

# Mother's Day Sermon Outline

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Happy Mother's Day to all moms. Feliz día de la madre a todas nuestras mamás.

We all have a mom. Some of us were blessed to have wonderful moms, some of us may not have been as lucky. Still others may even have been honored to have been chosen by an adoptive mom. Others were fortunate to have a mom come into their life via as a "bonus mom".

For me, I had the best mom. She was my best friend. She was there every step of the way for me. She laughed with me, she cried with me. She cheered me on at my softball games and encouraged me all through school. She also provided correction when needed. She loved life and would have done absolutely anything for her kids. She was an important part of my life.

As moms, we try to take what we learned from our moms and pass it on to our kids. I know I tried to take the best things I remember my mom doing for us, to help me raise my boys, especially while I was a single mom. Thankfully, with what I learned from my mom and with God's guidance, my boys have grown into good, responsible adults.

Whether our kids are still at home with us, away at college, or have moved on to start their lives, we are still moms. Even if our relationship with our kids is not exactly what we would have planned or liked, we are still moms. We care about them, we give them comfort, and we will do our best to protect them. We will always love them, pray for them, and want the best for them.

<Pray>

We are used to hearing "God the Father", "Abba", "Father God" and as Pastor Jay often says "Daddy God". While the Bible refers to God in the masculine form, there are attributes in the Bible that show His caring Mother side.

## **Matthew 23:37 NLT**

***37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones God's messengers! How often I have wanted to gather your children together as a hen protects her chicks beneath her wings, but you wouldn't let me".***

Jesus uses this metaphor, of a mother hen, to show the type of relationship he longs to have with us. For us to gather close to Him, allow Him to protect us. It is a wonderful and touching analogy of a mother's care.

This verse is also an encouragement to those that are broken-hearted or those that have rebelled, God wants to gather us close to Him. What an encouraging way to show God's desire to protect us, give us rest, and provide warmth.

So, what other attributes of God can be seen as Motherly?

## **1. Comforts (like a mother)**

Isaiah 66:13 NLT

***13 I will comfort you there in Jerusalem as a mother comforts her child.***

God is a powerful comforter, yet He can use tender affections and compassions like that of a loving mother.

We always want to comfort our children, no matter how old they get. When they are little and they fall and get a skinned knee, we comfort them to help them get over their "boo-boo". As they get older, we may reassure them when they don't make the team they tried out for, or when their heart breaks for the first time. We want to take away that pain for them. We want to provide as much comfort as possible because we don't like seeing them in pain. It breaks our hearts when our kids are hurting. Just as God's heart breaks when we are struggling.

When one of my boys was only 6 days old, he was diagnosed with RSV (Respiratory Syncytial [sinsitial] Virus. It wasn't bad enough for him to be hospitalized, but the doctor cautioned that it could get worse. The doctor shared that he had just had another young child that he personally took to the ER because the virus was so severe. Talk about scaring a mom! The doctor said he needed to be inclined when sleeping to help keep his airways open. So, for nearly two weeks I slept in a recliner with my infant on my chest so he could sleep and so I could ensure he didn't stop breathing. When he would cough or fuss, I would just pat or rub his back and assure him he was not alone, that I was there, and he would be OK. As the virus improved, I moved him to sleep in a bassinet with a towel under the head of the padding so he would still be elevated. He slept in my room so, again, I could comfort him and monitor his breathing.

As it is with our children, the same holds true for God when we need comfort. He wants to be the one to make our pain better, to heal our broken hearts, mend our distressed relationships, or fix our financial situations. He wants to be there to comfort us. He has provided His Bible and prayer to draw us to Him, to receive His comfort.

The Bible shows us many ways God provides comfort:

- **Matthew 5:4 (Those that mourn will be comforted)**  
*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted*
- **Lamentations 3:22-23 (His Steadfast love never ceases; His mercies never end)**  
*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness*
- **John 14:16 (He gave us the Holy Spirit to be a comforter.)**  
*And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.*
- **Romans 15:5 (His scriptures bring us instruction and comfort)**  
*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus.*

God comforts is so many different ways and we can find it through out the Bible in both the Old and New Testaments. Still, one of the best verses is:

### **2 Corinthians 1:3**

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all Comfort,***

## 2. Cares (like an Eagle)

### **Deuteronomy 32:11 NLT**

***Like an eagle that rouses her chicks and hovers over her young, so He spread His wings to take them up and carried them safely on his pinions.***

This shows the extraordinary care and attachment a mother eagle has for her young. As they become ready to fly, the mother eagle first stirs them from the nest, then she supports them on the tips of her wings – encouraging, directing, and aiding them in their first attempts to fly. The eagle is observed to have a strong affection for her young, not only by protecting them and making provision for them, but by educating them and teaching them to fly. Getting them out of their nest so they learn to use their wings and getting them accustomed to flying. Eventually getting them out on their own. This is an example of how as moms, we are to raise and teach our children and not indulge them in idleness and the love of ease.

