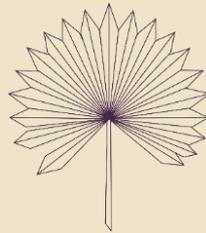


LOVE NEVER GIVES UP

TERM 1 PLANS

Ways to stay connected when you can't hold
your MOPS 'meetings'



Our Mission: MOPS Australia encourages and equips mums of young children to realise their potential as mothers, women and leaders, in relationship with Jesus, and in partnership with the local church.

MOPS is about showing Jesus' love to mums. The MOPS Mission says nothing about **meetings!** So, in a world where meetings are problematic (or not allowed), we just need to find new ways to connect with mums of little kids. We don't give up, because – as our theme verse reminds us – **Love never gives up; love perseveres** 😊.

If you'd like some ideas to help you connect with mums in new ways – here they are! The following plan provides simple ideas for four or five fortnightly "connections" with mums during Term 1. More content will come as the year progresses.

We have intentionally linked these ideas to your GEK books (*Meetings That Speak Love*, *Stories That Speak Love* and *All For Kids*) to create consistency for your year.

The graphics, colouring sheets, and most other resources can be downloaded from our Leaders' website mops.org.au/leader-downloads under *Theme Resources*.

Please know that the MOPS office is here to support you with resources in every way we can! Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have requests or questions.

Lexia

0413 693 274 office@mops.org.au

GIFT DROP OFF

Welcome and Theme Introduction

<p>What you will do (modify as you wish)</p>	<p>1. Team members will pop a gift into every mum's letterbox!</p> <p>The gift can be anything you choose, but will ideally help to introduce the year's theme and make the mums feel special (even though they can't meet in person). For example, your gift may include any or all of the following (samples are in your GEK and discounted bundles are available from MOPShop www.shop.mops.org.au):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • theme notepad • theme pen • <i>Stories That Speak Love</i> <p>You might like to add heart-shaped soap or chocolate, along with a welcome note from your MOPS team letting them know the 'meeting' or 'non-meeting' plans (thank you, Covid!) for Term 1 (and the year).</p>
<p>When you will do it (decide a date)</p>	
<p>What you need to prepare</p>	<p>List the names and addresses of all your registered mums from last year, and add any recently enquiring mums, and women you'd like to invite along.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet as a team to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decide what you will include in the gift. • divide the mums up between team members so that the job is not too demanding on any one person. 2. Order your MOPS product early so it arrives in time. 3. Make or buy sufficient gift bags to fill with items for each mum.
<p>Go deeper</p>	<p>Also pop into the gift bag:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the <i>theme intro and handout</i> (download from mops.org.au) • an invitation to your church (virtual or in person, as applies).
<p>Don't forget the kids!</p>	<p>Include the <i>1. Creation</i> colouring sheet in the gift bag for the children. Download this from the All For Kids tab (under <i>Theme Resources</i>) at mops.org.au/leader-downloads</p>
<p>Who's doing what? (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Order MOPS product: 2. Download and print copies of the theme handout (or order): 3. Source gift bags: 4. Write welcome note: 5. Download and print colouring-in sheets for kids: 6. Fill gift bags: 7. Label gift bags: 8. Deliver gift bags: <i>team – as per allocation list</i> 9. Pray for heart connections to be made:
<p>One last thing!</p>	<p>After the drop off, post in your private social media, Mandy Arioto's video, All For Love, from leaders.mops.org/theme-resources/mom-curriculum-2021 Username: affiliate@mops.org.au Password: ozleader</p> <p>It's full of laughs, inspirational thoughts, and is a fun way for your mums to learn about the theme. Then hold a Zoom meeting (use the discussion points on page 8 of Meetings That Speak Love), or invite mums to respond in social media to this question: <i>What is something you will do differently this week because of what you heard in the video?</i> A graphic prompt is available. (All graphics are downloadable – see thumbnails on pages 7-8.)</p>

