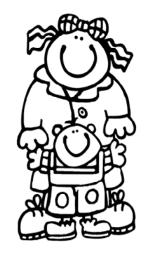
### **Mothering Sunday 2008**

Today is the day when we thank our Mummies for all they do for us. What are some of the things you want to thank your Mummy for? I have thought of some pictures that remind me of six reasons for thanking my Mummy.



#### **Meals** – they feed us

Organise – they organise us to be tidy Train – they train us to do things for ourselves Heart – they love us with all their heart Educate – the help us to read and write Rescue –when we get into trouble

So you can spell 'Mother' without letters. We can also thank our Mummies with every letter of the alphabet too!

Always bold, calmly dynamic Ever-flowing, grace-hysteric Increasing joy, kindly lavish Majestic, novel, original, practiced Quiet resounding silent tactful Unyielding, valorous, wonderfully xarismatik Your zealous love for me All the words of the alphabet we Do need to say Happy mother's day So today we thank God for our Mummies and pray for them because God made us through our Mummies. We all have a Mummy, whether she lives near or far, whether she is with us or in heaven. God gave them the love they have for us, and the wisdom and the strength they need to look after us. Often it is our Mummies who lead us to God by their example, by bringing us to Sunday Clubs and by their prayers.

So today we want to thank God for our Mummies. Because all the best of what we learn from our Mummies comes from God.

Even more amazing – the Bible tells us God cares for us just like a mother. The Bible tells us so.

### 1. God Feeds us

"I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love. To them I was like one who lifts a little child to the cheek, and I bent down to feed them." (Hosea 11:4)

"People do not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4)

#### 2. God Guides us

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27)

## 3. God Disciplines us

"Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?" (Hebrews 12:7)

# 4. God Loves us

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you." (Isaiah 66:13)

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love." (John 15:19)

# 5. God Teaches us

"Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord." (Psalm 34:11)

## 6. God Protects us

"how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings." (Luke 13:34)

"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand." (John 10:28)

God feeds, guides, disciplines, loves, teaches and protects us.

It is possible to have a mother and yet not know her – either because we are an orphan or were adopted. But we can still thank God for them.

In the same way although we were created by God we may not yet know him as our loving Father. That is why Jesus came. That is why we meet here every Sunday. That is why we have our Sunday Clubs, Cherubs and Champions.

To thank Jesus for coming to make it possible for us to know God. And to get to know him and his will for our lives better. There's a verse in the Bible that sums up how God feels about you.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:16-17)

If you would like to become a child of God, you can say this prayer with me as I close.

As you leave today, I invite you to pick up a copy of today's talk with the verses on it, so you can think more about God's plan for your life.