

Chapter 1 : Daughters of God - Elder M. Russell Ballard

Charity Lloyd, a full time mom and part time photographer, has a heart for young mothers to raise their children through mentoring. She and Terry, her husband of sixteen years, are the parents of three children, a son and twin daughters.

Email There is no role in life more essential and more eternal than that of motherhood. Brothers and sisters, recently my wife, Barbara, had back surgery and could not lift, twist, or bend. Consequently, I have done more lifting, twisting, and bending than ever before—and it has made me more appreciative of what women, and especially you mothers, do every day in our homes. While women live in homes under many different circumstances—married, single, widowed, or divorced, some with children and some without—all are beloved of God, and He has a plan for His righteous daughters to receive the highest blessings of eternity. This afternoon I want to focus my remarks primarily on mothers, particularly on young mothers. As a young father, I learned the demanding role of motherhood. I served as a counselor and then as bishop for a period of 10 years. During that time we were blessed with six of our seven children. Barbara was often worn-out by the time I got home Sunday evening. She tried to explain what it was like to sit on the back row in sacrament meeting with our young family. Then the day came that I was released. After sitting on the stand for 10 years, I was now sitting with my family on the back row. I have never been so busy in my whole life. The Cheerios got away from me, and that was embarrassing. As I struggled with the children through the meeting, I looked up at Barbara, and she was watching me and smiling. I learned for myself to more fully appreciate what all of you dear mothers do so well and so faithfully! A generation later, as a grandfather, I have watched the sacrifices my daughters have made in rearing their children. And now, still another generation later, I am watching with awe the pressures on my granddaughters as they guide their children in this busy and demanding world. After observing and empathizing with three generations of mothers and thinking of my own dear mother, I surely know that there is no role in life more essential and more eternal than that of motherhood. There is no one perfect way to be a good mother. Each situation is unique. Each mother has different challenges, different skills and abilities, and certainly different children. The choice is different and unique for each mother and each family. Some may have to work part-or full-time; some may work at home; some may divide their lives into periods of home and family and work. What matters is that a mother loves her children deeply and, in keeping with the devotion she has for God and her husband, prioritizes them above all else. I am impressed by countless mothers who have learned how important it is to focus on the things that can only be done in a particular season of life. It is crucial to focus on our children for the short time we have them with us and to seek, with the help of the Lord, to teach them all we can before they leave our homes. This eternally important work falls to mothers and fathers as equal partners. I am grateful that today many fathers are more involved in the lives of their children. But I believe that the instincts and the intense nurturing involvement of mothers with their children will always be a major key to their well-being. We need to remember that the full commitment of motherhood and of putting children first can be difficult. There are moments of great joy and incredible fulfillment, but there are also moments of a sense of inadequacy, monotony, and frustration. Mothers may feel they receive little or no appreciation for the choice they have made. Sometimes even husbands seem to have no idea of the demands upon their wives. As a Church, we have enormous respect and gratitude to you mothers of young children. We want you to be happy and successful in your families and to have the validation and support you need and deserve. So today, let me ask and briefly answer four questions. What can you do, as a young mother, to reduce the pressure and enjoy your family more? First, recognize that the joy of motherhood comes in moments. There will be hard times and frustrating times. But amid the challenges, there are shining moments of joy and satisfaction. Author Anna Quindlen reminds us not to rush past the fleeting moments. This is particularly clear now that the moment is gone, captured only in photographs. There is one picture of [my three children] sitting in the grass on a quilt in the shadow of the swing set on a summer day, ages six, four, and one. And I wish I could remember what we ate, and what we talked about, and how they sounded, and how they looked when they slept that night. I wish I had not been in such a hurry to get on to the next thing: We live in a world that is filled with options. If we are