SOCIAL MEDIA FUN

7-day Love Challenge

<p>What you will do (modify as you wish)</p>	<p>1. Announce your challenge Via email and social media, challenge your mums in the 7-day Love Challenge: Starting Valentine's Day, and for the next 6 days, put a new heart on your kids' door that says something you love about them. If you wish, do the same for your partner – leave notes in his sock drawer or on his mirror. Ask mums to take a photo of their efforts – and be prepared to share photos at the end of the challenge</p> <p>2. Share stories At the end of 7 days, invite everyone to share their photos in the Facebook group. (If your mums are active on Facebook, they might like to share during the week as well.) Some mums may have fun stories to tell.</p>
<p>When you will do it</p>	<p>Choose if you want to start or end with Valentine's Day (ie February 8-14 or 14-20). Send the email and post on social media a few days ahead of the start date.</p>
<p>What you need to prepare</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan how you're going to word your challenge. 2. Prepare a graphic to post in your Facebook group or use the provided graphics, if they work for you. <i>(All graphics are downloadable – see thumbnails on pages 7-8.)</i> 3. Also send the challenge by email, in case some mums are not checking their social media.
<p>Go deeper</p>	<p>If your mums have their own copy of Stories That Speak Love, encourage them to read the mother-love story, "Unexpected Joy", on page 16. Post a reminder in your group's social media, or include in your email.</p>
<p>Don't forget the kids!</p>	<p>When you send the email challenge, also attach the 2. <i>Palm Sunday</i> colouring sheet for mums to print off for their children. Download this from the All For Kids Tab at mops.org.au/leader-downloads</p>
<p>Who's doing what? (add names to tasks)</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Word the challenge: (team) 2. Preparing the graphic: 3. Post the challenge on social media: 4. Send the challenge by email: 5. Actively encourage social media interaction from 14-28 February: 6. Pray that love will strengthen all relationships:

LOVE is Our Logo.

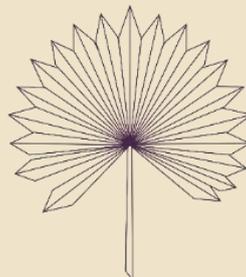
As I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this, all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

John 13:34-35

PLAY DATE

Meet in a local playground or park

<p>What you will do (modify as you wish)</p>	<p>Meet in a local park or playground Choose a local playground where mums and kids can meet and play for an hour. Ensure that you comply with local Covid requirements. Depending on the size of your group, this may mean splitting in two and meeting in two separate playgrounds.</p>
<p>When you will do it (add your dates)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise the play date: • Hold the play date:
<p>What you need to prepare</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare to be intentional in your conversations with mums. Focus on loving them unconditionally. 2. Design a graphic (with the date) or use the generic one provided. <i>(All graphics are downloadable – see thumbnails on pages 7-8.)</i>
<p>Go deeper</p>	<p>If your mums have their own copy of Stories That Speak Love, encourage them to read “Do You Need a Mummy Re-set Day?” on page 8. Remind mums in your Facebook group. (Graphic prompt available for download.)</p>
<p>Don’t forget the kids!</p>	<p>Help the kids know that you are pleased to see them.</p>
<p>Who’s doing what? (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare the graphic: 2. Post on social media: 3. Email the details: 4. Pray that connections will develop through intentional conversations: 5. Pray for children's safety:



