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Daily renewal and inspiration for moms

Chicken Soup for the Soul and Lisa Whelchel share daily devotions to inspire moms

COS COB, Conn. – Phyllis Cochran was so preoccupied by her teenager’s messy room that she almost missed the special moment when he discovered a cocoon that miraculously transformed into a beautiful butterfly before their eyes. Pam Mytroen found hope and strength in a special moment with her autistic son when he left for school, then quickly returned home to tell her, with tears in his eyes, “Mommy, I’m sorry.” Debbie Cannizzaro was blessed to carry out her ill mother’s wish to give her granddaughter her wedding ring, as a testimony of love between mothers and daughters, just before her passing.

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Devotional Stories for Mothers (Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, October 5, 2010, 978-1935096535, \$14.95), is filled with 101 daily devotions celebrating the seasons of motherhood, from pregnancy and the early years to the trials of adolescence and the eventual empty nest. Whatever season you may be in, you’ll find that each story and accompanying Bible verse has a lesson to teach, followed by a prayer. And the common thread through it all is the knowledge that God is present in every season, whether it turns out to be stormy or filled with sunshine.

In her foreword for the book, Lisa Whelchel, famous actor from *The Facts of Life*, speaker, and author of *Creative Correction* and *Friendship for Grown-Ups* says, “I want to encourage you to give yourself permission if you need it (and, sadly, so many of us do) to take a few minutes every day to pick up this book and fill up your soul. It is the perfect book for busy mothers. Each story is just long enough to read while you are waiting in the carpool line, or in the bleachers at soccer practice, or in the sanctuary behind the blessedly closed bathroom door.”

The book’s co-authors, Susan M. Heim and Karen C. Talcott, suggest in their introduction that there are several ways in which you can read *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Devotional Stories for Mothers*. They say, “You can choose to spend a little time with God each day by starting at the beginning of the book and reading a daily story for inspiration. Or, if you’re seeking guidance, hold the book closed and pray for God to guide you to just the right devotional that you need to read that day. Then, randomly open the book and see where the Spirit leads! And, lastly, if you’re dealing with a particular problem, scroll through the table of contents and turn to the appropriate chapter to select a devotional that applies to your situation.”

Kathie Harrington was frustrated when her son constantly played with weeds, even bringing them into the house and putting them under his pillow. She had a revelation after her son asked, “Why did God make ‘em?” and she saw her son’s childlike wonder and appreciation of the simple beauty of weeds. Deborah L. Kaufman found guidance when her daughter confronted her with a battle of the wills at bedtime. In that moment, Deborah responded with words, not of frustration, but those that solved the problem and soothed her child.

Being a mother is rewarding and challenging. The words of wisdom from the mothers in this book will warm your heart and show you that you are not alone; God is your parenting partner through every season of motherhood. If you are a mother or know someone who needs some comfort or inspiration, *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Devotional Stories for Mothers* would surely make a welcome gift.

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Devotional Stories for Mothers (Susan M. Heim and Karen C. Talcott; foreword by Lisa Whelchel) will be released on October 5, 2010. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, publishes all the latest titles in the famous Chicken Soup for the Soul book series which are distributed through Simon and Schuster, Inc. Since 1993, books in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series have sold more than 112 million copies, with titles translated into more than 40 languages. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing also licenses the right to use its famous trademark to high quality licensees through IMG, the world’s premier licensing agent. The company is currently implementing a plan to expand into all media, is working with TV networks on several TV shows and is developing a major Internet presence dedicated to life improvement, emotional support and inspiration. In 2007, *USA Today* named *Chicken Soup for the Soul* one of the five most memorable and impactful books in the last quarter century. For more information visit: www.chickensoup.com.

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To receive a review copy of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Devotional Stories for Mothers*, or to request an interview, please contact Beth Gwazdosky at (512) 921-8148 or beth@sheltoninteractive.com.