not careful, we will find every minute jammed with social events, classes, exercise time, book clubs, scrapbooking, Church callings, music, sports, the Internet, and our favorite TV shows. One mother told me of a time that her children had 29 scheduled commitments every week: She felt like a taxi driver. Take time to listen, to laugh, and to play together. Third, even as you try to cut out the extra commitments, sisters, find some time for yourself to cultivate your gifts and interests. Pick one or two things that you would like to learn or do that will enrich your life, and make time for them. Water cannot be drawn from an empty well, and if you are not setting aside a little time for what replenishes you, you will have less and less to give to others, even to your children. Avoid any kind of substance abuse, mistakenly thinking that it will help you accomplish more. Turn to the Lord in faith, and you will know what to do and how to do it. Fourth, pray, study, and teach the gospel. Pray deeply about your children and about your role as a mother. Parents can offer a unique and wonderful kind of prayer because they are praying to the Eternal Parent of us all. What more can a husband do to support his wife, the mother of their children? First, show extra appreciation and give more validation for what your wife does every day. Notice things and say thank you often. Schedule some evenings together, just the two of you. Just take over the household and give your wife a break from her daily responsibilities. Taking over for a while will greatly enhance your appreciation of what your wife does. You may do a lot of lifting, twisting, and bending! Fourth, come home from work and take an active role with your family. What can children, even young children, do? Now, you children, please listen to me because there are some simple things you can do to help your mother. You can pick up your toys when you are finished playing with them, and when you get a little older, you can make your bed, help with the dishes, and do other chores without being asked. You can say thank you more often when you finish a nice meal, when a story is read to you at bedtime, or when clean clothes are put in your drawers. Most of all, you can put your arms around your mother often and tell her you love her. What can the Church do? There are many things the Church offers to mothers and families, but for my purpose today may I suggest that the bishopric and the ward council members be especially watchful and considerate of the time and resource demands on young mothers and their families. Know them and be wise in what you ask them to do at this time in their lives. I hope all of you dear sisters, married or single, never wonder if you have worth in the sight of the Lord and to the leaders of the Church. We respect you and appreciate your influence in preserving the family and assisting with the growth and the spiritual vitality of the Church. The scriptures and the teachings of the prophets and apostles help all family members to prepare together now to be together through all eternity. I pray that God will continually bless the women of the Church to find joy and happiness in their sacred roles as daughters of God. I have known him since he was 22 and I was I have watched the hand of the Lord prepare him for this day to preside over the Church as the prophet and President. And I add my testimony, along with all of the other testimonies that have been borne through this conference, of his special calling as President of the Church, and add my testimony, along with all of the others, that Jesus is the Christ and this is His Church.

Chapter 2 : The Joys And Challenges Of Motherhood | My Heart's Mission

You can't find peace, contentment, or joy despite the challenges without Faith. You can't. Without the belief that there is a plan for your life-even in the season of caring for your kids-you will feel that motherhood pulls more out of you than it gives you in return.

Even in deep depression you pretend to be fabulously happy. We are single parents, but we love our daughter. Carroll I have to tape paper to the floor and let her color just so I can clean the apartment. It works, but then I have to clean the marker off of her! Taking time out of that hour work week and fill in those holes with sand, castles, and fun. Praying you are doing enough, if you have enough, if your time with them is enough. So go play in the sand! He loves his dad and I love that he has his dad in his life. They trust me and they know momma is always going to be there! Those little moments when he steals your heart away He reaches his little bitty year-old hand over and holds yours. For a moment, the world stands still and you know everything will be OK. Spending most of your free time doing what they want to do. Shamelessly living with your parents so you can work three jobs to build your career with the added bonus of three times the love and support under one roof! This one little person counts on you as much as you count on them! Single parenting means having to force myself to extend my arms out when I hold my baby, because I read in a magazine once that this is what fathers do. It always looks like the odds are stacked against me. But the little face I get to put to bed every night negates the lie that says it is impossible. Being a single parent means that I came out a winner because I chose to see the value of what stared right up at me the first time we laid eyes on each other. But you always find a way.

