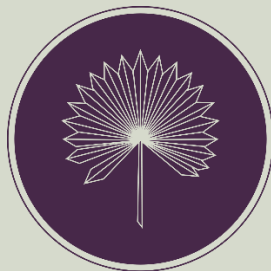


# LOVE NEVER GIVES UP

## MORE CONNECTION PLANS

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



Here are some more plans to follow on from the Term 1 Plans sent out earlier this year. Again, the plans are built around simple ideas that will help maintain connection with mums.

These ideas are intentionally linked 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](https://mops.org.au/leader-downloads) under *Theme Resources*.

I pray these plans will bless your mums and help your group to flourish.

*Lexia*

0413 693 274 [office@mops.org.au](mailto:office@mops.org.au)

*Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.* 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 (ESV Bible)

# GIFT DROP OFF

## Pamper Pack

<p><b>What you will do</b> (modify as you wish)</p>	<p><b>Team members will deliver a pamper gift into every mum's letterbox!</b></p> <p>The pamper gift will help mums to feel special and loved. Include: coffee bag or tea bag, lip balm, scented body scrub, 'muffin in a cup' ingredients, home-made ANZAC biscuits, or heart-shaped chocolate etc.</p> <p>Bless each mum with a personal note to encourage her as a woman and a mother. Leaders on your team could write a few notes each. If you'd like to develop stronger connection between MOPS mums and women in your church, maybe invite some of the older women in the church to write (and sign) these personal notes of encouragement.</p>
<p><b>When you will do it</b> (decide a date)</p>	<p>This would work as a Mother's Day connection, or at any time. This year, Mothers' Day is Sunday 8 May. Plan to make deliveries in the week prior.</p>
<p><b>What you need to prepare</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Names and addresses of all your registered mums.</li> <li>• Meet with your team (on Zoom if necessary) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ decide what you will include in the gift.</li> <li>○ divide the deliveries and note-writing up between team members so that the job is not too demanding on any one person.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Buy or make the items for your gift pack. Allow advance prep time if your team will make the gifts.</li> <li>• Make or buy sufficient gift bags to fill with items for each mum.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Go deeper</b></p>	<p>If your mums have their own copy of <b>Stories That Speak Love</b>, encourage them to read "Stretch Marks" by Cate Stephens on page 14. Send an email reminder, or post a graphic prompt in your group's social media.</p>
<p><b>Don't forget the kids!</b></p>	<p>Include a gift or activity for the children, eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sheet of A4 paper folded in half, with the words "I Love You, Mum" printed on the front. Include some bright paper shapes, stickers, etc for children to decorate the card. Older children might write their name.</li> <li>• Download the read-and-colour sheet: "God Creates the World".</li> </ul>
<p><b>Who's doing what?</b> (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Buy items:</li> <li>2. Make items:</li> <li>3. Source gift bags:</li> <li>4. Ensure there is an encouragement note for each mum:</li> <li>5. Ensure there is a gift or colouring-in sheet for kids:</li> <li>6. Fill gift bags:</li> <li>7. Label gift bags:</li> <li>8. Deliver gift bags: <i>team – as per allocation list</i></li> <li>9. Pray for heart connections to be made:</li> </ol>
<p><b>Celebrate mothering</b></p>	<p>Generate conversations to celebrate mums in your group's social media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• something they like about being a mum;</li> <li>• something they learnt about being a mum from their own mother;</li> <li>• their fears or hopes about being a mum;</li> <li>• a funny story about being a mum; and/or</li> <li>• their goals as a mum.</li> </ul> <p><i>Graphic prompts are available for download.</i></p> <p>On Mothers' Day, post a Mothers' Day encouragement graphic. If your church is having a Mothers' Day service, invite your mums to attend and let them know MOPS leaders will meet them in the foyer on the day.</p>