REVERSE DROP-OFFS

Loving our World

<p>What you will do (modify as you wish)</p>	<p>1. Invite mums to contribute one item for a gift to a women’s refuge or women’s support group.</p> <p>Suggest mums buy one little ‘extra’ in their next shop (eg cake of soap, shampoo, block of chocolate, etc). Set a collection date. Ask mums to let you know if they have a contribution. The day before collection, ask mums to put their item in the letterbox. Encourage mums further by posting in your private social media, the short theme video (1:36) from MOPS International, leaders.mops.org/theme-resources/mom-curriculum-2021 Username: affiliate@mops.org.au Password: ozleader.</p> <p>Set a collection date and confirm which mums have contributions. Send a reminder to put their item in their letterbox.</p> <p>2. Leaders collect the contributions.</p> <p>Leaders drive to the homes on their list, collect the item from the letterbox, and leave behind a sweet ‘thank you’ note.</p> <p>3. Deliver the gift items to the designated recipient.</p> <p>Take a photo of the completed gift or its delivery. Post in your FB group so your mums can see what they were a part of.</p>
<p>When you will do it (add your dates)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email or Facebook the invitation: • Send reminder re collection: • Allocate mums to team members for item collection: • Collect the contributions:
<p>What you need to prepare</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decide on the charity or recipient: (team) 2. Plan the wording of your invitation. 3. Design a graphic to post in your Facebook group or use the provided graphic if it works for you. (<i>All graphics are downloadable – see thumbnails on pages 7-8.</i>) 4. Also send the challenge by email, in case some mums are not checking social media.
<p>Go deeper</p>	<p>If your mums have Stories That Speak Love, suggest they do the ACTION items for the Theme Verse activity on page 32. (Graphic prompt available.)</p>
<p>Don’t forget the kids!</p>	<p>When dropping off the ‘thank you’ note to the mums, leave some mini Easter-eggs for the children.</p>
<p>Who’s doing what? (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design an invitation graphic: 2. Post on social media: 3. Contact mums by email: 4. Collate responses and coordinate collection allocations: 5. Buy sufficient Easter eggs for the children: 6. Collect contributions: (team, as per allocation list) 7. Package up contributions into gift (or gifts): 8. Make a card to go with the gift (if it’s a mum-recipient): 9. Deliver gift to recipient(s): 10. Pray for mums with personal needs (both visible and invisible):



ZOOM CATCH-UP

Easter

<p>What you will do (modify as you wish)</p>	<p>1. Host a zoom meeting. This is an opportunity for mums to meet virtually even if they can't meet in person. Start with a fun activity to help mums relax. If this is their first 'meeting' for the year, allow time for conversation to flow naturally, but be prepared to help the conversation along by coming prepared with some discussion questions. (See sample questions below.)</p> <p>2. Share about Jesus' death and resurrection. Have one or two team members share briefly what Easter means to them.</p> <p>3. Invite the mums to your church's Easter services. Include invitations to both virtual and in-person services, and any other Easter events.</p>
<p>When you will do it (add your dates)</p>	<p>Schedule your Zoom meeting at a time of day that best suits your mums.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoom meeting date and time: • Send by email, and post on Facebook, a 'save the date', with day, time and zoom link:
<p>What you need to prepare</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 'Save the date' graphic. 2. As a team, think about which Easter message(s) you want to focus on. Don't try to cover every aspect of salvation and redemption all at once! Aim to keep your words simple and avoid Christianese. 3. Select or prepare discussion questions. 4. Read the Bonus Easter Meeting Plan, on page 47 in Meetings That Speak Love, for other ideas to include in your Zoom.
<p>Go deeper</p>	<p>Make use of your group's private social media at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When promoting the Zoom Catch-up, suggest that mums read the Easter articles in Stories That Speak Love beforehand if they can. The two articles are: "The Hope of Easter" on page 12, and "Easter: Life, Love and Fun" on page 42. Graphic prompts are provided. • Post Easter graphics on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. (Graphics are provided.) Also, there are many encouraging Easter videos on the internet; share one that you feel will meet your mums where they are. <p><i>(All graphics are downloadable – see thumbnails on pages 7-8.)</i></p>
<p>Don't forget the kids!</p>	<p>When you email the "save the date", also attach a 3. <i>Easter – resurrection</i> colouring sheet for mums to print off for their children. Download this from the All For Kids tab at mops.org.au/leader-downloads</p> <p>Also attach our PDF of Fun Things To Do At Home (with kids).</p>
<p>Who's doing what? (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design the graphic: 2. Post on social media: 3. Contact mums by email: 4. Prepare a fun activity for the start of Zoom: 5. Prepare or select discussion questions: 6. Host the Zoom Catch-up: 7. Host the discussion: 8. Two or three leaders to share what Easter means to them: 9. Confirm details of your church's Easter services: 10. Pray for mums to be impacted by the saving power of Jesus' life, death and resurrection:

Questions for Zoom Discussion

Select from these sample questions, or create your own.

