

CELEBRATE MOM

THE EMPTY-NESTER MOM





A LETTER FOR THE HOST

Hi, there! I'm Laura Booz, author of *Expect Something Beautiful: Finding God's Good Gifts in Motherhood*. I'm a fan of all moms everywhere and I'm a big fan of *you*. Yes, you. Because you want to come alongside a woman in your life and cheer her on as she experiences a huge change in motherhood. You want her to know how loved she is. You want to support her as she launches her child(ren) into the world. Just writing those words makes me smile.

I've thought a lot about the mom you will be celebrating. I've prayed for her. I want the best for her and her adult child(ren). I can only imagine how much more *you* have thought, prayed, and longed for her wellbeing. That's why I want to come alongside *you* as you come alongside her. We designed this party to help you find just the right words, activities, and gifts for your celebration of what God has done in the past and what He will do in the future.

My prayer for the beloved Empty Nest Mom is that she would receive...

- **Goodness:** Laughter, friendship, and prayer.
- **Truth:** Scriptures to encourage her day-in and day-out.
- **Strength:** Time to look back on what God has done for and through her.
- **Vision:** A reminder that the best and most beautiful thing about motherhood is Jesus himself, who is with her always.

My prayer for *you* is that you would...

- **Rejoice in the harvest** of the Empty Nest Mom's work over the years.
- **Plant a seed of hope** as she looks forward to what's next.
- **Lay a foundation of love** that will stabilize her in this new season of motherhood.
- **Open a door of friendship** that will welcome her in, no matter what, all of the time.

Well, what are we waiting for?! God has done great things! We have a mom to celebrate!

May God bless you and keep you,

LAURA



ACTIVITY TIME!

Gather the guests together and have a seat. Give everyone a fun-size bag of M&M's or Skittles and have each person pull one candy out. Each color indicates what icebreaker question they will answer. We want this to be a time to share and encourage the mom in the room that you're celebrating. Have fun, be honest and enjoy conversations that start because of it! Feel free to go multiple rounds if you'd like.

Blue: *What's one thing you love /look forward to about being an empty nester?*

Red: *A fun memory you have of your mom or a mentor in your life.*

Yellow: *Favorite way to bring joy into your day*

Green: *Tell us how God redeemed one mistake you made in your 20's or early adulthood*

Brown/Purple: *What is something you cherish about being grown up?*

Orange: *What is a book that you've loved lately?*

WISDOM CARDS

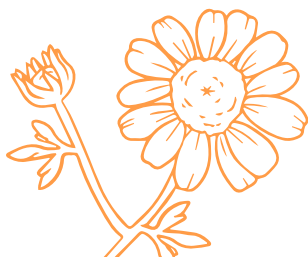
We want you to take the time to bless this mom, so pass out the cards on the next page to the guests. Give them all pens and give them time to write down some wisdom for the mom you're honoring. Once everyone has written their blessing, encouragement, challenge or kind advice, have everyone go around and read them aloud. Afterward, you can give all the cards to mom as a keepsake.

Note: it's best to print these and copy them onto cardstock so that they last longer for the years to come!

Once cards are filled out and read to the mom to encourage her, end with a time of prayer. If you need something to pray, there's a prayer from Laura on the page after the cards. You can even print out that prayer and give it to your guest of honor!

FLOWERS

We want Mom to walk away with something special, so get flowers and have each woman give her a flower with their time of sharing blessing and encouragement over her. Have a vase ready so by the end, she has a full bouquet.



SO YOU'RE STEPPING INTO
A NEW SEASON...

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EMPTY NEST MOM PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

*We lift up _____ to you and ask for your blessing
as she enters this new season of motherhood.*

Thank you for all you have done for her in motherhood so far.

We praise you for her child(ren). (Consider saying the name of her child(ren).)

*As _____ reflects on the years
of raising her child(ren) at home,
may she see evidence of your grace.
You rejoiced with her in good times,
and mourned with her in sorrowful times.
You made her strong when she was weak.
You comforted her when she was distressed.
You sustained her, day-in and day-out.
You redeemed brokenness.*

*And now, as _____ looks forward
to the next season of motherhood,
may she see it as an invitation
to continue walking closely with you.
May she never forget how much
You want to hear from her
and sustain her with your Word.*

*You have good work for _____ to do.
And you have been working through motherhood to
prepare her for this next season.
May she lean on you for vision, direction, and endurance.*

*We ask for your blessing on _____'s adult child(ren).
Please give them faith in Jesus.
May they grow in wisdom and strength.
May they have favor with you and people.
And whenever _____ thinks about her child(ren),
may she stand on your promises and trust your good heart.*

*We look forward to your good plan for _____
and we bless her in Jesus' name.*

Amen.



*These are small prints of scripture that can be printed and used as decor or party favors.
Feel free to print them on whatever cardstock you'd like!*

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.*

PSALM 119:105



Beloved, if God so loved us,
we also ought to love one another.
No one has ever seen God; if we
love one another, God abides in us
and his love is perfected in us.

1 JOHN 4:11-12

YOU MAKE KNOWN TO ME
THE PATH OF LIFE;
IN YOUR PRESENCE THERE
IS FULLNESS OF JOY;
AT YOUR RIGHT HAND ARE
PLEASURES FOREVERMORE.

PSALM 16:11



It is good to give thanks
to the LORD, to sing praises
to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love
in the morning, and your
faithfulness by night.

Psalms 92:1-2

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.*

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