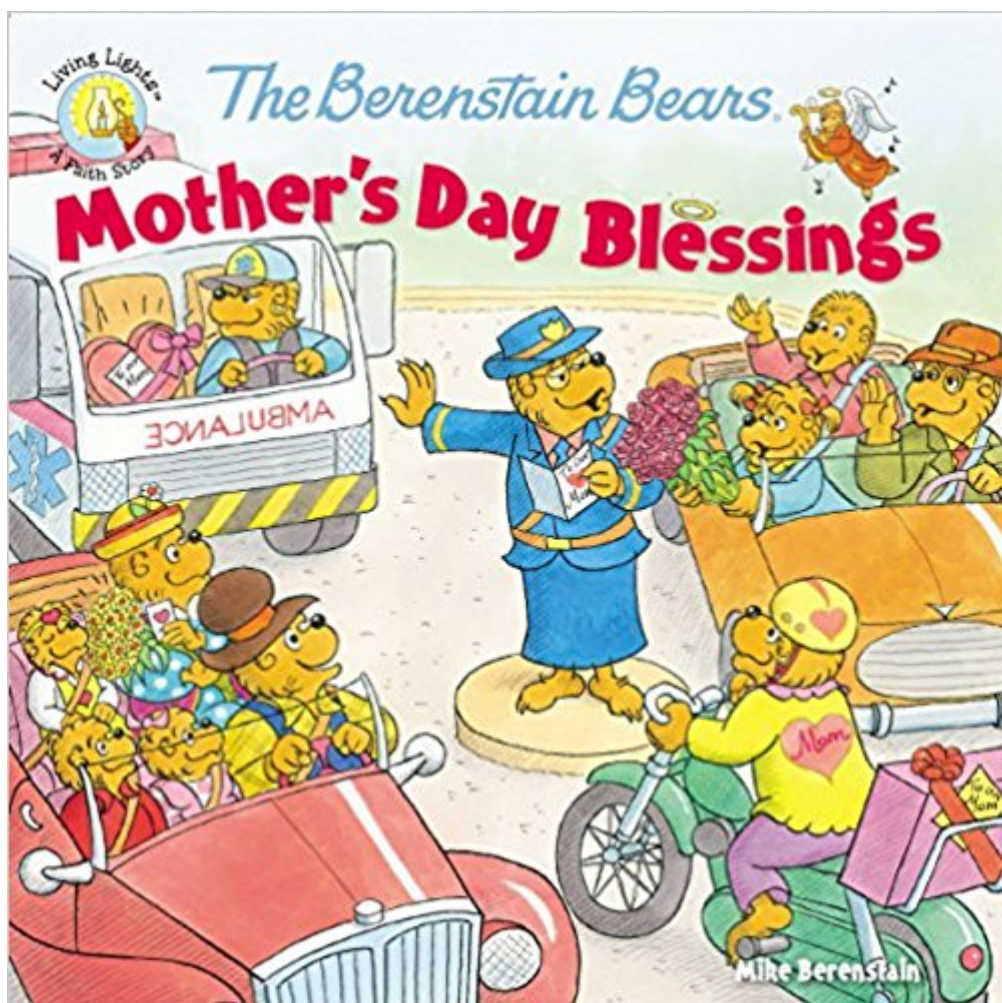


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The Berenstain Bears Mother's Day Blessings (Berenstain Bears/Living Lights)



Synopsis

Mama Bear is the best mama in all of Bear Country and Brother, Sister, and Honey Bear know just what to do for her on Mother's Day. In this newest title in the Berenstain Bears Living Lights, *The Berenstain Bears Mother's Day Blessings*, join the Bear family and all of Bear Country as they spend Mother's Day together remembering just why our mothers are so special to all of us!

Book Information

Series: Berenstain Bears/Living Lights

Paperback: 24 pages

Publisher: Zonderkidz (March 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0310748690

ISBN-13: 978-0310748694

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 58 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #196,809 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in *Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Holidays & Celebrations* #43 in *Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Family* #54 in *Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Animals*

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Stan and Jan Berenstain introduced the first Berenstain Bears books in 1962. Mike Berenstain grew up watching his parents work together to write about and draw these lovable bears. Eventually he started drawing and writing about them too. Though Stan died in 2005 and Jan in 2012, Mike continues to create the delightful Bear adventures from his studio in Pennsylvania, in an area that looks much like the sunny dirt road deep in Bear Country.