- What were your highlights or memorable moments from Term 1?
- What are your plans for the Easter break?
- What Easter memories do you have from your childhood and/or what Easter memories would you like to nurture in your children?
- If your mums have read "The Hope of Easter" in **Stories That Speak Love**, select questions from those provided on page 13 at the end of the article.

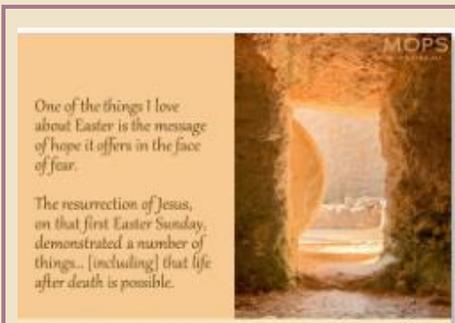
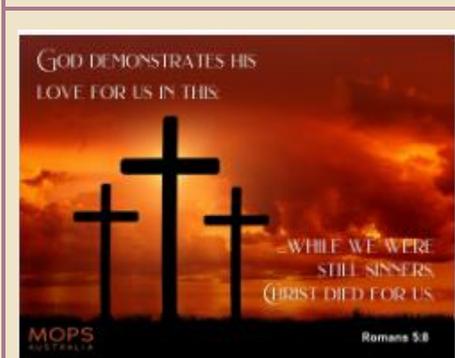
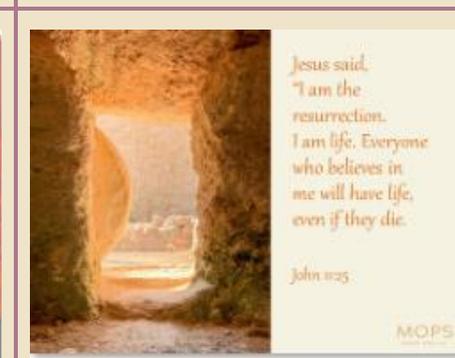
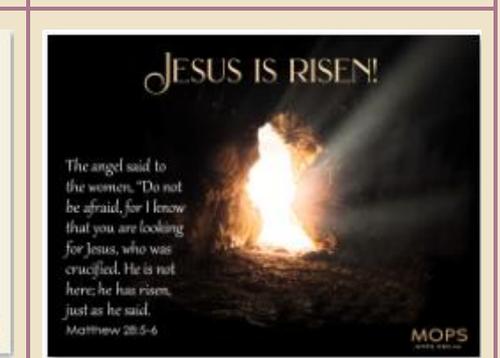
For more Connection ideas – check out the All For Love postcards.

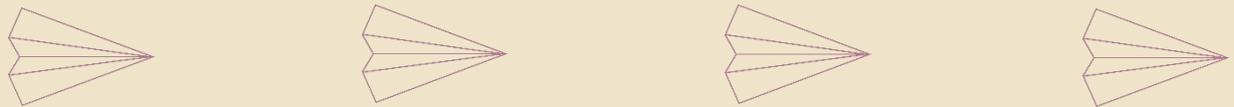
TERM 1 GRAPHICS

All the graphics mentioned in this Plan are free to download from MOPS Australia Downloads (in *Theme Resources*), under the **Never Give Up 2022** tab. This table shows thumbnails of what's available.

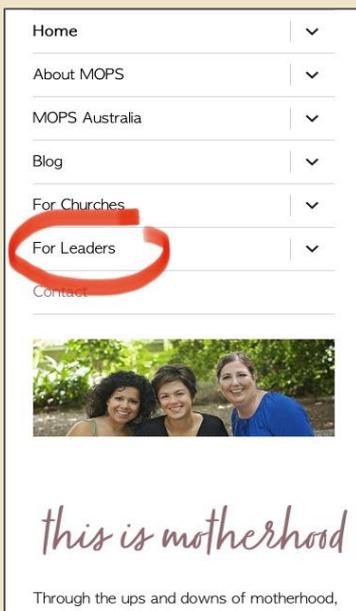
<p>1st Connection-All For Love</p>	<p>2nd Connection-Love Challenge</p>	<p>2nd Connection-Love Challenge samples</p>
<p>2nd Connection-Go Deeper prompt-Gabriel</p>	<p>3rd Connection-Play Date</p>	<p>3rd Connection-Go Deeper prompt-Jessica</p>
<p>4th Connection- Loving our world</p>	<p>4th Connection-Go Deeper prompt-1Cor13</p>	<p>5th Connection-Easter zoom</p>

