

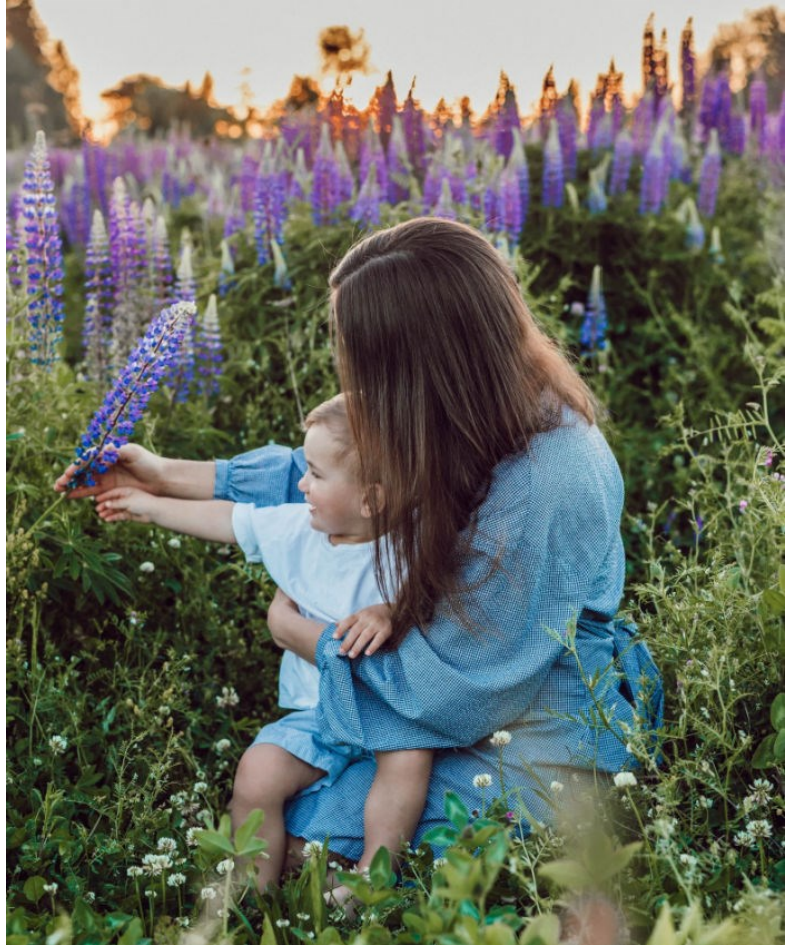
FIRST MOTHER

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And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. Genesis 3:20

There are people all over the world, past and present, who have wanted to be the first at something. First to reach a high mountain top, first man in space, first person to do this and that.

There are many "firsts" but one first I don't think I would want to have been was to be the first mother. I'm glad Eve took that role on for all of us women.



I was thinking about Mother's Day coming up and somehow my thoughts ran to Eve and how things must have been like for her becoming a mother. Of course, Eve was the first to sin and other firsts but being the first mother must have made it an interesting life for Eve.

Because of Eve's sin, we all know there is pain in childbirth, but she still was the very first to go through it and how that must have been for her. She didn't have Lamaze classes she could attend. She didn't have any

pregnancy books or even a doctor. No yearly checkups for her! And just think, no epidurals.

Eve didn't have anyone with her when Cain was born, telling her that, "Eve, *women have been doing this for thousands of years. It will be alright*".

No, she didn't have any of that. No birthing coach. There wasn't even another woman around that could be her midwife. No nurse at a hospital to wait on her and bring her first baby boy when he wanted fed. No one to take care of her, other than Adam, and he was the "first" husband, newly made and new to the whole thing of life and new to being a husband and father. I wonder how he did.

Eve didn't have any books to read on rearing kids. No famous child psychologist to fill her ears with all sorts of theories on child-rearing. No friends she could share with and discuss her children with. No other mothers to talk to while her boys played at the neighborhood park. No online support groups. She had to figure it all out on her own and do it all on her own.

