



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact Jill Perrin at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org.

Mother's Day | Week #1

01.

INTRODUCTION

Today's sermon focuses on the nurturing side of God, which is what is more commonly associated with characteristics of the female.

02.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Gal 3:23-29

1. The service began today with our worship leaders singing the song "The Blessing". Referencing the lyrics of the song, what does it mean for the Lord to:
 - a. Bless you?
 - b. Keep you?
 - c. Make his face shine upon you?
 - d. Be gracious to you?
 - e. Turn his face towards you?
 - f. Give you peace?
2. Pastor Gordon's story of the "angry" goose and another story of his mother being protective of him are examples of how mothers are passionately protective of their children.
 - a. Please share an example where your mother or you as a mother where moved to act in a way to advocate or protect?
 - b. Why do mothers react in this way specifically when it involves their children?
 - c. Explain how these actions may be a "divine impulse" and not just mothering instincts.
3. The bible has many passages that provide a nurturing (more feminine) imagery of God.
 - a. Find and read individually or as a group several of these passages.
 - b. Do you currently view God as a male presence? A female presence? Neither male nor female?
 - c. How has your perspective of God affected your faith walk?



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact Jill Perrin at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org.

- d. Has it created a barrier to you deepening your personal relationship with God?
 - e. If so, what steps can you take to bring down those barriers?
4. Pastor Gordon talks about “equality” and “differences” and that it is important to realize that people are different and each of us unique God given gifts.
 - a. What was your mother’s personality and unique gifts? As an example, was she traditional, a perfectionist, unpredictable, adventurous?
 - b. In what ways has your mother molded you into the person you are today?
 - c. Do you embrace others who are different than you? Why or why not?
5. Pastor Gordon closes the sermon today talking about a Pastor named Patricia and her daughter that has had a profound influence on his life and his relationship with God.
 - a. Other than your own mother, who else has had a positive influence in your life similar to Patricia and her daughter Katherine had on Gordon’s life?
 - b. Did this person influence how you live your life? How so?



NEXT STEPS

1. Pray for others that God will comfort them in the same way as a mother comforts her children.
2. Seek out, be compassionate, and nurture others who may be different from you.
3. Model and show the nurturing character of God in everything you do.