

# Mother's Day

## Around the World

Mother's Day is celebrated the second Sunday of May in most places, but the last Sunday of May, May 10, the first day of spring, or some other date in other places

In Brazil, Mother's day is the same as the USA, but Father's day is the second Sunday of August

In the UK, it is called "Mothering Sunday" and is on the 4th Sunday of Lent, and some countries have connected it with Women's Day in March.

In Haiti, Mother's Day is the fourth Sunday of May. They honor their mothers by wearing a red flower if the mothers are alive and a white or purple one if they have passed

Common ways to celebrate Mother's Day are with gifts, flowers, and cards, as well as giving her a day off of cooking and cleaning

In Kenya, Mother's Day is celebrated in churches and mosques by special prayers held in their honor. Mothers are also celebrated by being served breakfast, or "kiamsha kinywa", in bed

In some persecuted countries, specially Muslim majority countries, the actual day might not be celebrated, but Mothers are valued and celebrated

In Tanzania, "Happy Mother's Day" is "furaha kwa siku ya kina mama" and they celebrate similarly to us

In India, they celebrate by giving cards and making a meal so Mom doesn't have to, much like we do

In Uganda, they celebrate with flowers and gifts, much like we do

# Mother's Day

## A Basic History

1  
Middle Ages

### Mothersing Sunday began

This is when they would visit the local "mother" church or the church in which one was baptized, and would honor one's mother as well. It was a break from fasting halfway through the season of Lent (the fourth Sunday).

2  
1907

### Anna Jarvis organized the first Mother's Day in the USA

It was just in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia, but was very popular. This doesn't mean that moms were not celebrated before this-- they just didn't have a specific day set aside for it. They celebrated on May 10, to honor Anna Jarvis' mother and her service to others.

3  
1914

### Congress made the second Sunday in May Mother's Day

This means that the date of Mother's day changes each year with the calendar, so it can always be on a Sunday. There was a strong push by Anna Jarvis and others to not commercialize this holiday, but that has largely failed.

4  
Now

### Mother's Day is a Big Deal

Most cultures and religions appreciate mothers, so this holiday wasn't hard to start. People spend around 30 billion dollars (about the same as Easter) for Mother's Day. It is the 3rd most popular holiday around the World, after Christmas and Easter. More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day, and it is also the busiest day of the year for restaurants.



# Mother's Day

## Connected to Missions

1



**Rewardcharts4kids.com has free PDF  
Mother's Day coupon books**

You can get the ones already filled out, or with fill in the blanks for making your own.

