

**Mother's Day – Sunday School Lesson  
For Elementary Age Children**

**Theme:** Honor your Father and Mother.

**Teacher Pep Talk:** Parents are so important: They are a child's world! They care for the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of their children. By God's design they help teach their children about the caring relationship that God has with us as His children. They exhibit the selfless (*agape* style) love, the patience, and the gentle guidance and leadership that He shows to us. How we interact with our children helps them understand how God interacts with us... (*Or, at least, it is supposed to!*) God help us to do a good job, and to represent Him well to our children, and to the generations to come!

**You Will Need:** An assortment of construction paper, pencils, crayons, scissors and glue. Optionally: sequins, glitter glue, rickrack, yarn, and buttons.

**Major Points:** Mothers and fathers are to care for their children  
We are to respect our mother and father.  
We are to obey our parents in the Lord.  
God promises us a blessing for honoring our mother and father.

**Reference Verses:** 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8 *Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you.*  
Leviticus 19:3 *"Each of you must respect your mother and father..."*  
Proverbs 6:20 *My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching.*  
Ephesians 6:1-3 *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." (Referring to Exodus 20:12)*

**Memory Verse:** Ephesians 6:2 *"Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—*

Lesson: **Honor your Father and Mother**

**Mothers and fathers are to care for their children**

- God gave us parents. Why do you think He did that? (*Wait for answers.*)
- Absolutely! Somebody had to take care of us when we were first born! Little babies can't get their own food, or get around on their own, or keep themselves warm. These are all necessary to life!
- So, we needed our parents when we were first born.
- How about now? (*Wait for answers. Depending on the age of the children, they may have various answers.*)
- Right! So, our parents are still important. They provide us a place to live, and food to eat. They give us clothes and a place to sleep at night. And the LOVE us.
- Talk to me about Love. What kinds of things do parents do that show love to us? (*Wait for answers.*) EX: Take care of us when we are sick, Say our prayers with us, Take us to school, Hug us, Give us kisses, Sit by us when we are scared
- Excellent! These are all things that show love to us! Isn't it good that we have parents?! (*Depending on ages, you may get some answers that seem a little disrespectful.*)

**We are to respect our Mothers and Fathers.**

- Uh oh, some of those words didn't sound very respectful. And I understand. It's because you don't always like the authority your parents have over you.
- Because our parents have responsibility for us, they also have authority over us. (They go together!)
- As we grow up it is important for us to start moving apart from our parents and taking responsibility for ourselves. We call that "Growing Up." And you are all growing up!
- As you grow up more and more, you will need your parents to take care of you less and less, until eventually you will be an adult. Then you will be in charge of yourself completely.
- But no matter how grown up we become, we are ALWAYS to respect our mothers and fathers! What does that word "RESPECT" mean? (It means that we are to have a special place in our heart for that person and to think highly of them.)

**We are to obey our parents in the Lord.**

- God gave us our parents to care for us and to teach us.
- The people who love us will teach us to do good things.
- God wants us to obey our parents who are teaching us what is right. What does that word "OBEY" mean? (It means to do the things we are instructed to do and asked to do.)
- The Bible says it is right for us to obey our parents in the Lord.

**God promises us a blessing for honoring our mother and father**

- It is good and right for us to obey our parents and to respect them. So we should do it for those reasons alone.
- However, God has ALSO promised us a BLESSING for honoring our parents. What does that word "HONORING" mean? (It is sort of a combination of Respect and Obey. It means holding them in high regard, caring about what they say, listening to them, and obeying them in the Lord.)
- But what blessing does God promise us? Let's read it together. (*Find Ephesians 6:2-3 and read it aloud.*)
- Ephesians 6:2-3 "*Honor your father and mother*"—which is the first commandment with a promise— "*so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.*"
- What did you hear as God's promises? (So that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.)
- It makes sense that if you do what your parents tell you to do that you may live longer. (EX: They tell you not to play in the street, because it's dangerous. OR They tell you not to smoke because it's bad for your health. You will probably live longer if you do not do these two things.)
- But, God is also talking about special blessings that He will give you because you have obeyed Him, by honoring your mother and father. That's another good reason to do it!

Let's pray and thank God that He has given us our parents and others to love us and care for us.

