

Mum's The Word

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Programme Helps SMM Territory
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Preparation:

Select some members to give their reflections on

1. Things my mother taught me
2. Games we used to play

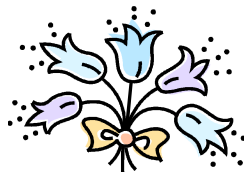
Request members to bring photographs of themselves and their mothers or their children for a *mix and match* quiz.

Education - Quiz: Notable Mothers

1. Who went to the cupboard?
2. Who was the mother of Evangeline Booth?
3. I was greatly loved by my daughter-in-law.
4. I conspired with one of my twin sons to deceive his father.
5. My husband worked for 14 years to marry me.
6. I listened to a serpent in a garden.
7. Paul said I showed my son what sincere faith is.
8. An angel said to me: *Do not be afraid, you have found favour with God.*
9. I prayed for a son and when God answered my prayer I lent him to the Lord.
10. I overheard a conversation between my husband and an angel which made me laugh.

Answers:

1. Mother Hubbard
2. The Army Mother
Catherine Booth
3. Naomi
4. Rebekah
5. Rachel
6. Eve
7. Eunice
8. Mary
9. Hannah
10. Sarah



Recipe

Love Cake for a Mother

(by a 14 year old daughter)

Ingredients:

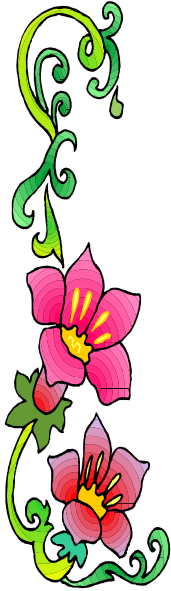
One can of obedience
Several pounds of affection
One pint of neatness
A handful of holiday, birthday and 'everyday' surprises
One can of running errands (willing brand)
One box of 'get up when I should'
One bottle of 'keep sunny all day long'
One can of pure thoughtfulness

Method:

Mix well and bake in warm oven and serve in
big slices to mother everyday.

Education: Reading for Fun!

I



*One day the census taker called and wrote things in a book,
I was simply hanging round, so I thought I'd take a look,
He had our names and ages, and put down Dad's vocation,
But after Mother's name he wrote: no occupation.*

*Why mother's up before the light, and through the work she races,
She starts the breakfast, straightens things, and washes all our faces.
She packs our lunches, finds our books—of course it keeps her busy.
She washes, irons, sweeps and dusts—you'd think she would be dizzy.
She bakes a cake, and maybe pies, she finds some time for sewing.
There's mending, making over too, because we all are growing.
Then dinner comes, the dishes next, first one thing then another.
And when our homework bothers us, we say: Please help us Mother!*

*So she keeps going all the time, and though she's often weary,
She never gets real out of sorts, she's always bright and cheery.
She keeps so busy every day, and sure needs some vacation,
And yet the census man wrote down she had no occupation!*

Can you remember Mother's proverbs?

He who hesitates is	.....	LOST
Absence makes the heart	.....	GROW FONDER
Too many cooks	.....	SPOIL THE BROTH
Out of sight	.....	OUT OF MIND
A rolling stone	.....	GATHERS NO MOSS
A stitch in time	.....	SAVES NINE
The early bird	.....	CATCHES THE WORM
Better late	.....	THAN NEVER
Many hands	.....	MAKE LIGHT WORK
It is better to be sure	.....	THAN SORRY
All that glitters	.....	IS NOT GOLD
Spare the rod	.....	SPOIL THE CHILD
Birds of a feather	.....	FLOCK TOGETHER
Two heads	.....	ARE BETTER THAN ONE
Look	.....	BEFORE YOU LEAP
Beauty	.....	IS ONLY SKIN DEEP
All's well	.....	THAT ENDS WELL
Out of the frying pan	.....	INTO THE FIRE

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13

Worship: Love through a Mother's Eyes (An adaptation of 1 Corinthians 13)

If I constantly tell my children how they should behave and perform, but do not lovingly guide them by word and example, I have become only blaring brass or a nagging noise to the ears.

If I could foresee what they could become, and have absolute faith so that it would all happen, but fail to give them daily encouragement needed to meet each day's challenges and frustrations, then my knowledge is without love.

If I sacrifice any earthly possessions for my children, yes, even lay down my life for them in such a dramatic way, yet fail to show sacrificial love in ordinary circumstances, then love will not be communicated.

This mother's love of which I speak is slow to lose patience, even in the most trying circumstances. It never grows tired of explaining, instructing and answering. It looks for opportunities to praise and support. It does not make her children dependent on her in a possessive sort of way, but strives to help them achieve the right kind of independence and the freedom to think for themselves.

A mother's love does not brag over the things she can do, making her children feel inferior by comparison. It does not misuse its authority, but realizes that the privilege to raise the

children comes from the Lord. Love has good manners. It does not 'use' children as simply robots to carry out orders or live out dreams, but treats them with respect, for they are people too.

Love is not touchy; it is not easily provoked, but realizes that children are children. It does not keep a record of wrongs committed to be used against them later, or say 'I told you so', when they fail as she predicted.

Love does not blow up or say 'I've had enough'. It believes the best, saying, "Try. I think you can'. It loves, no matter what happens—poor exam results, forgotten lines in the school play and disappointments included. Love is sufficient for every situation.

Be sure of this one thing...LOVE ALWAYS BRINGS POSITIVE RESULTS...EVERYONE RESPONDS TO LOVE.

A Mother's Prayer

O God, help me always to remember that you have given me
The most important task in the world, the task of making a home.
Help me to remember this when I'm tired of making beds,
Washing clothes and cooking meals, cleaning floors and standing in shops.
Help me to remember this when I am physically tired in body
And when I am weary in mind with the same things
That have to be done again and again, day in and day out.
Please help me not to be irritable, or impatient, and not to be cross.
Help me to remember how much my family need me.
Please help me to make this home such that the family will always
Be eager to come back to it, so that even when the children have grown up
And have their own homes, they will have nothing but
Happy memories of the home from which they have come.
This I ask for Your love's sake. Amen

Mix and Match Game:

Place gathered pictures on a board in a random order;
Number each picture;
Have ladies try to match up the mother and daughter.

