



Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Year 3, Lesson 51 (Spring)

# Give Mom a Hand

**Primary Scripture:** Proverbs 31:19-20, 28; Ephesians 6:1-3

**Key Verse:** Proverbs 31:28, “Her children and her husband stand up and bless her.”

## **How does this address a need in our kids' lives?**

Kids need to honor and show their mothers appreciation on Mother’s Day. Mothers have a touch that soothes and demonstrates love to her child. She offers words of encouragement. A mother has a healing touch that mends scrapes and cuts to broken hearts. A mom has hands of service that provide for her children. Likewise, children can use their hands to honor and help their mothers. Their hands of appreciation can give a hug, a “high five” or hand clap. And certainly children can put their hands together to pray for their mothers.

## **How does Jesus fill this need?**

**Jesus for us:** Jesus spread his hands in service to us as he gave his life for us on the cross. Through the power of this gift, we can offer our hands of service to others.

**Jesus in us:** Jesus lives in us so that we can have the power of his love that we can then express to others, especially our mothers.

**Jesus through us:** Jesus has the message of appreciation and thankfulness to be delivered to moms on Mother’s Day. Jesus can use children to deliver that message.

## Stamp of Excellence:

*Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.*



## Worship

### Invocation:

*Let kids bring forward the worship symbols, such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

### Attention Grabber:

*Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.*

*Supplies: Mystery Box—a wrapped box with a removable top with the following items inside: math book, candy and a cross*

**Hey, kids, I am so glad that you could be here with us today. Wow, check this box out. I wonder what is inside it? Let's see.**

Get the kids excited through applause in response to items pulled from the Mystery Box.

Pull math book out.

**A math book? Let me hear you clap if you want to do some math problems this morning. Ah, not too many of you. Let's see what else we have in here.**

Pull out candy.

**Yum, candy! If you like candy, let me hear you clap. Sounds like a lot of you like candy. I do, too.**

Pull out the cross.

**A cross. What do you think this represents? Jesus, that's who. Let me hear you clap really loud if you love Jesus! Can you make that louder? Go, Jesus!**

*Option:* Get the kids focused and excited by doing a rhythm beat. For example, to the tune of Queen's *We Will Rock You*, have the kids do the hand clap and stomp while shouting "We will, we will, love Je-sus (break down to two syllables)."

**That's right, the Bible says that he is worthy of praise and today we are giving a roaring applause of praise to Jesus who has given his life for us. That's what worship is all about—showing him our appreciation. In Kids Church, the focus of our worship this morning is going to be thanking God for our moms. Let's worship God.**

## **Songs of Worship:**

*Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!*

## **The Power of the Cross:**

*Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.*

*Supplies: two signs: one reads "Honor" and the other reads "Dishonor" (Signs can be made or use Appendix 1 and 2.)*

Call two kids up to volunteer and have each stand on opposite sides of the stage holding one of the signs.

Present three common requests that mothers ask of their children (*i.e. clean up your room*). Walk over to the child holding the honor sign and give a typical response that shows respect. Then walk over to the child holding the dishonor sign and give a response that is not honorable. Continue until all three scenarios have been given. Have fun by exaggerating the ways kids respond, *i.e.*, rolling eyes, stomping feet, sighing, etc.

**The Bible says in Proverbs 31:28, "Her children and her husband stand up and bless her."**

**That means they will honor their mother. What does it mean to honor or dishonor your mom? I need two volunteers. Let's see what you look and sound like when you are asked to do something by your mom.**

Examples are shown in the table graph.

Request	Honor	Dishonor
"Kenneth, clean your room right now!"	"You bet, Mom, I will start right now."	(Pretend to play a video game.) "Okay, Mom." (Continue to play game and then act surprised and mad.) "Mom, why did you turn it off? I was on level 20 and had a high score. What? You are going to take away my game privileges? That's just not fair! Fine! I'll go clean my room."
"Maria, it's time to go to bed."	"Oops, I didn't realize what time it was. Thanks for reminding me. Goodnight, Mom, I love you."	(Stamp your foot and talk in a whiney, defiant way.) "But, Mom! Luis got to stay up late last night and I didn't. You are always so mean to me!"
Mom isn't anywhere around and you find a plate of cookies.	(Pretend to smell a plate of cookies) "Mmm, cookies. I can't wait until snack time!"	(Pretend to look around before taking a cookie and eating it quickly.) "I don't think anyone will miss this cookie."

