

WORTH the WAIT:

The Future According to God

Watch the news or browse the internet for long enough, and you'll naturally wonder what hope remains for us. From political corruption and misinformation to violence and oppression, this world seems lost and broken beyond repair. But in the Old Testament book of Isaiah (ch. 60-66), God shared His vision of a more hopeful future in which captives will be set free, darkness will give way to light, and those who mourn will be comforted.

At The Story, we believe that God's promises remain as true as ever today and that His new world is still on the way. That's why, even though we see this world as it is, we hold fast to the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Because of his life, death, and resurrection, the best is yet to come. Join us for five Sundays starting April 27 as we explore Isaiah 60-66 and why the promises of God are *worth the wait*!

May 11, 2025 - Part 3 - A Mother's Love

What is the first memory that comes to mind when you think about your mother?

With today's Mother's Day message, we'll uncover some of the ways the Bible says that a mother's love can reflect the love of God, starting with this verse from Isaiah:

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

What does Scripture teach about the status and role of mothers? (Ex. 20:12, Prov. 6:20)

Who are some of the most prominent mothers of the Bible?

3 Ways a Mother's Love Reflects the Love of God

1. A Mother's _____

John 16:21 - A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world.

What does this passage say about the heart of a good mother? How does this reflect the heart of God?

2. A Mother's _____

Prov. 31:25-31 - She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

What does this passage say about a good mother's priorities? How does this reflect God's priorities?

3. A Mother's _____

Matthew 23:27-30 - "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Isaiah 49:15 - Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget I will not forget you!

What do these passages suggest about a good mother's concern? How does this reflect the concerns of God?

Jesus is our perfect role model in every respect. How did he show respect and concern for his mother during his life on earth? (see John 19:26-27)

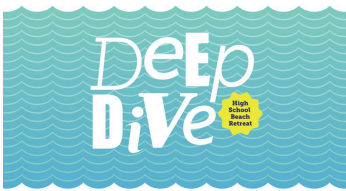
What are some ways that Christians today can support, honor, and respect not only our own mothers but all the moms in our midst?

Your Notes:



Summer Adult Classes

This June & July, we're launching our summer discipleship season with Sunday morning and Wednesday evening groups! Head to **thestory.church/groups** to view all of our summer offerings and sign up today. Spaces are limited for most classes!



High School Beach Retreat

All students entering 9th-12th grade in Fall 2025 are invited to join us for Deep Dive from Monday, June 30 to Wednesday, July 2! Our students will enjoy some fun in the sun and take a deeper dive into their faith! Register: **thestory.church/events**



Vacation Bible School

Registration is open for this year's Vacation Bible School, happening June 23-26th from 9am to noon daily for children ages 3 through 5th grade! Visit **thestory.church/vbs** to learn more and register today. You can also register to volunteer or donate supplies on that same link.