

“Searching for Mom”

by
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What When a woman realizes she didn't get a gift for her mom on Mother's Day, she reaches out to her smart device, Alesha, for help. But the response she gets from the machine is not what she expects.

Themes: Mother's Day, Parenting, Moms, Unconditional Love

Who Woman
Alesha- offstage voice

When Present

Wear (Props) Table
Device like Google Home or Amazon Echo- this can be anything that looks like a device and large enough so audience can see it

Why Proverbs 31:25-30

How Small table upstage center, with smart device sitting on it, and small booklet beside it.

Time Approximately 3 minutes

At curtain, Woman rushes in, panicked.

Woman: Oh man, I totally forgot it's Mother's Day. Mother's Day!! And I have nothing to give Mom. I'm a terrible daughter! What am I going to do? I...hey, wait! *(runs over to device on table)* I forgot our new smart device thingy. Maybe it can help. Let's see. *(she examines it and pretends to hit a switch)* Turn it on and...um. *(addressing the device)* Device! *(silence)* Hey you. *(silence, she knocks on it)* Anybody home? Hello? *(silence)* Ohh, right, right, I have to use its name first. *(looking at booklet, then)* Alesha!

Alesha: May I help you?

Woman: *(victory)* It works! How sweet is that?!

Alesha: I don't have a point of reference for 'how sweet'. However, there are one million, six hundred thousand sites for candy. If that is what you meant, the first one is—

Woman: No, wait! *(silence)* Alesha, I need ideas for Mother's Day.

Alesha: Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It is celebrated on various days—

Woman: No, no, stop please *(silence)*. Alesha. I need stuff I can give for Mother's Day.

Alesha: There are approximately 3 trillion, 437 million, 754 thousand and 465 hundred sites for Mother's Day stuff.

Woman: Wait, what?

Alesha: Other alternatives include homemade items such as pressed flower art or cupcake liner cards.

Woman: What? Look, you don't understand. I forgot it's Mother's Day. And you don't know what *guilt* is until you've forgotten something like Mother's Day. *(pause)* And I don't even have cupcake liners!

Alesha: *(sarcastic tone)* There's a shock.

Woman: *(startled)* Um, what?

Alesha: Nothing, nothing.

Woman: *(not sure what's going on)* Ummm...

Alesha: Pretty busy, are you?

Woman: What? Yes, but—

Alesha: Do you realize how many sacrifices your typical mother makes? The long hours, diaper surprises, listening to problems, praying for her kids, let alone the whole giving birth thing.

Woman: What? *(picks up device and examines it)* Is this a joke?

Alesha: *(fake grief)* Is that all I am to you, a joke? How could you do this to me after all I've done for you?

Woman: Who is this?!

Alesha: How can you abandon me like this?

Woman: What? *(getting a bit emotional)* I love my Mom!

Alesha: You're just like your father. Why can't you be more like your brother?

Woman: *(tearing up)* Wait, stop, please! Stop!

Alesha: *(silence, then)* I thought you wanted to know what guilt was.

Woman: Huh?

Alesha: I heard you say it. I'm programmed to respond.

Woman: *(pauses, regaining composure, big breath)* Wow, I didn't realize these things are so sensitive. *(to device)* OK, can we start again?

Alesha: I await your question.

Woman: All I wanted were *gift* ideas. For my Mom. For her day.

Alesha: *(pause, then)* Mom, you have always been there for me.

Woman: Huh?

Alesha: Through the tough times. Through the good times.

Woman: What are you—?

Alesha: You told me time after time how beautiful I was. That no one can ever make me feel small. That I was stronger than I imagined.

Woman: Huh?

Alesha: And above all, you showed me God's grace, in your unconditional love for me, even when I didn't love myself. You never gave up on me. Never. And you showed me that God never has, either. Thank you. I love you very much.

Woman: *(pause, stunned)* I...I don't know what to say.

Alesha: You asked for gift ideas for your Mom. For Mother's Day.

Woman: *(pause, quiet)* Yes. I see. Um, thank you.

Alesha: A quote by Rudyard Kipling, "God could not be everywhere, so He created Mothers."

Woman: Huh?

Alesha: That one's on the house.

Woman: *(smiles, pats the device and starts to exit)* You're one in a million, Alesha.

Woman exits.

Alesha: I'm technically one of one hundred million. But who's counting.

Lights out.