We want to have God's power in our lives so that we can better honor our mothers and do what we need to. We need to admit to God times when we fail so that he can change us. When we admit our failures to him, does God forgive us? Yes! He honors us by giving us his Son who paid the price for our sins. Let's pray.

Dear God, thank you for giving us your Son, Jesus. Thank you for honoring us. In Jesus' name, we ask for your forgiveness in any ways we have dishonored our mothers. We also pray that you will show us better ways to honor them. We know by honoring them we will also honor you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## Song of Response:

*Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.*

## **Offering:**

**Today we will learn that our hands can do many wonderful things. Offerings are one way we can honor God. Whether you have an offering to give today or not, I would like to invite all of you to come up. As you do, place your hands on the offering plate and imagine offering not just your money but also your hands to be used by God to do his will in your life. This will not only honor God, but will be pleasing to him, as well.**



# The Word

## Learning Game:

*Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.*

### **The Human Pretzel Game**

Divide kids who want to participate into groups of eight to ten children and ask each group to stand in a circle face-to-face. Each person then reaches across the circle and grabs someone's hand (like shaking hands), and again reaches across the circle and grabs someone else's hand. The result is a grand tangle of hands and arms. A volunteer (can be a child or adult) then tries to untangle the group while everyone is still holding hands. The key is to see if you can "unlock" the pretzel without anyone letting go of another's hand.

**Today's game is like life—it can be messy and all tangled up at times. So we need each other to hold onto and guide us while we are getting through the problem.**

**Moms can especially be helpful in helping and guiding us.**

## Bible Reading:

*Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.*

Read Proverbs 31:19-20; 28 and Ephesians 6:1-3

**Today we will bless and honor our moms for ways that they serve us. It says in Proverbs 31:19-20, "She puts her hands on the distaff, and her fingers hold a spindle. She opens her hands to oppressed people and stretches them out to needy people."**

**As we continue in Proverbs 31, in verse 28 it says, "Her children and her husband stand up and bless her."**

What God says to us in this passage is that mothers take care of the needs of their families and those in need around her. Because of her loving work, we honor her.

**Ephesians 6:1-3 says, “Children, obey your parents because you are Christians. This is the right thing to do. ‘Honor your father and mother that everything may go well for you and you may have a long life on earth.’”**

The teaching from Proverbs tells of the ways moms serve their families. When moms do all these things for their families, what they are really doing is modeling Jesus’ love as they gladly serve. When you show honor and respect to your mom, just as the Ephesians passage says to do, you, too, are modeling Jesus’ love. This relationship is like a mirror that continually reflects the love of Jesus through all of us.

## **Application:**

### Part One

*Supplies: rubber dish gloves, fuzzy winter gloves, garden gloves and puppet stage or dark curtain*

#### **These Gloves Were Made for Talkin’**

*The gloves will be used like puppets for a first person narrative. Either the presenter or the glove wearer, based on the volunteer’s talent and/or willingness to speak, can read the monologue. Try to synchronize the monologue with the glove’s pretend mouth movements. One hand can mouth the words as if a puppet and the other hand can do gestures. If this is too difficult, use both hands to do gestures.*

*The dish gloves represent how a mom carries out her ministry of service to her family and community. The winter gloves represent the love and warmth that a mom gives her family through hugs, encouragement and care. The garden gloves represent her spiritual role in the family to sow the seeds of faith and a Christian role model.*

**Today, kids, we have three guests with us. First is Diana, the dish glove. What have you been up to?**

The Rubber Glove:

***“Let me tell you about the day I had yesterday. Whew, I was working up a sweat. Miguel’s mom had me cleaning and sanitizing everything in the house. We scrubbed and wiped down I think every dish and surface in the house. You see, Miguel threw up at school and his mom was afraid that his sister would also get sick, so we got to work to keep everyone else healthy. And if I can tell you a secret, cleaning up the bathroom after him wasn’t a pretty sight!”***

Presenter:

**Wow, Diana, sounds like you have been busy. What about you Wendy, the winter glove, how have you been?**

The Winter Glove:

***“The other day when we had that horrible thunderstorm, Elsa was so frightened. Her mom and I held her hand tightly as we walked through the parking lot. When we got into the minivan, Elsa broke down crying because she was so scared of the thunder and lightning. Her mom gave lots of hugs and reassured her. The tears that Elsa’s mom wiped from her face can still be seen right here.”***  
(Point to a place on the glove.)