# ZOOM MEETING

## MOPS After Dark!

<p><b>What you will do</b> (modify as you wish)</p>	<p><b>1. Encourage mums to watch the MOPS Video “Sacred Rest: What are you missing?”</b></p> <p>Send mums the video link two or three weeks prior to the planned Zoom meeting. Provide the Sacred Rest PDF to encourage them to take notes.</p> <p><b>2. Host an evening discussion on Zoom.</b></p> <p>Start with a fun activity to help mums relax and feel comfortable speaking on Zoom. Set the scene for mums to share their thoughts about the video they’ve watched during the week. Aim for an atmosphere of sharing and sisterhood. Encourage discussion through the use of prepared questions.</p>
<p><b>When you will do it</b> (add your dates)</p>	<p>Set your meeting time for after dinner, when little ones are in bed, and/or partners are home to respond to older children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zoom meeting date and time:</li> </ul>
<p><b>What you need to prepare</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pre-watch the video to see if it will work for your group. Choose a different video if there is another one that you think will work better.</li> <li>2. Post promo graphic with video link in your group’s private social media.</li> <li>3. Post the Zoom date, with a graphic, on social media two weeks prior to the meeting date. During the two weeks, encourage mums to watch.</li> <li>4. Download the Sacred Rest PDF. This is for mums to use as they watch. Making notes will help give continuity if (when) they face interruptions. Their notes will also be a prompt for them on the Zoom discussion.</li> <li>5. Send an email to all your mums. Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• notification that the video link has been posted;</li> <li>• the date and time of the Zoom meeting;</li> <li>• a copy of the Sacred Rest PDF;</li> <li>• a colouring-in sheet for the children.</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Prepare discussion questions, or use the ones provided in <b>Meetings That Speak Love</b> on p41. Browse the Meeting Plan for other ideas to include in your Zoom meeting.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Go deeper</b></p>	<p>Encourage your mums to consider the short scripture prayers on the reverse of the “Sacred Rest” PDF. Download from the <b>All For Love</b> tab.</p>
<p><b>Don’t forget the kids!</b></p>	<p>When you email the Zoom details, also download and attach the read-and-colour sheet, “Jesus Loves the Children” for mums to print off for their children.</p>
<p><b>Who’s doing what?</b> (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Design or download a promo graphic:</li> <li>2. Post Zoom details on social media:</li> <li>3. Contact mums by email (see attachments above):</li> <li>4. Prepare a fun activity for the start of Zoom:</li> <li>5. Prepare or select discussion questions:</li> <li>6. Facilitate the Zoom Meeting:</li> <li>7. Lead the discussion:</li> <li>8. Pray for mums to benefit from physical rest and also find spiritual rest in Christ:</li> </ol>

## GET CREATIVE

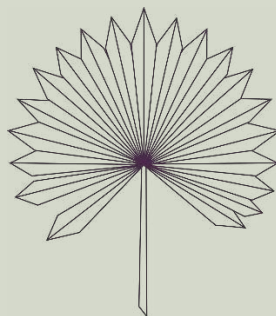
## Dinner Conversation Cards

<p><b>What you will do</b> (modify as you wish)</p>	<p><b>Provide a simple colouring craft – with a long-term purpose.</b></p> <p>Provide mums with ideas and material to make simple Dinner Conversation Cards. Encourage mums to use the cards to help get the family talking around the dinner table.</p>
<p><b>When you will do it</b> (decide a date)</p>	
<p><b>What you need to prepare</b></p>	<p>A 'Dinner Conversation Cards' pack for each mum which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A4 sheets printed with 8 illustrated topic cards. Use slightly heavier paper. 100GSM or 120GSM will run through the printer and is heavy enough to be special.</li> <li>• Consider including two or three colouring pencils in each kit.</li> <li>• Simple instruction sheet.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Go deeper</b></p>	<p>If your mums have their own copy of <b>Stories That Speak Love</b>, encourage them to read "Family is where your heart is" on page 24.</p> <p>Post a reminder in your group's social media, or include in your email. A graphic is provided for download.</p> <p><i>Note: This article invites women to consider following Jesus and suggests that women may wish to discuss this idea with the MOPS leaders. Use Share Jesus (or other resource), to equip your team to respond to questions.</i></p>
<p><b>Don't forget the kids!</b></p>	<p>Depending on their age, some kids may be able to do this activity with their mums. Some cards have pictures suitable for children to colour in.</p> <p>Or download and include a copy of the read-and-colour sheet, "Jesus Feeds 5,000" just for them.</p>
<p><b>Who's doing what?</b> (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Allocate mums to leaders for delivering kits:</li> <li>2. Buy paper for printing, pencils (if applicable):</li> <li>3. Download PDF of discussion topics and print:</li> <li>4. Bundle into individual kits (envelopes or ziplock bag):</li> <li>5. Label kits:</li> <li>6. Post samples in the group's social media in the week leading up to delivery:</li> <li>7. Deliver kits: <i>team – as per allocation list</i></li> <li>8. Pray for families to grow closer and develop healthy and fun conversation habits:</li> </ol>

