

⁸ Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching,
⁹ for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck. and
appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

Proverbs 1:8-9 ESV



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Worship Service & Communion

Sunday, 5 May, 2024

Worship Services In-person & Online 10:40am & 6pm

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/bereanbarbados/live>

 <https://www.facebook.com/BereanBarbados/live>

Sunday School In-person 9:30 - 10:15am

 **ZOOM** links provided

Midweek In-person & Online Service (Wednesday)

Noon & 7:30 pm | ZOOM links provided

Youth Service in-person 7pm (Friday)

 **WhatsApp** 845 - 5752 or Tel: 426 - 4707

email: info@bereanbarbados.org

www.bereanbarbados.org



8 of 10 Things You Should Know about Motherhood

1. Motherhood is evidence of God's mercy.

The Bible teaches that God made mankind to be his image bearers. He gave Adam and Eve the royal task of filling the earth with more image bearers of the one, true King.

When our first parents disobeyed God in the garden of Eden, all of their descendants fell into sin along with them. Because of our sin, we all deserve God's just wrath. Life, therefore, is an undeserved gift from God, never to be presumed or rejected. Motherhood is evidence that God is patient toward us, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

2. Motherhood is a gift even when your feelings disagree.

Even though we believe what the Bible says about life being an undeserved gift, we often treat the presence of life as the gift we didn't ask for. The dirty dishes in the sink or the laundry in the basket—evidence of God's provision for hungry mouths and naked bodies—become a burden. A baby's cries in the night or a child's exuberant "outside voice"—evidence of God's grace to sustain life in this sin-sick world—become an annoyance. Our fickle feelings about the gift of motherhood must submit to God's truth.

3. "Mother" is a verb.

Whether we have zero biological children or twelve, our opportunities to nurture others and "mother" others in the faith are overwhelming.

Adoptive mothers mother. Fostering mothers mother. Biological mothers mother. Disciple-making women mother. The nurturing work of motherhood is not constrained to biological birth alone.

4. Motherhood is more than you can handle.

You've probably heard the phrase, "God won't give you more than you can handle." Mothers know that this isn't true; raising children to the glory of God is always more than we can handle. We teach our children to sing, "We are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me," and we live out those truths. Our sufficiency comes from Christ, through his gospel, to the praise of his glorious grace.

A mother's prayerful reliance on Christ shows the world that he is the one who is doing the work, so he gets the glory (not us).

5. Motherhood is not a loss.

If our mothering work is joyful work unto the Lord Jesus, can we say it is a loss in the sense that we are losing something that is of better value to us? Indeed,

mothers do lose things—autonomy, physical strength, sleep, money, time—but do we really want those things back when Christ gives us his sufficiency in their place?

With Christ's joy as our strength, we can rejoice that the thousand deaths to self that we die each day are our servants—midwives that are bringing us gain, an eternal weight of glory. We mothers think we are the ones who are serving, but we are actually the ones who are being served as God uses motherhood to make us more like his Son.

6. Motherhood gives glory to Jesus that echoes in eternity.

Around the clock, while we are driving to work, crafting a report, feeling a baby kick us from the inside out, sleeping peacefully, or salting the ice on our front porch, the throne room in heaven is reverberating with unceasing praise for the Lamb who was slain. Our mothering work done unto Jesus is part and parcel of the new creation that is coming.

When a mom's calendar is full of things to do, her heart is full of worries, and her hands are full, she needs to remember that her work done unto Jesus is part and parcel of the kingdom that is breaking into this old age. All the earth will be filled with his glory.

7. Motherhood is missional.

God's design for women to nurture life is in line with the Great Commission. The obligation of God's people is not merely to fill the earth with babies, but to multiply faithful image bearers through procreation and discipleship—to make disciples of the nations.

God's message of peace through Christ rings in our ears and sets our hearts ablaze. In grace-empowered love, we live on mission, imploring our children and our neighbors to repent of their sin and worship the Lamb who was slain for them.

8. Motherhood flies in the face of fear.

There are a lot of things to be scared about in the world today. It's enough to make a woman never want to be a mom in the first place, and for a mom want to lock herself and her kids inside the house and never come out again. Regardless of what the news headlines say, there is one piece of news that changed every headline for all eternity: He Is Risen!

Motherhood is not about sheltering our children; motherhood is about pointing children to Christ, their shelter in the storm. Jesus died and was raised, and has freed us from the bondage of sin and guaranteed our resurrection. That means that we are free to fearlessly follow him. Moms can follow Jesus wherever he leads, doing what he does: nurturing life in the face of death.

Gloria Furman (MACE, Dallas Theological Seminary) lives in the Middle East where her husband, Dave, serves as the pastor of Redeemer Church of Dubai. She is the author of many books, including *Labor with Hope*; *Treasuring Christ When Your Hands Are Full*; and *Glimpses of Grace*.

<https://www.crossway.org/articles/10-things-you-should-know-about-motherhood/>

Order of Service

COMMUNION SUNDAY

May 5, 2024 at 10:40am

THEME: "Share The Word Make Disciples"

1. Call to Worship – Pastor Paul Garnes
2. Announcements – Secretary Sis. Alicia Harewood
3. Prayer of Adoration and Invocation– Bro Elon Richards
4. **Hymn #854 – Joy Unspeakable**
5. **Hymn #375 – Since Jesus Came into My Heart**
6. Prayer of Confession and Assurance – Deacon Jamar Watts
7. Scripture Reading
 - i. Genesis 31 – Tyrone Lowe
 - ii. Mark 3 – Esther Lord-Graham
8. **Hymn #364 – Sunshine in my Soul**
9. Pastoral and Intercessory Prayer – Pastor Paul
10. **Hymn #352 – My Hope is in The Lord**
11. Prayer of Thanksgiving and Offertory– Bro Sean Hunte
12. Offertory
13. Special music – The Berean Choir
14. **Hymn #876 – Till the Storm Passes By**
15. Sermon – Pastor Paul Garnes
16. **Communion Hymn – Behold the Lamb**
17. Benediction

ITEMS FOR PRAYER

- For mothers as they care, nurture and sacrifice for their children.
- For our children and families.
- For guidance as we build God's Church.
- Pray for the ministry and wellbeing of our Pastor and family.
- For healing for our sick members.
- For grace for our shut-in members.
- As we share the Word and make disciples.
- For the Berean Church DR Congo.
- For the friends of Berean – The Gilmours, Haecks, Hulls, Moores, Montagues, Porchers, Rogers, Rudders and Taylors.
- For our unemployed members to find meaningful employment.
- For the peace of Jerusalem.

May Birthdays

1 – Elon Richards
3 – Rachel Gibbs
5 – Joel Ellis
7 – Michael Aimey
7 – Tamar Parris

8 – Julia Licorish
10 – Alfred Drayton
– Angela Ward
13 – Pamela Kellman

16 – Rachel Williams
19 – Harold Codrington
23 – Jennifer Thompson
28 – Heather Payne