...continued over page

 <p>One of the things I love about Easter is the message of hope it offers in the face of fear.</p> <p>The resurrection of Jesus, on that first Easter Sunday, demonstrated a number of things... (including) that life after death is possible.</p> <p>Read more in "The Hope of Easter" in <i>Stories That Speak Love</i>, page 12.</p> <p>5th Connection-Go Deeper prompt-Lexia</p>	 <p>Focus on FUN Create some fun, tactile experiences for your kids. Eggs are a great part of Easter tradition.</p> <p><i>Helping KIDS understand Easter</i></p> <p>Focus on LIFE Before Jesus died, he lived!! And what a life it was. Share stories of Jesus' life -- his miracles and the wonderful things he said.</p> <p>Read more in "Easter: Life, Love and Fun" in <i>Stories That Speak Love</i>, page 42.</p> <p>5th Go Deeper prompt-Gabriel</p>	<h1>FUN THINGS TO DO AT HOME</h1>   <p>5th Connection-Fun things to do PDF</p>
 <p>5. Easter-Good Friday</p>	 <p>5. Easter Sunday1</p>	 <p>5. Easter Sunday2</p>



This is how to find the graphics. Go to our website mops.org.au. Log in (Username: **MOPS**; Password: **patientandkind**). From the **For Leaders** menu, select **Downloads**. All the tabs you need are under *Theme Resources*. Or you can go directly to the Downloads page mops.org.au/leader-downloads

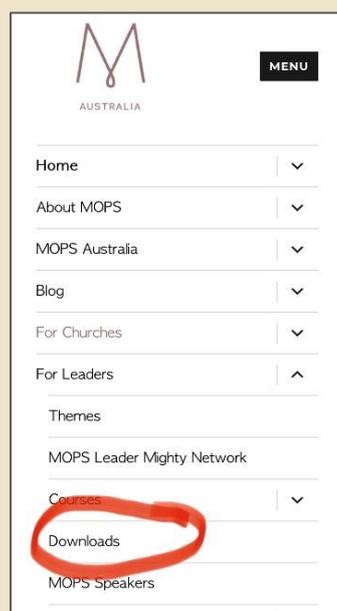


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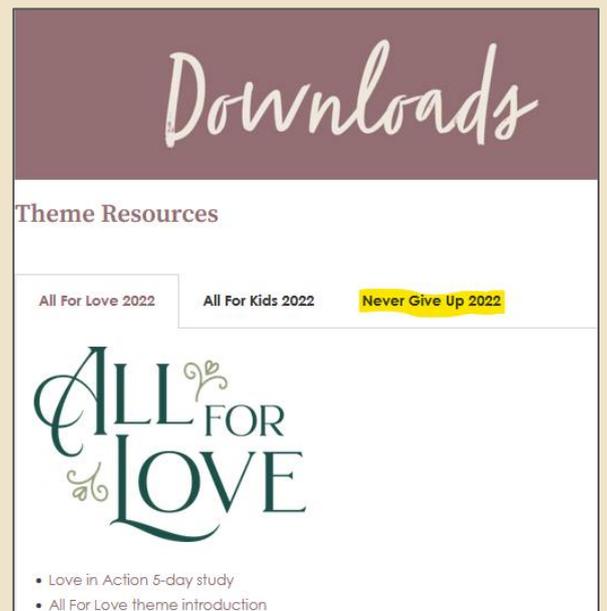
this is motherhood

Through the ups and downs of motherhood.



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Downloads

Theme Resources

- All For Love 2022
- All For Kids 2022
- Never Give Up 2022**

ALL FOR LOVE

- Love in Action 5-day study
- All For Love theme introduction



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