



Every human being has a mother. And when we reflect on our mothers, we all have things to celebrate and things to grieve. Around Mother's Day, we can feel the pressure to only have or only express the positive parts of our experience as mothers or with our own mothers. But the truth is there is both good and bad in every one of these relationships. After all, Jesus is the only perfect person to have walked this earth! And he walked it precisely because none of us is perfect!

Nothing in life has changed me more than becoming a mother. My first child was born in 2019, my second in 2020, and my third will be born this summer. I did not realize how vulnerable I would be while loving my children in the midst of life's uncertainties, risks, unknowns, and pains. It is difficult to love and care deeply, yet not be able to protect my children from the brokenness of this world. And, motherhood has uniquely brought me face to face with my limitations, failures, and short-comings--I clearly am not a perfect mother with all of the answers. Yet, in my vulnerability and weakness, Christ invites me to depend on Him for the courage to live and love fully!

Even now, as a mother of toddlers, I'm aware that my children will one day have things to celebrate and grieve about me as their mother--and, I pray they will look to Christ to fill the gap created by my imperfections. On this Mother's Day, I invite you to thank God for your mother and yourself as a mother. I also invite you to show compassion to yourself and to your mother as you ask Christ to fill the gap. Amen.

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end" (Ecclesiastes 3:11, NIV).

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