# SOCIAL MEDIA FUN

Discover your Mum Super Power

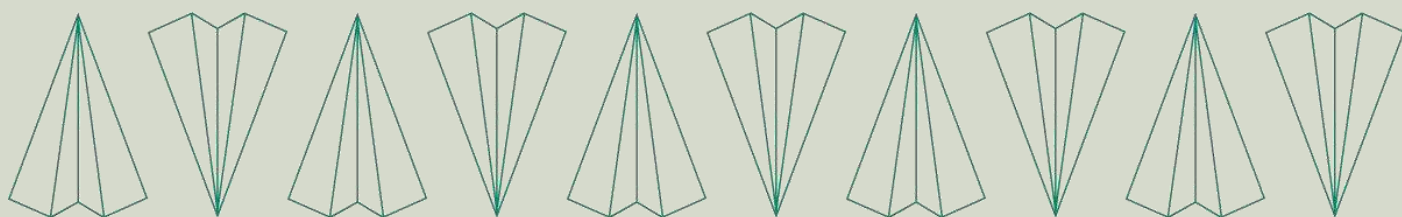
<p><b>What you will do</b> (modify as you wish)</p>	<p><b>Challenge mums to focus on their strengths in a fun way.</b></p> <p>Post a graphic prompt in your group's social media. Invite mums to respond in the comments.</p> <p>To generate maximum interaction, consider posting a different prompt each day for the week, with the challenge: What mum super power do you need <b>today</b>?</p>
<p><b>When you will do it</b> (decide a date)</p>	<p>As well as setting the date, decide if you want to run the challenge on just one day or each day for a week.</p>
<p><b>What you need to prepare</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan how you're going to word your challenge.</li> <li>• Email every mum in your group encouraging her to check in on social media for the challenge.</li> <li>• Prepare a graphic to post in your Facebook group or use the provided graphics, if they work for you. <i>(All graphics are available for download.)</i></li> <li>• Encourage your leaders to lead by example in posting responses.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Go deeper</b></p>	<p>If your mums have their own copy of <b>Stories That Speak Love</b>, encourage them to read "Wounds or Scars" by Trish Montgomery, on page 18.</p> <p>Include this encouragement in your email, and post a reminder in your group's social media during the week. A graphic is available for download.</p>
<p><b>Don't forget the kids!</b></p>	<p>When you send the email challenge, attach the PDF "Creative Play – With What You Have at Home".</p> <p>Also download and attach the read-and-colour sheet: "Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter" for mums to print off for their children.</p>
<p><b>Who's doing what?</b> (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Design graphic prompts (or download the graphics provided):</li> <li>2. Post on social media:</li> <li>3. Send email letting mums know to check on social media and invite mums to join in:</li> <li>4. Pray that mums will learn to not rely on their own strength, but to find strength through knowing Jesus:</li> </ol>



