

Study guide

Lesson 2

WHAT DO WE GIVE THE WORLD?
(REACHING OTHERS FOR JESUS)
MOTHER'S DAY

THE BEST GIFTS

The best gifts sometimes are not the material ones. Ask any mother. When we give love, respect, and honor, we are giving something much more valuable than flowers, visits to a restaurant, or money. Why? Simply because these things have an expiration date or are passing.

Should we then not give our mother anything this week? Of course not. We should give them something meaningful. **If we should ask them what they prefer, many of them would say, "a visit, a phone call, more love, etc."** Some families that do not have a living mother can remember what gifts she enjoyed getting the most. Many will remember that she also enjoyed getting your affection, words of affirmation and lots of love.

WHAT WILL WE GIVE THE WORLD?

In days like these, **the church needs to ask itself, "What can we give the world?"** OK then, what do you think if we use this mother's day week to explain the gift that we can give this world to enjoy forever.

This gift can be explained in the following way:

ACCEPTANCE – Ephesians 1:3-6

Now a day, rejection is very common. In the family, there is rejection. Among friends, there is rejection. In the community, there is rejection and more of the same. When Jesus came to this world, there came with Him a very clear plan. His mission was to accept any person. That is why Paul reminds us of the importance of being accepted.

Christ causes acceptance in our lives before God. Literally, "He has made us accepted in the Beloved". The Beloved is Jesus. Every house has a beloved mother, but only heaven has a Beloved Savior who instead of rejecting us makes us accepted in Himself. The world needs acceptance. You and I have the answer.

FORGIVENESS - Ephesians 1:7

Imagine that you had all the money in the world to give the best gift. What would you give your mother or to the mother of your children. Whatever they would want. Right? The best gift that the church can give is the gift that is born from the riches of the Glory of God. The gift of Christ is the most expensive gift in history. There is only one place where you can get it; this is the grace of God. The results of this grace is forgiveness.

Forgiveness means that there has never been enough with which to pay off an account. There is only thing that can be done to erase, cancel, and eliminate the account completely. That is where the forgiveness of God comes in; it is born of grace. The grace of God is unlimited love and happiness. Today we can announce that God has cancelled all eternal debt! The world need forgiveness, and you and I have the answer.

ASSURANCE – Philippians 1:6

When we give the right gift, we feel great pride. That feeling is born from the answer of a person who receives the gift. He assures us that we gave them what was meaningful to them. If there is anything that we are sure of, is that God's gift to us in Jesus Christ is the right gift. That is why: God wants us to know that we do not have to worry about the gift being guaranteed.

That gift is so well guaranteed that what He has already done is forever. Salvation is total and perfect. There is nothing to add to this gift. ITS PERFECT! The world needs to feel secure and you and I have the answer.

AN ETERNAL FUTURE

Sadly, there are family members that do not fulfill what they have promised. The promise to not be indifferent, or unreliable, or not visit when they said they would. Christ is not like that. Salvation is something that fulfill God's promise and it is firm and eternal.

On this Mother's Day, when many promises have been made to our living mother or to those who are now resting in eternity, why not accept God's promise made to us from eternity. If we believe in Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world, we are guaranteed eternal life. That would be a fabulous gift!

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS:

Ice-breaker questions

Which has been the gift that has made you remember the most? Why did that gift affect you so much? If you have a story to tell about that gift, please share it.

Questions for the Life Group:

Do you believe that God gives the best gifts?

How did you receive the gift of salvation? Do you believe that this (acceptance, forgiveness, assuredness, and eternal future)

is the gift that others want?

Prayer