



WEEK TWO

**JOSHUA 1:1-9**

Joshua becomes the new leader of God's people after Moses dies.

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THIS

WHO HELPS YOU DO  
BIG THINGS?  
GOD HELPS ME DO  
BIG THINGS.



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DRIVE TIME

As you drive, tell your child to look out of the window for big and little things. Encourage [him/her] to name the big and little things [he/she] sees. Maybe it's a big truck or a little bird. Talk about how God made us to do big things and He will always help us.

REMEMBER THIS

"We have the Lord our God to help us."  
2 Chronicles 32:8, NLT

BASIC  
TRUTH

GOD MADE ME

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## MOTHER'S DAY GETS COMPLICATED

By Sarah Anderson

Mother's Day has become complicated for just about everyone involved—commercialization aside.

It's a challenge for . . .

those who long to be moms, this day heightening the ache inside of them.

those who've lost their moms, this day accentuating the silence the void their mother left.

those who've birthed children gone too soon, this day highlighting a hole their heart shouldn't have.

those everywhere in between. Who have no stories of loss or pain but who feel this day should somehow be different.

Their kids should be perfect. The relationship with their mother not so strained. The brunch should be peaceful. The realities of life put on hold for just this 24 hours.

**Mother's Day highlights the gap that exists between what we wish were true and what isn't.** It's a day where we are confronted with our highest hopes and our current disappointments.

**It's hard to escape what any other day we might adequately push through or cover over. And that makes it hard.**

But I am starting to think our attempt

to run from the insufficiencies this day brings to the surface is going about it wrong. In fact, I think these are the kinds of days God can do His best work in.

The contrast between our expectation and our reality can crush us, depress us, and make cynics out of us. **Or it can drive us towards the One who put the desire for rightness in us, and walks through the reality of life's wrongness with us.**

Mother's Day is a reminder of our humanity—and the humanity of those around us. Of how we all get it wrong—how life often gets it wrong. But it's also a day where we can take stock of the dreams we harbor and realize they are the breadcrumbs pointing us to the God who is ultimately able to bring all things to right, one day.

This year, let's not run away from the contradictions this day evokes. Let's embrace them, but in the presence of a God capable of handling them and cultivating us through them in the process. Let's celebrate Mother's Day for all it offers, for all it lacks, and for the God who fills in the gaps.

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