My daughter's live this and other Bernstein Bear books! I love the lessons and morals taught.

I enjoy the Berenstain books.

I did not realize that the book would have so many church references. I will likely just donate it to the library as it is not a good fit for our family.

Wonderful story. I love the message.

“And that’s what’s most important to us moms to have our children around us,” Mama tells her cubs in Mike Berenstain’s book, *The Berenstain Bears Mother’s Day Blessings*. ~ What ~ Part of the *Berenstain Bears / Living Lights* series, this unnumbered twenty-four-page paperback targets children four to eight years old, especially those that like short stories of the well-known family of bears. With no profanity or scary scenes, the story has colorful, expressive illustrations on every page. Due to some complicated wording, it would best be read out loud to beginner readers. This story involves Sister and Brother wanting to do something special for their mother on Mother’s Day. When the day comes, they tell their mom her surprise will be given to her after church. While driving to the Chapel in the Woods, Mama points out the many mothers they see who are working, yet their children bring them gifts and flowers. This includes moms that work for the police, hospital, emergency crews, farms, junkyards, and church. The last page includes two discussion questions and three suggested activities. ~ Why ~ This is an innocuous book to remind children how special mothers are everywhere, no matter what they do. I like the concept that showed the parents want to be with their children on this special day. The activities mention not only moms and grandmoms but also others that need love too. ~ Why Not ~ With the book focusing on Mother’s Day, it mainly discusses mothers’ vocations, not showing the parent how much they are truly loved on the day dedicated to them. Due to the extensive writing, some beginner readers may struggle with some of the complicated wording. ~ Who ~ Since Stan and Jan passed away years ago, their son Mike continues to follow in his parents’ footsteps with the *Berenstain Bear* series and products. He lives in Pennsylvania. ~ Wish ~ I wish the verse mentioning mothers being a vine was listed. Page numbers would be helpful for some readers learning their numbers. ~ Want ~ If you like the *Berenstain Bears* series, this one that promotes mothers being visited when they work on Mother’s Day may spark more conversations about the holiday. Thanks to the Z Blog Squad for providing this book for reading and reviewing.

Growing up, The Berenstain Bears was my favorite book series. Now that the original authors, Stan and Jan Berenstain have passed away, their son Mike has taken over and has turned the popular series into books of faith, called Living Lights. I always enjoy when a new Living Lights book comes out, as we have collected most of the books in the series. Mike Berenstain's newest release is titled The Berenstain Bears Mother's Day Blessings. I gave it first to my 7 year old to read to get her review, and then I read it myself. It's Spring in Bear Country, nearly Mother's Day, and Brother, Sister, and baby Honey Bear want to do something special for Mama Bear. With Papa's advice, they decide to surprise her and Gran with brunch at the Bear Country Inn. The cubs have to keep it a secret. They all wake up on Mother's Day and the cubs tell Mama how special she is and how wonderful she is to them. As they're driving through town on the way to church, they pass many other mothers of all shapes and sizes and in various professions surrounded by their cubs. Mama Bear explains that mothers can be doctors, homemakers, police officers, and even farmers, and that the most important thing on Mother's Day is to have their cubs near. Mama explains how all mothers work hard to take care of their families and their cubs. My 7 year old enjoyed this book--she is quite a fan of The Berenstain Bears series herself, and I also enjoyed it. The illustrations are, as always, adorable, and the message that moms are blessed to have their kids and kids are blessed to have their moms was well taken. With Mother's Day coming up soon, this was a cute little book that my little cubs will enjoy reading over and over. *I received a free copy of this book from Zonderkidz Publishing and BookLook Bloggers in exchange for my honest review. All opinions are my own and have not been influenced in any way.

This book was okay, it lacks the imagination of it being a "keeper." I doubt I'll read it again. Mike just doesn't have the gift of storytelling that his parent had. He writes a few good ones here and there, but I find it's a hit or miss kind of thing. As a grandmother of five, I have collected almost every one of the Berentain Bears books over the years and many of them we read over and over. This is not one of them, not for me anyways. I will say that his illustrations are colorful and well done. He should consider hiring someone to assist him with the writing of future books.

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