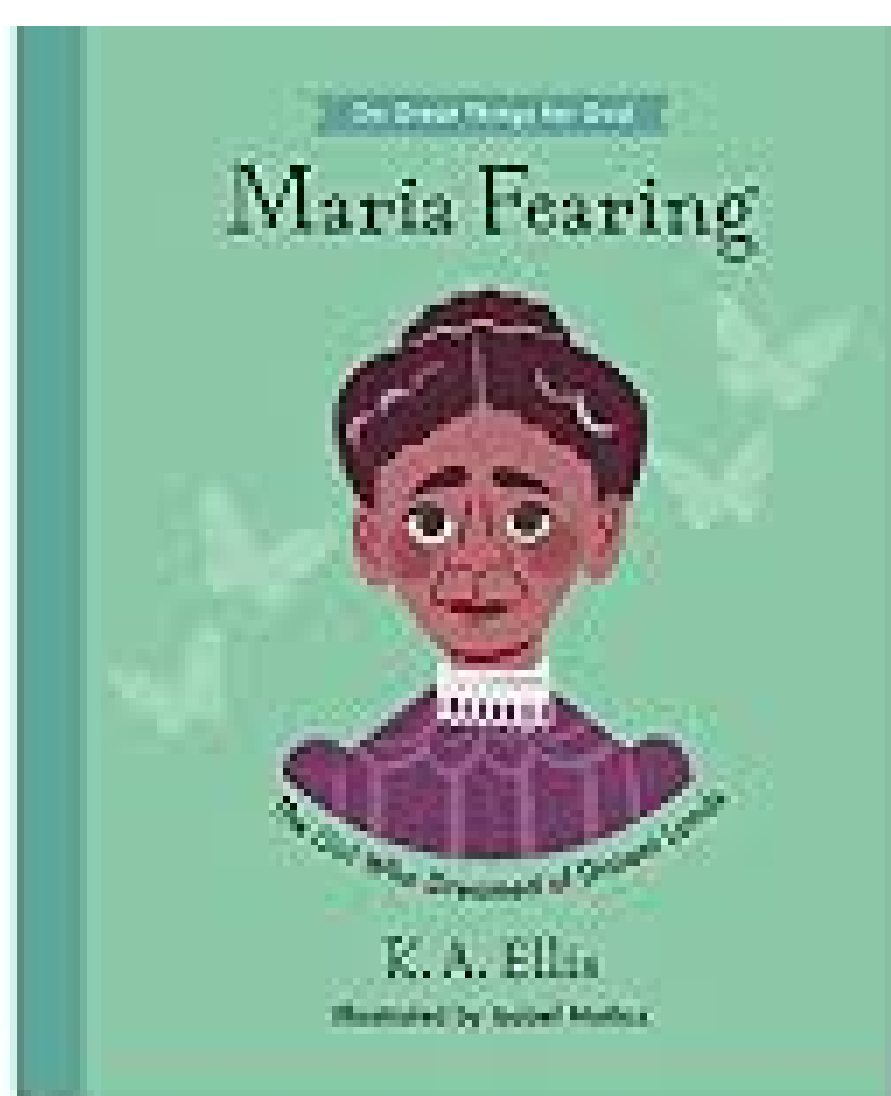
2



**Sell flowers to raise funds for Missionary Moms**

There are always extra financial needs in missionary families, and this is a special time to think of the mothers. It might be nice to send a card that everyone signs as well.

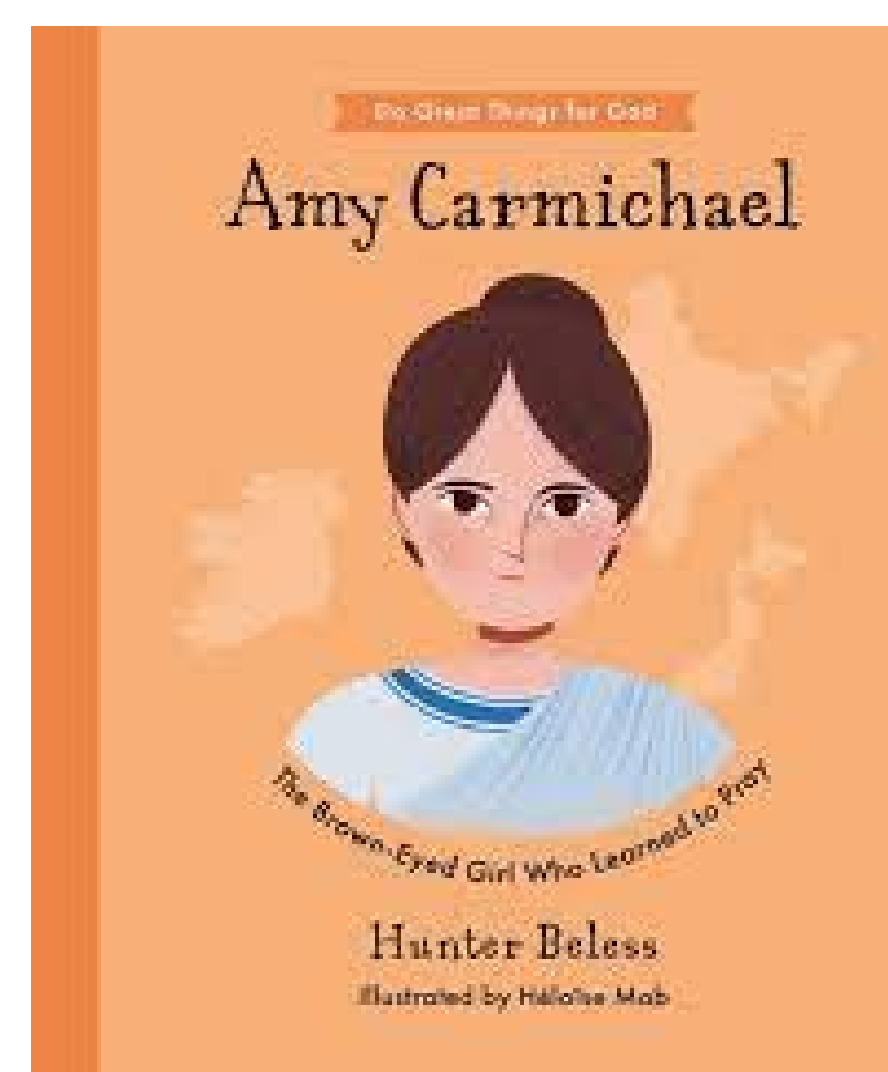
3



**Learn more about Maria Fearing, a  
missionary mother to many**

"Maria Fearing: The Girl Who Dreamed of Distant Lands" is a great easy to use missionary biography of a single woman who when freed from slavery went and saved many children from the same fate.

4



**Learn more about Amy Charmichael, a  
missionary mother to many**

"Amy Carmichael: the brown-eyed girl who learned to pray" is a great easy to use missionary biography of the single woman who became a mother to so many.