

Resources on the Sunday Readings – Mothering Sunday

Picture Reflection (p1), Bible Reading & Study Questions (p2)

See separate families' sheet.

Picture Reflection



MOTHERING SUNDAY - Colossians 3:12-17

In his letter to the Colossians Paul speaks of the qualities of compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience and forgiveness and how we should strive for those qualities in our relationships with others....

Mothering Sunday highlights these qualities in those who 'mother' us now or have 'mothered' us in the past....

- Spend a few minutes with this picture...who might be mothering whom?
- 'Mothering' is not limited to parental duties...give thanks and pray for all who 'mother' others...
- How does God show 'mothering' in your life? Offer a prayer of thanks for those gifts from God...
- What more can each of us do to display the qualities of 'mothering' in our families, in our church community and in the wider community?

Bible Study Questions.

John 19:25b-27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Colossians 3:12-17

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

1. At the time of the crucifixion it was mainly women who were at the cross. Do you think this tells us something about what was happening to Jesus' followers at this specific time?
2. Jesus' disciple John was instructed to take Jesus' mother Mary into his home and family. What does this mean in regard to family relationships which are not necessarily blood relationships?
3. The Colossians reading is often a favourite reading for wedding couples. What do the attributes listed tell you about how Christians are to relate to each other?
4. Looking at the Colossians' v13, how easy is it to be so forgiving, whether you are the perpetrator of a complaint or a complainant?
5. Music seems to be an important part of Christian worship (v16). When have you been moved by music in worship?