Chapter 3 : The Joys And Challenges Of Motherhood: A Collection Of Poems by Patricia Wayant

The Paperback of the Challenges in the Joy of Motherhood: A 30 Day Devotional for Mothers by Charity L. Lloyd at Barnes & Noble. FREE Shipping on \$

Teaching African Literature Books: The book, Long Drums and Canons: Teaching and Researching African Literature by Bernth Lindfors, is a good resource for any teacher who wants to incorporate African Literature into the curriculum. Africa is My Home: This film follows the life of an African girl who is born at the time of Nigerian independence and grows to maturity while Nigeria confronts the issues and conflicts of a developing nation. In Search of Myself: United Nations, Narrated by Alistair Cooke. Discusses the art and life of Nigeria; includes dancing and folk opera sequences, from works by Nigerian musicians and authors. How Women Feed Africa: A documentary presenting the stories of three women from three African countries: Burkina Faso, Kenya and Zimbabwe. Each woman tells in her own words of the struggle to feed her family. How do we know that mothers are important in Ibo society? Give specific examples from the novel. The novel ends with the sentence, "Nnu Ego had it all, yet still did not answer prayers for children. Towards the end of the book, Emecheta writes that Nnu Ego was happy to see her children happy. Is this a truth? Compare the times she was with her husband to the times he was gone. What more does a woman want? What else does Nnu Ego come to find that a woman wants? Does she stick by that early rhetorical question and continue to believe that this is all a woman could want, or does she change her mind? Does Nnu Ego change? If so, how does this affect her situations differently than when she resists change? Oshia is expected to always be a loner, because he "put ambition first at the expense of his family. How does ambition relate to the social changes going on throughout the book? Chi is an important concept in understanding the traditional Ibo society. What effect did colonization of the Ibo society have on the importance of chi to the individual, the family, and the Ibo society? Discuss how colonial influence created the dilemma Nnu Ego faces. How did colonization make the practice of traditional Ibo religion impossible? In what ways do you feel she is a slave owned by her husband? How, or does, she appear as a feminist? Lesson Plans This book would be an excellent vehicle for a webquest see below. Relevant Information The following sites would be very helpful in developing a WebQuest for your students African Literature for Young Adults: Compiled by the Flint Library, this is a very short list but can be used as a starting point. A comprehensive site compiled by the University of Iowa. Includes information on Yoruba art, history, religion, economics, etc. Another comprehensive site compiled by the University of Iowa. Includes information on Ibo art, history, economy, politics, and religion. Nigeria and the Igbo Culture: This is an individual site that is still under construction. There are many useful links to information about Nigeria and its culture. This is a great site for viewing artifacts from Nigeria circa s. This is part of the Smithsonian Natural History website. This is a great site to take your students. They can access information on basically anything that the Smithsonian has by taking a virtual tour through the museum. Khoi Ta created a student website about the Ibo culture. There are links to Ibo government, social structure, religion, spiritual beliefs, funeral ceremonies, masks, drums, statues and more. The pages seem to be well written and researched. In addition, she has some wonderful photos of Ibo culture. Everything you could possibly want to know about Nigeria past and present. This is the best site out there about Nigeria. You have to visit it to appreciate it. Also includes links to Ibo recipes, samples of Nigerian music, current affairs, travel information, a pen-pal sign up, games, stories, and much much more. This site will keep you and your students busy for hours! This is a chapter-by-chapter guide with questions to stimulate critical thinking as your students read the book. Also, visit another site by Washington State University which lists lesson objectives, ideas for discussion, journal topics, and writing exercise for The Joys of Motherhood.

Chapter 4 : About Your Privacy on this Site

Fortunately, the pros of motherhood are what can help you deal with motherhood's cons. One of the best ways that mothers can reduce stress is to revel in the joy of motherhoodâ€”to really enjoy their kids and make the most of all the gifts and benefits that come with being a mother.

