

the  Venues  
Go Deep  
A Different Mother's Day  
5.10.2020

*How are you celebrating Mother's Day this year? Is "celebrating," for you, a fitting word or not?*

*What do you think of this title of a Ted Talk: In Uncertain Times Think Like a Mother?*

*How does a mother help us in uncertain times?*

There are two key words from Sunday's Teaching: Courage and Comfort.

**Read Isaiah 66:11-13.**

*What words or concepts of "comfort" do you read here?*

**Read Genesis 17:1.** "God Almighty" can also be translated "God of Breasts."

*How do you react to God having female characteristics?*

*What does this translation tell us about God's comfort in uncertain times?*

Several studies show that men can be as effective in showing comfort to children as women. It has to do with the hormone oxytocin - the love hormone. Oxytocin in a parent is not related to gender but to time spent with children.

*Who, in your family, gave you the most comfort during hard times?*

**Read Luke 13:31-34.**

*What images do you see of a courageous mom?*

Julie Ward Howe is the mother of Mother's Day. She released a Mother's Day Proclamation on June 2, 1872 calling on mothers to take a stand against war and for peace.

*What song do you associate with Julie Ward Howe?*

*How does such a proclamation change your view of Mother's Day?*

"Comfort" in Isaiah 66:13 means to "breathe strongly."

Life can knock the breath out of us.

*What has knocked the breath out of you?*

*How does comfort help you breathe? How can you help others breathe?*