the end of five minutes, have groups choose one person from their group to read their translation for everyone.

The Gift of Mothers is from God

Perhaps the greatest gift our moms could give is to share with us the love of God and the message of Jesus Christ. How many of you learned about Jesus through your mother's words and/or leading?

Have children raise their hands.

Ephesians 1:3 says, *"Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Through Christ, God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing that heaven has to offer."* One of the greatest blessings that heaven has to offer is a mother who cares for us, and especially, who spiritually cares for us.

There is an old song that many of you may have sung when you were little. It goes "Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so." But, for many of us, we would sing it like this, "Jesus loves me this I know for my mother told me so." It was our mothers who were the first to tell us about Jesus.

Let's give thanks for our mothers today.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you gave us spiritual blessings. There is no greater blessing than to know Jesus, who gave his life for us, and, through your Holy Spirit, lives in us. Today we thank you especially for mothers—for all that they do for us, how they take care of us, encourage us, give us guidance and discipline. Bless our mothers today, and help show us how we can give them a hand to thank them for their love and ministry to us. In Jesus' name, Amen.