



** The Inside Scoop **

February 9, 2009

MOPS at Sacred Heart Church in Enumclaw, Washington www.orgsites.com/wa/shmops

God's Box of Chocolates--A Valentine's Day Devotional

By [LauraLee Shaw](#)

Everywhere I look near Valentine's Day, there's chocolate: boxes of chocolate in all the stores, chocolate on tv promising to be the only love you need, chocolate girl scout cookies--CHOCOLATE! I even saw chocolate Altoid breath mints in the grocery check-out aisle the other day! I think that's what led me to remember the famous quote from Forrest Gump: "Life is like a box of chocolates...you never know what you're gonna get." (I even remembered it with his accent.)

In reality, that phrase can be true in many ways. We wake up every morning completely unsure of what the day may hold for us. We've made our plans. Sometimes they even happen the way we make them. But we never know for sure, do we?

The days that come with caramel in the middle are my favorite. The ones with the strawberry goo are just so so--but the ones with coconut--YUCK! I'd rather go back to bed. Then there's the days where tragedy or difficult times come out of nowhere, and the chocolate sits in the pantry untouched...there's no sweetness to be had in those moments, it seems.

God knows that life as it pertains to circumstances is uncertain for us. That's why He comforts us and reminds us so many times that He is our constant companion, our steadfast friend, our consistently loving God and Savior. He doesn't keep promises the way we do:

"When people make promises, they guarantee them by appeal to some authority above them so that if there is any question that they'll make good on the promise, the authority will back them up. When God wanted to guarantee His promises, He gave His word, a rock-solid guarantee--God can't break His word. And because His word cannot change, the promise is likewise unchangeable." (Heb. 6:16-18, the Message)

You see, no matter what chocolate we are "in the middle of" right now, He is there--with the certainty of His promise today as well as His hope of heaven in the future. Listen to how the verse above continues to encourage us: (vs.19-20)

"We who have run for our very lives to God have every reason to grab the promised hope with both hands and never let go. It's an unbreakable spiritual lifeline, reaching past all appearances right to the very presence of God where Jesus, running on ahead of us, has taken up His permanent post as high priest for us, in the order of Melchizedek."

I love the visual picture of grabbing on to Him with both hands as He runs ahead of me to the Father. That makes me able to get up today and praise Him for whatever comes my way. This faith, this confidence, this hope is our unbreakable spiritual lifeline--HIS love for us no matter what, when, how or why. Let's binge on His priceless box of chocolates today...the sweetest and most satisfying of them all.

"Taste and see that the Lord is good;
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him."

Psalm 34:8

Article Source: <http://www.faithwriters.com>

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It's Happening Today

Speaker: Doug and Jennifer Bursch

2 31 Ways to tell your Child You love Them

There's nothing wrong with saying those three little words every day to your child, over and over again. But for those children who respond more to being showed—that they are loved here are 31 ways to get your started.

Article idea taken from By [Terri Mauro](#), About.com

1. Spend a little time each day playing entirely at your child's direction.
2. Cuddle up under a blanket and watch what he or she wants to watch on TV.
3. Give a chocolate kiss along with a real one.
4. Exchange [butterfly kisses](#) or nose-to-nose Eskimo kisses.
5. Find something about your child's appearance to compliment.
6. Find something about your child's music to compliment.
7. Do one of your child's chores for him or her.
8. Run fingers through hair.
9. Make a fort out of pillows and blankets
10. Read books about family love, like "[I Love You, Good Night.](#)" "[On Mother's Lap.](#)" "[Guess How Much I Love You](#)" or "[If You Were My Bunny.](#)"
11. Send an encouraging note with your child's lunch.
12. Pick out candy conversation hearts with appropriate messages and present them to your child.
13. Cook something together.
14. Talk in the car on the way to school instead of listening to the radio.
15. Give a foot massage.
16. Take a long walk together, at your child's pace.
17. Read the funny pages together.
18. Find a video game you can play together, like "webkinz"
19. Do a jigsaw puzzle together.
20. Use magnetic letters to put loving messages on the fridge.
21. Make customized word games with loving messages.
22. Take pictures of facial expressions showing different emotions, and tape the one of you showing "love" over your child's bed.
23. Send your child a card in the mail, with stickers or a treat inside.
24. Stick an encouraging note on your child's mirror as she sleeps.



31 ways to tell your child you love them. Cont...

25. Set aside a little time each day, maybe before bedtime, to talk about what's going on in your child's life, judgment free. If your child doesn't like to talk, say "Tell me three things that happened today." If it helps, tell three things that happened to you in return.

