

## Mothers Devotion

Put the girls into groups and get them to find as many mothers as they can in the Bible. Get them to write down the names of their children (as many as they can find), who they were married to, and anything significant about that woman.

Eve - the very first mother in the Bible (Genesis 4:1-2)

- Her first two sons were Cain and Abel

Sarah - mother of Isaac (Genesis 11:29-31, 17:15-21)

- Sarah was originally named Sarai - both names mean princess as she was to be the mother of nations and kings
- Was promised a child by God
- Gave up hope and told Abraham (her husband) to have a child with her maid servant Hagar
- Sarah had Isaac when she was ninety one
- Sarah died at the age of 127 her only son was 36
- Isaac lived to be approximately 180
- Sarah missed out on 80% of her son's life

Hagar - mother of Ishmael (Genesis 16:1-15)

- Ishmael was conceived following Sarah's request that Abraham have a son with Hagar so that he would not be left without a son
- Once Hagar was pregnant she began to despise Sarah and as a result Sarah mistreated Hagar
- Hagar ran away but an angel of the Lord appeared to her and promised to make her son's descendants numerous
- Ishmael settled a nation and had many sons
- He died at the age of 137

Rebekah - mother of twins; Esau and Jacob (Genesis 25:19-26)

- Married Isaac (who was the son of Sarah and Abraham)
- Had twin boys who represented two nations the Lord spoke to her while she was pregnant and told her  
*"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger"*
- Jacob then become the father of Joseph

Leah - mother of Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Aebulun and Dinah (Genesis 29:31 -35, 30:9-21)

- Leah was married to Jacob who did not love her but loved her sister Rachel who he also married - Leah's father told Jacob he must marry Leah before he could marry Rachel
- Leah gave birth to 4 sons and each time believed that it would make her husband love her
- The Lord blessed Leah with children because she was not loved by her husband Jacob
- When Leah realized she was not having any more children she gave her servant Zilpah to her husband Jacob
- Zilpah gave birth to two sons, Leah called them Gad and Asher
- Leah once again fell pregnant some time after her fourth son and after she had given her servant to her husband her fifth son was named Issachar
- Leah then gave birth to another son Aebulun and a daughter Dinah

Rachel - Mother of Joseph (Genesis 29:16, 29:28, 30:22-24)

- Married to Jacob who worked for 14 years to have her as his wife
- Could not have children and as Sarah did she told Jacob to have a child with her servant Bilhah who she could call her own
- Bilhah gave birth to a son, Rachel named him Dan.
- Bilhah gave birth to another son and Rachel named him Nephtali because she felt she was victorious over her sister
- The lord did not forget Rachel and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son she called Joseph (the Joseph we know as having a technicoloured coat).

Naomi - Mother of Mahlon and Kilion (Ruth 1:1-7)

- Lost her husband and both of her sons
- All three were killed
- Her Daughter-in-law Ruth however remained faithful to her
- Naomi then had a son through Ruth to carry on the name of her son's and inherit their land - his name was Obed

Ruth - mother of Obed (Ruth 4:13-22)

- Married Boaz after her husband Mahlon was killed
- Obed became Mahlon's heir in accordance with the laws of the day
- Obed became almost like a gift to Naomi who could consider Obed her son also
- Ruth is significant in the bible because Jesus is a descendant of her son Obed
- Boaz was the father of Obed, Obed was the father of Jesse, Jesse was the father of David (see Matthew 1:6-16)

Hannah - Mother of Samuel (1Samuel 1:20)

- Married to Elkanah
- Hannah could not have children she prayed to the Lord  
*"O Lord Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord of all the days of his life"* 1 Samuel 1:11
- Hannah eventually gave birth to a son and called him Samuel
- As she had promised Hannah gave Samuel to the Lord so Samuel could worship
- Samuel was ministering from a very young age and each year Hannah would make him a robe and take it to him
- Hannah was blessed for keeping her promise to the Lord, with 5 more children, 3 sons and 2 daughters

Elizabeth - Mother of John the Baptist (Luke 1:5-66)

- Elizabeth could not have children but the Lord came to her and told her she would have a son and that she should call him John

Mary - mother of Jesus (Matthew 1:16-25)

- Was a virgin when she had Jesus
- Gave birth to Jesus in a stable
- Tell me the story...

Memory Verse

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