# DRIVEWAY MORNING TEA

## Muffin Break

<p><b>What you will do</b> (modify as you wish)</p>	<p><b>Create 3 Muffin Break stations – one in each leader’s driveway.</b></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> station: Home-made muffins. 2<sup>nd</sup> station: Beverage. 3<sup>rd</sup> station: A chocolate.</p> <p>Mums drive into the drive-way and the leader passes the item to the mum through the car window. This allows mums to have a quick chat with another human being, while the kids are secure in their car seats.</p>
<p><b>When you will do it</b> (decide a date)</p>	<p>As well as deciding a date, set a time window (say 9am-11am). Be aware of any restrictions in your region with regard to gathering, and style your morning to comply with these. You may need to give mums a specified time to leave home by... if you need to stagger arrivals at each station.</p>
<p><b>What you need to prepare</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find team members who will be willing to host a station at their home.</li> <li>• Buy or make muffins.</li> <li>• Buy tea, coffee, milk, sugar, etc and a box of individually wrapped chocolates. (On the day, provide a cooler to keep these from melting.)</li> <li>• Prepare (or download) an invitation graphic.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Go deeper</b></p>	<p>Add a gift tag to the chocolate and write a bible verse on it.</p> <p>If your mums have their own copy of <b>Stories That Speak Love</b>, encourage them to read “The Gift of Comfort” by Grace McClymont” on page 10. Post a prompt on social media. A graphic is available for download.</p>
<p><b>Don’t forget the kids!</b></p>	<p>Provide a Car Bingo picture sheet for each child at station 1. Encourage mums to pack some kiddie treats to make it fun for their child too. (Or provide cut fruit and crackers at station 1.)</p>
<p><b>Who’s doing what?</b> (add names to tasks)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Host Station 1:</li> <li>2. Host Station 2:</li> <li>3. Host Station 3:</li> <li>4. Design a promo graphic, or download:</li> <li>5. Post event details on social media:</li> <li>6. Bake muffins (a couple of leaders?):</li> <li>7. Buy beverage requisites:</li> <li>8. Buy chocolates:</li> <li>9. Prepare and attach tags to chocolates:</li> <li>10. Contact mums by email:</li> <li>11. Download and print sheets for children:</li> <li>12. Pray that mums and kids will feel loved and refreshed:</li> </ol>



For more Connection ideas – check out the **All For Love** postcards and the Online/Virtual ideas in “Meetings That Speak Love”.

# GRAPHICS AND PDFS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

The ALL FOR LOVE postcards, the graphic prompts, and the PDFs mentioned in this Plan are free for leaders to download from the MOPS Australia Website. From the Leader menu, select *Downloads*, then *Theme Resources*, and then select the **Never Give Up 2022** tab.

This table shows what's available for each Plan. File names are prefixed with the Plan number.

Plan	Connection Graphics and PDFs	Go Deeper Prompts	For the Kids
6	Celebrate Mothers (MON)	Go Deeper – Stretch Marks	Read-and-colour: God Creates the World
	Celebrate Mothers (TUE)		
	Celebrate Mothers (WED)		
	Celebrate Mothers (THU)		
	Celebrate Mothers (FRI)		
	Mothers' Day post		
7	Promo video – Sacred Rest	SACRED REST Handout (PDF)	Read-and-colour: Jesus Loves the Children
	Promo Zoom – MOPS After Dark		
8	Promo Dinner Conversation Cards	Go Deeper – Family is Where Your Heart Is	Read-and-colour: Jesus Feeds 5,000
	Conversation Topic Cards (PDF)		
9	Super Power Today promo	Go Deeper – Wounds or Scars?	Read-and-colour: Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter
	Super Power Today (examples)		
	Super Power This Week promo		For mums and kids: CREATIVE PLAY – With What You Have At Home (PDF)
	Super Power This Week (examples)		
	Super Power prompt (MON)		
	Super Power prompt (TUE)		
	Super Power prompt (WED)		
	Super Power prompt (THU)		
	Super Power prompt (FRI)		
10	Promo Muffin Break	Go Deeper – Gift of Comfort	CAR BINGO Picture Sheet (PDF)

Even if you meet in person, you might find some of these ideas help with connection between meetings.



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ALL FOR LOVE

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.