26. Find a board game you both enjoy and schedule regular tournaments.

27. If you use a point system for rewards, give bonus points just for being a great kid.

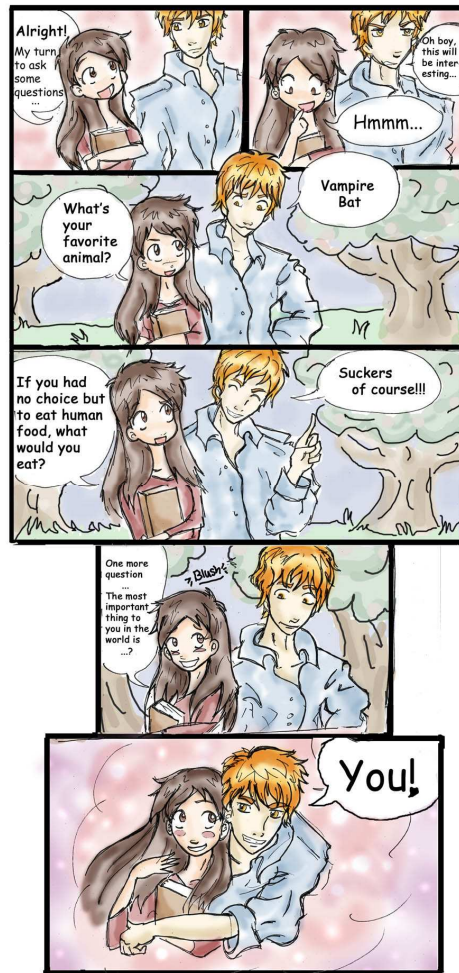
28. Develop a secret word or gesture that only the two of you know the meaning of.

29. Kids who don't like to be hugged may be okay with sitting on your lap and being held from behind, particularly if they're watching TV or reading.

30. Take your child out to lunch every now and then, just the two of you.

31. Play hide and seek with your child, and while you're searching talk very loudly about how sad you will be if you can't find him or her. Then be *very* happy when you're reunited.

Edward & Bella Valentine's Day Comic



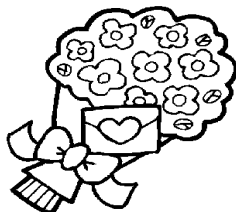
Elo

So Sweet! ☺

Valentine's Day Word Search

C D H P Y E F S R A Y S G U H
 K H C E M G N T O M F E L K M
 D A O D A U S N S K L S T U T
 P N S C G R M L E I O S G X D
 P O E G O T T N S W W I R X H
 V C L I E L D D U C E K A C F
 F E G Y R Q A C Q A R V O R O
 W U L H Q F A T T X S O O Z H
 C A N D Y R L T E T M O N L O
 U J L Y D F I Z D S S G M G Q

candy
 card
 chocolate
 cuddle
 flowers
 friend
 heart



hugs
 kisses
 love
 roses
 smooch
 snuggle

Mops 2008-2009 steering team

Co-Coordinator: Jackie Morgan and Angela Ward

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Finance: Amy Zuydhoek

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Karina Dunlap

Leah Tobin

Shannon Galvin

Shawna Kelly

Mentors:

Lu Blair

Dianne Broaddus

Michelle Bloye

Camille HowardJouella

Longtine

Upcoming Activities and Events...



MOM'S NIGHT OUT-

TONIGHT- At THE MINT- in Enumclaw- come join us for some Mommy time.



Next Meeting: March 2nd

SPA Day- Lazy River- Relax and Enjoy.

Craft: TBA

If you've got it, pamper it!



A big Thank You To our Fundraiser Coordinator ZOE WRYSCH- our Eric Ode Concert and Bake Sale brought in a total of \$257.75

Join us in wishing our MOPS mom's born in February a Very Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|----------------|--------|
| Hollie Rubin | 7-Feb |
| Tanya Brauer | 11-Feb |
| Shelly Moore | 14-Feb |
| Kimberly Kalin | 18-Feb |



MOPS FUNDRAISER- Antiquities

March 13th and 14th- \$10 sitting fee gets you a free 10x13 photograph.



100% Of the money goes to our MOPS group. Please help us by telling your friends and family. And don't forget to sign up your family- these would make wonderful Easter gifts.

This is the last fundraiser of this year.

Sacred Heart MOPS meetings Every Other Monday at Sacred Heart church in Enumclaw 1614 Farrelly St, Enumclaw 98022.

For More information contact Jackie @ 253-631-7094

CLASSIFIED ADS

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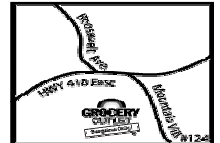
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