You're Still









a Mother

a Praying Through ministries Mother's Day e-resource

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Dear Reader,

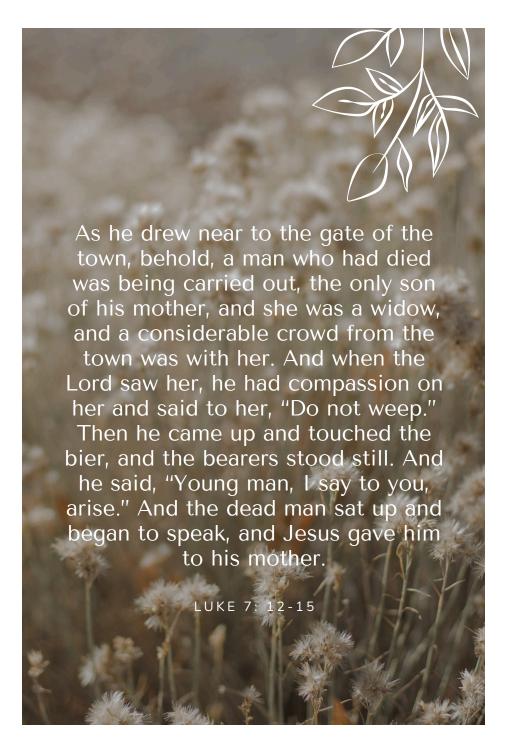
On behalf of Praying Through ministries, we wish you a gentle Mother's Day. We pray you feel the enormity of your worth and purpose as a mother, even though motherhood may look differently than you envisioned.

We pray this beautiful e-resource by Praying Through ministries volunteer and author, Jackie Gibson, will both comfort you and fill you with the hope of the gospel.

Soli Deo Gloria, *Jessika Sanders*Praying Through ministries founder



Mother's Day can be such a joy for some but can bring up such acute pain for others, especially those who have a child missing from their home, like yourself. One of the unique afflictions of the death of a child is that all of a sudden you have nothing to show for your motherhood of that child. And yet, you are still their mother, even in death. The world may forget this, even those close to you may forget to acknowledge that missing child today. But God will not forget that you are your child's mother, today and every day. He blessed you with a child whom he knitted together in your womb. And one day, he will give you back your son or daughter. Be encouraged by these verses from Luke's gospel:



Look at the beautiful language Luke uses; the man is dead, but he is still "the only son of his mother." Death didn't sever the mother-son relationship. So too, notice the tender compassion of our Lord. Just as this woman wept at the death of her son, so too you have shed many tears for your child who died, and the Lord sees you and has compassion on you. He knows your loss is great. But in this gospel story, we have a foretaste of what's to come. This mother received back her son in resurrection. and one day the same will be true for you. One day, the day of mourning will be over when the Lord Jesus comes back and makes all things new, calling the dead in Christ to rise to life immortal. Jesus will say to your child, "arise!" And he will give him or her back to you, their mother. So, on this day as your heart aches for the child who is missing, may you be comforted with this certain, future hope. You are a lovely mother. And a glorious reunion awaits you.



"A Mother's Lament"

By: James Montgomery

Then,—thou in heaven and I on earth, May this one hope delight us.
That thou wilt hail my second birth,
When death shall reunite us,
Where worlds no more can sever
Parent and child for ever.



ABOUT PRAYING THROUGH MINISTRIES

Praying Through ministries was founded in 2020 when the world was shut down due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Walking through suffering can often be lonely, but during the pandemic it was especially isolating. Hoping to bridge gaps and build connection through Christian community, the Praying Through Facebook communities (Praying through child loss & Praying through the NICU and hospitalizations) were created for women journeying through the NICU and child loss.

Sharing burdens and praying for one another in these online communities led to organic, authentic, and lasting friendships. From these very real connections, the heart behind Praying Through ministries outreach was born.

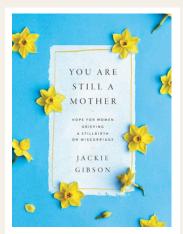
Since our inception 4 years ago, our online communities now host over 800 women. Over 6,500 items of Biblical encouragement have been sent to over 2,500 families in over 47 states and in 8 countries. This encouragement has been distributed through our in-person Prayer Circles at hospitals across the USA, through the milestone emails we send to grieving families, and through the series of tangible resources (care packages) we send to families as we walk alongside them through dark seasons of childhood illness, childhood hospitalizations, and/or child loss.

The heart of Praying Through ministries to serve families with tangible faith-based resources, ongoing support, and fervent prayer is also what inspired this e-resource for bereaved mothers.



ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR





Jackie Gibson, MA, is from Sydney, Australia but currently resides near Philadelphia, PA. She is married to Jonny, and they have four children, one of whom lives with God in heaven. She serves alongside her husband at Westminster Theological Seminary and is grateful to be able to be home with her two youngest kids. If she had a day off, she'd probably try to find the nearest beach, her favorite place this side of heaven. Jackie is the author of You Are Still a Mother.



www.prayingthroughministries.org



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