Poor Eve. She didn't even have a Babies "R" Us to shop at. She never even had a babysitter so she could get away with Adam for a date night when her first little ones were born. Eve didn't have a mom she could call up and ask advice from. Not even a mother-in-law, although I'm sure some of you may think that would be a good thing.

The Bible mentions Eve's sons, Cain, Abel, and Seth. The Bible also says ([Genesis 5:4](#)) that Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters as well. We don't know how many and we don't know to what age Eve lived but we do know ([Genesis 5:5](#)) that Adam lived until he was 930 years old.

I'm sure among all this, Eve must have enjoyed her children like all mothers do. I'm confident that Eve had wonderful moments with her first three boys

and with her other children when they were babies, toddlers, and small children growing up as we all do with our children. I'm sure Eve had some beautiful memories throughout her life.

Of course, Eve saw heartache resulting from her children. To have the first murder happen within your family and have it to be one of your sons killing the other, must have weighed heavily on Eve.

I do not envy her the task of having to be the first mother to bury one of her children. How could some of us have handled being in Eve's situation?

There really are not too many details written about Eve in the Bible, but I still think by reflecting on her life, we can be inspired to ask ourselves a few questions.

HOW DO YOU HANDLE BEING TEMPTED?

Like Eve, we are all human and subject to being tempted to sin. We don't have a beautiful garden with some fruit hanging from a tree to stay away from, but that tempting fruit is hanging all around us just calling out to us to look, desire, pick of it, and taste. We have to be so careful not to be caught up in it.

Are you good at handling temptation?

HOW DO YOU HANDLE BEING A WIFE?

Eve was Adam's helpmeet.

And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. Genesis 2:18

We don't know exactly what kind of a wife she was, but we do know that if we are married, being the kind of wife we need to be takes a little work.

If you are married, are you where you want to be in your role as a wife? Are you a helpmeet to your husband?

HOW DO YOU HANDLE BEING A MOTHER?

Eve, our first mother, had to go through all the stages of motherhood that we all do. We just aren't given any details of how she interacted with her children or what type of mother she was.

If you are a mother, what kind of mother are you? I doubt if any of us are the "perfect" mother but are you happy at the place you are at being a mother? Do you like the way you interact with your kids? Do you have a handle on discipline?

There are so many areas that revolve around being a mother that it usually is a process to be the mother we'd like to become. How are you doing in your motherly role?

HOW DO YOU HANDLE HEARTBREAK?

Eve was the first to have to handle a mother's heartbreak from her children. Knowing one son lashed out in anger against the other in such a way had to be tough. Heartbreak from your children can be such a blow to any mother.

I know several mothers, good Christian women, who have raised their children in the ways of the Lord, but yet those children are grown now and have done things, gotten far from Christ, and living in a way that breaks those mother's hearts. It can bring such grief to a mother.

You may not even be a mother, but you may be hurting. Unstable relationships and circumstances may be weighing you down with some tremendous pressure.

Are you trusting in the Lord to get you through?

HOW DO YOU HANDLE SORROW?

What pain and sorrow Eve must have felt when her son, Abel, died at the hands of his brother, Cain. I guess Adam and Eve were the first to shed tears over losing a loved one as well as being among all the other firsts.

When sorrow enters your life, it can be overwhelming. Do you rest in the Lord to console you?

FINAL THOUGHTS

Although Eve's life seems so far away from us and long ago, she still was a woman and went through all the things we do. Emotions, feelings, childbirth, motherhood, child-rearing, and even was a grandmother, and probably lived to see great-great-great-great (and so on) grandchildren if she lived nearly as long as Adam. She went through all those things associated with being a woman.

Eve was the first woman and mother to go through it all.

I think we don't need to worry about concentrating on any "firsts" ourselves, but we should concentrate on Who we keep first in our lives. When we keep Christ first, it's then we begin to handle our lives like they should be handled.

It's then we can be the wife, mother, and woman that the Lord would have us be. It's then that we are better able to deal with any temptations that come our way. It's then that we rest in the Lord and rely on Him for comfort and consolation.

Putting Christ first will help us as we work on being the kind of woman a Christian should be.

SO, IS CHRIST FIRST IN YOUR LIFE?