PRAYER: Dear God,  
Thank you that you have given each of us people to care for us!  
Thank you especially for our mothers and fathers!  
Please bless our parents, and help us to respect, obey, and honor them.  
Amen

Suggested Activities:

**Bible Verse Bingo**

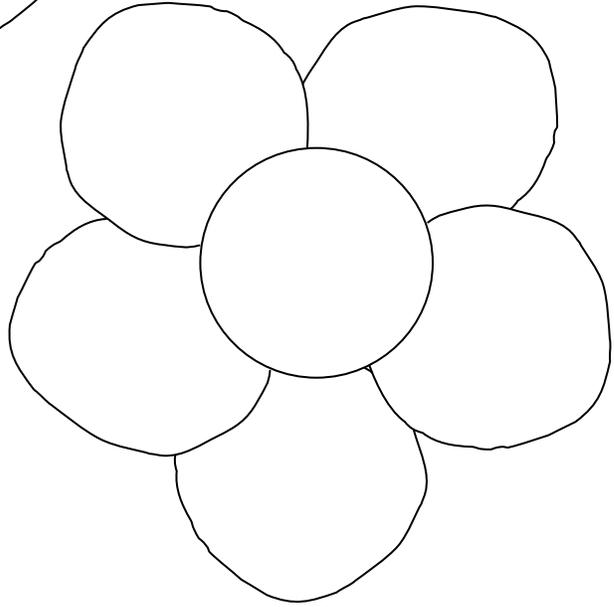
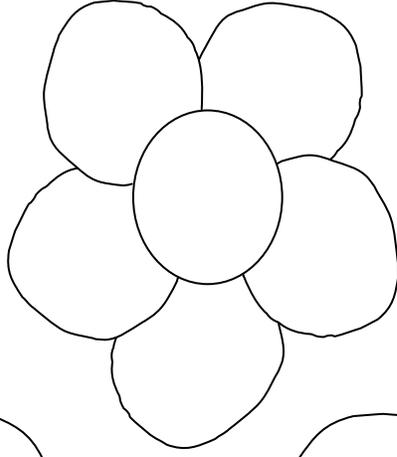
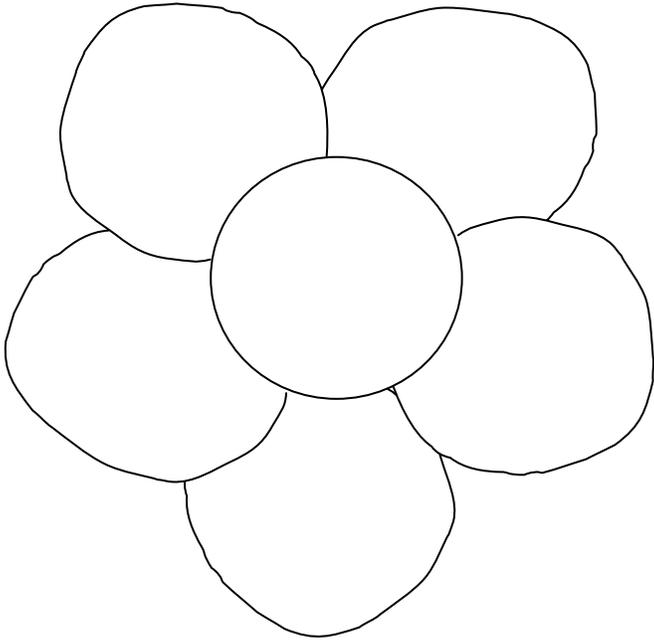
Tell the class that today you read aloud the verses from **Ephesians 6:2-3**. Have them use Bibles to look up that scripture reference. Have the children say "**Bingo**" when they locate it. When most everyone has found it, read the reference verses out loud again. Say that these verses are found in the New Testament, which means they were written after Jesus was on the earth. However, they refer to something that was said earlier in the Old Testament. (Things written in the Old Testament were written before Jesus' time on earth.) Look up the original scripture reference in the Old Testament: **Exodus 20:12**. Have the children look up the verse in Exodus. When they find it have them say "**Bingo**" and wait. When most of the class has found it, read the verse out loud. How are these two references similar? How are they different, if at all?

**Create an original Mother's Day Card**

Everyone likes making cards for Mother's Day! And there isn't a mother on earth who doesn't enjoy receiving a handmade Mother's Day Card! Use your own imagination to help create the card itself. Or, use some of the ideas listed here:

- 1.) Allow the children time and space to create their own card for their mothers (caregivers). Provide ample amounts of construction paper, crayons, markers, pencils, sequins, glitter, rickrack, yarn, buttons, and glue so that they can decorate their cards. Write "Happy Mother's Day!" on the board so that they may copy it down on the inside or front cover of their card. *(If you create flowers for your card, you can use green yarn for their stems!)*
- 2.) Using construction paper, crayons or markers, allow the children to draw pictures of themselves and their mothers (caregivers) on construction paper. Then fold the picture in half and write Happy Mother's Day on the "front" of the newly formed card. OR fold the paper first and have them decorate both the front and the inside of the card with pictures or flowers.
- 3.) Copy the activity sheet for each child. Allow the children time to color the items on the sheet and to cut them out. Glue the pieces on to different parts of a card made out of construction paper. (For fun, put the first part of the poem on the front of the card, and the second part of the poem on the inside of the card.) Alternatively, create your own poem or saying.

# Happy Mother's Day!



On this special day, day, day  
And in this special way, way, way  
I'll take the time  
To make it rhyme  
So I can truly say, say, say...

...Have a very  
Happy Mother's Day, Day, Day!