Presenter:

**Thanks for sharing your story, Wendy. Last on today’s panel is Gloria, the gardening glove. Tell us what you have been up to lately.**

The Gardening Glove:

***“I have really been down in the dirt. You wouldn’t believe it. Unlike Diana, though, human hands can’t clean the dirt I am talking about. The kind of dirt Kenneth’s mom and I work with is sin. And not just her sin, she is very aware of all the sin in her family. Every morning she puts me on and kneels and prays for her family and those she cares about. Her prayers are like seeds in need of Jesus’ living water and the Son who pours his light out to grow a beautiful garden of faith, hope, healing and forgiveness. Unlike the flowers that are blooming right now, the garden we work in has the sweet fragrance of the Lord and beauty unlike any other flower.”***

Presenter:

**Thanks, Gloria, for letting us know about the wonderful work that you are doing and to our entire panel for sharing what you do. Kids, let's give these hard working gloves a big hand (*pun intended*) to let them know how much we appreciate them.**

## Part Two

*Supplies: print and copy Appendix 3 (one per child), pencils and art supplies (markers, crayons, construction paper, glue, etc.)*

### Special Gift for Mom

**Today we have been talking about ways that we can honor our mothers. Since it is Mother's Day, I thought we could make a real special gift for your moms. It is actually a gift that God says we should give every day. Do you remember the Ephesians passage I read earlier? It says,**

***"Children, obey your parents because you are Christians. This is the right thing to do. 'Honor your father and mother that everything may go well for you, and you may have a long life on earth.' This is an important commandment with a promise."***

**It is easy to say that we need to obey our parents, but it is hard to actually do it. You will make this hand art (show example) to give to your mom today.**

**On one hand you will list five specific prayers that you can say for your mom. Some examples are that she has a good day, patience with you and your brothers and sisters, that she stays healthy or maybe she is sick and you want her to feel better.**

**For some of you, it is sad because your mom might not be a believer in Jesus. If so, you can pray that Jesus' love will shine through you and lead her to Christ and salvation. God will hear your prayers and knows just how to answer them perfectly.**

**On the other hand, (show example) you will list five ways that you can actively show appreciation to your mom. Some examples are saying thank you, giving her a hug, telling her she is the best mom ever, cleaning up after yourself without being asked, not sassing her when she asks you to do something, not complaining about food she prepares for you, and being happy with the family God specifically chose for you instead of comparing what another family has or gets to do.**

**These are just ideas to get you started. Once you complete both lists and if there is still time left, then you can decorate your project.**

**After church today, you can show this to your mom, but don't leave it with her. Instead, put this in your room, being sure to get permission if you are going to tape it up. Then you can look at it every morning and evening as a reminder of the prayers and appreciation that you decided to do for your mom. I think that this gift will be one of the best gifts your mom ever receives.**



## **Witness and Tell:**

*Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.*

Have kids share what they wrote on their Hands of Appreciation and Prayers.

## **Prayer:**

*Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.*

**Options:** (select one from the options below)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Line Option:** Kids line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone to speak their prayers briefly.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Chair:** Adults or children with special prayer needs are invited to sit in the chairs. Kids gather around them, lay hands on their shoulders or knees and take turns praying.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and turns it toward kids who are raising their hands to pray. The kids speak their prayers into the microphone.

**Lord's Prayer:** Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire prayer along with you.

## **Blessing:**

*Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.*

## **Song of Sending:**

*Choose one song. Briefly introduce song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.*

# Supplies:

**Safety and Security:** Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

## *Attention Grabber*

- Mystery Box—a wrapped box with a removable top
- math book
- candy
- a cross

## *Power of the Cross*

- two signs: one reads “Honor,” the other “Dishonor”

## *Application—Part One*

- rubber dish gloves
- fuzzy winter gloves
- garden gloves
- puppet stage or dark curtain

## *Application—Part Two*

- print and copy Appendix 3 (one per child)
- pencils
- assorted art supplies—markers, crayons, construction paper, glue, etc.





Dishonor

***A noble woman will have children  
who will stand up and bless her.***

*~Proverbs 31:28*



***Hands of Service***

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



***Hands of Appreciation***

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_