Just as the eagle coaxes her young, God also takes tender and powerful care of His Chosen. He led them out of Egypt, through the horrors of the wilderness to the promised land. God is there every step of the way with us – encouraging, directing, and aiding us, because He cares and wants the very best for us. He has promised us an everlasting life with Him, but we are not promised we won't face challenges.

As moms, we are wired to care for our kids. When they are babies, we do everything for them. We feed them, clothe them, bathe them, play with them, care for them when they are sick.

As they grow, we begin to teach them to do things themselves – to feed themselves, dress themselves, clean themselves, and to play with others.

When they get even older, we are tasked to show them right and wrong. We teach them about God and how He loves us and how they can have a relationship with Him. We encourage them to love others, and ensure they grow up in a loving, nurturing and safe environment.

Even when they reach adulthood, we still care, and probably even worry more, about our kids. We care about how their careers are going, their marriages/relationships.

As much as we care for our kids, God cares even more for us. No matter what may be happening in our lives, big or small, He wants to know because he cares. He teaches us and cares for us differently, as Pastor Jay has said before, a lot of times my prayer is "God you know how I am, you made me this way" – which typically means I need to see a billboard.

It would take us all day to really understand how God cares for us and everything in our lives, but here are a few:

- **Luke 12: 7a (He has numbered the hairs on our head)**

*Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered*

- **Psalm 94:19 (He cheers us up when our cares are many)**

*When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul*

- **Philippians 4:6 (He tells us not to be anxious about anything)**  
*do not be anxious about anything, but in everything be prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God*
- **Jeremiah 30:17 (He will restore health, heal wounds)**  
*For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord, because they have called you an outcast: 'It is Zion, for whom no one cares'*
- **1 Peter 5:7 (Cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares)**  
*casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you*

How much more can God care for us? After all, He has numbered the hairs on our heads! I'm not sure any of us have counted the hairs on kids' heads! That is a God who cares.

### **Nahum 1:7**

***The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him,***

### **3. Protects (like a Bear)**

#### **Hosea 13:8 NLT**

***Like a bear whose cubs have been taken away, I will tear out your heart. I will devour you like a hungry lioness and mangle you like a wild animal.***

We have all heard the term "Protect like a mama-bear", it is believed that there is no animal more savage than a mama bear grieving over her cubs. We are God's cubs; He will protect us against all our enemies. This verse also likens God to a lioness who is strong and not easily resisted and she will destroy a threat. Just as God will protect His people and if He is provoked, the enemy will feel His wrath.

When we become moms, an instinct we may not realize we had kicks in. We become very protective of our kids. We want to protect them from anything and everything that could hurt them. We make sure their bottles or bath water are not too hot, we ensure they have a safe place to sleep, that their food is just right. We strive to make sure they have a secure environment to live and play in.

If someone hurts our child, our instinct is to go into full "Mama Bear Mode". We feel we must always protect them. It can be difficult to let our kids suffer the consequences when things do happen. But this is part of our protection too. By allowing these consequences to occur, it encourages them to weigh options, make better decisions, and contemplate what may or may not happen. It teaches how life plays out.

God is no different. He protects His children and sometimes we may not even realize it. What other ways does he protect us?

- **Psalm 91:11 (He commands His Angels concerning you to guard you in all ways)**  
*For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.*
- **Isaiah 54:17a (No weapon fashioned against you will succeed)**  
*no weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed*

- **2 Thessalonians 3:3**

*But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one*

His protection may come to us as a voice in our head, a verse He brings to light, a worship song, or by a prayer or word of wisdom from someone else.

**Psalm 116:6**

***<sup>6</sup> The LORD protects the simplehearted; when I was in great need, he saved me.***

#### 4. Never Forgets

**Isaiah 49:15**

***"Never! Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you!***

The love God has for his children is stronger than even that of a mother and child. When you realize that the love of a mother for her infant is one of the strongest attachments in nature, this is hard to fathom that God's love for us is even more. I cannot imagine any of us forgetting our children, no matter what, but in Pagan lands, even though there was a strong instinct to bind mother and child, it was not uncommon for a mother to expose her infant and leave it to die. Thankfully our God will not forget or nor abandon us.

No matter how old our children get, no matter what our relationship is with them, we will always remember them. We remember the day we gave birth to them, or the day they were adopted. We remember their first tooth, their first step, their first word.

We remember the joy we had with them; we also remember the challenges.

God is the same way with us. He knows and remembers everything about each one of us.

- **Jeremiah 29:11 (He knows the plans He has for us)**

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and hope*

- **1 Samuel 12:22 (He will not forsake His people)**

*For the Lord will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake, because it has please the Lord to make you a people for himself.*

- **Deuteronomy 31:8 (He will be with you, He will never leave or forsake you)**

*It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.*

No matter where we go, what we do, God is there. Even when we make our mistakes, or even walk away, He doesn't forget us, and He always welcomes us back.

**Deuteronomy 4:31**

***<sup>31</sup> For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your forefathers, which he confirmed to them by oath.***