

# MOTHERS DAY



## THE WIDE SPECTRUM OF MOTHERING

By Amy Young, Author of *Looming Transitions*

*\*Additions made with permission by America's Kids Belong*

To those who gave birth this year to their first child—we celebrate with you.

To those who lost a child this year – we mourn with you.

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stain—we appreciate you.

To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away—we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment—we walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.

To those who are mentor moms, and spiritual moms—we need you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children—we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heartache, and distance with your children—we sit with you.

To those who lost their mothers this year—we grieve with you.

To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother—we acknowledge your experience.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood—we are better for having you in our midst.

To those who have aborted children—we remember them and you on this day.

To those who are single and long to be married and mothering your own children—we mourn that life has not

turned out the way you longed for it to be.

To those who stepparent—we walk with you on these complex paths.

To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren, yet that dream is not to be—we grieve with you.

To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year—we grieve and rejoice with you.

To those who placed children up for adoption—we commend you for your selflessness and remember how you hold that child in your heart.

\*To those who are foster parenting and navigating the everyday unknowns of the system – we see you and wrap around you with support.

\*To those who are working hard to regain custody of your precious ones – we celebrate your progress and lift you up along the way.

\*To those who have adopted and are navigating healing & attachment – we pray for you and rejoice over the story of redemption you are a part of.

And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising—we anticipate with you.

This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. We remember you.

*\*Special thanks to Brandy & Darren Whitehead and Church of the City in Franklin, Tennessee*