Enjoy the following random collection of quotes, tributes, scriptures, poems, and advice that honor the experience of motherhood. Ever so gently she cares for her precious child. Nor does its tender care diminish through the years. There is something each day to embrace and cherish. Please know that it is worth it then, now, and forever. Andersen My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her. Or the climbing, falling colors of a rainbow. There will be hard times and frustrating times, but amid the challenges there are shining moments of joy and satisfaction. That is her secret you know, always giving without any expectations. She is as constant as the sunrise, the moon, the stars, and I count on her. She helps me find my way through the years and makes me laugh while doing it. There are some things only a mother can do. When trials heavy and sudden fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends desert us; when trouble thickens around us, still will she cling to us, and endeavor by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness, and cause peace to return to our hearts. Such an incredible blessing. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: Help her to fear only God and not man. And remind her that the mission-field of home is a battleground worth fighting for. And all of them are the most beautiful things you will ever experience. The influence of a mother in the lives of her children is beyond calculation. And we each have the responsibility to love and help lead the rising generation. It is such a beautiful experience. I so strongly recommend it. She puts her head down and she gets it done. And she finds a way to have fun. It is not something to do if you can squeeze the time in, it is what God gave you time for. There truly is nothing I can say to capture what motherhood means to me, particularly given my medical history. They just exist in the moment. It is the highest, holiest service to be assumed by mankind. It places her who honors its holy calling and service next to the angels. Motherhood really grounds you. I recommend taking a lot of family pictures as evidence to the contrary. No love so instantaneous and forgiving. It is impossible to overestimate the influence of parents who understand the hearts of their children. Some people said that my life ended when I had a baby, but my life had just begun. A mother always has to think twice, once for herself and once for her child. She planted the seed that I base my life on, and that is the belief that the ability to achieve starts in your mind. Such love nurtures and sustains faith in God. Such love is a source of strength and casts out fear. Such love is the desire of every human soul. If love is sweet as a flower, then my mother is that sweet flower of love. Everything gets reduced to essentials. Take time to listen, to laugh, and to play together. I am not enough, but Jesus is. When you grow old, when your hair turns white and your body grows weary, when you are prone to sit in a rocker and meditate on the things of your life, nothing will be so important as the question of how your children have turned out. The noblest thoughts my soul can claim. The holiest words my tongue can frame. Unworthy are to frame the name more sacred than all other. An infant when her love first came, a man, I find it just the same. Reverently I breathe her nameâ€”The blessed name of mother. Time and truth are on your side. At the right moment, your words will return as if from heaven itself. Your testimony will never leave your children. Your heart is beating outside your body when you have a baby.

Chapter 5 : Chicago Tribune - We are currently unavailable in your region

As we explore the amazing journey into motherhood, new challenges come along inevitably. Life as a mother can be so busy and stressful, and we often end up unhappy. Babies tend to be very demanding, as a result, we're often sleep-deprived.

Chapter 6 : The Joys of Motherhood

*There is a site dedicated to African books and a site for women and gender issues. **The Absence of Joy in Motherhood. This is a paper written by Tracy O'Bryan.*

Chapter 7 : Motherhood Quotes - BrainyQuote

For Mother's Day, we've collected these beautiful and moving stories of mothersâ€™ their delights and their struggles. With memorable and colorful characters, they explore the unique journeys of female characters through life as parents and professionals, lovers and leaders.

Chapter 8 : Asa Soltan Rahmati Opens Up About Motherhood Joys and Challenges | The Daily Dish

The challenges of the academic mother's juggling act are well documented in academic literature. In addition to the duties which most faculty members are responsible for such as teaching, research, community service and administration duties, it is frequently reported that faculty mothers are also responsible for the majority of childcare organization and domestic housework.

Chapter 9 : Motherhood Quotes (quotes)

Celebrating the joys and challenges of motherhood. Joy in the Works. Celebrating the joys and challenges of motherhood Joy in the Works shared Smart School House.