


CHAPTER 1: A MAN ON MOTHERHOOD & CHAPTER 2: WHEN A MOTHER REMEMBERS

1. Initial thoughts on the book


In chapters 1 and 2, are there any words, sentences, or paragraphs that you relate to or think are particularly true or wise?

 Underline them in your book, or write them below.

2. Privilege or pain?

On page 4, Rob says:


"Society keeps telling us that parenthood is the ultimate privilege, but why then do parents often feel what appears to be sheer misery? The answer is not that we are failures, simply that we are feeling the effect of complete responsibility for the life of another person – one over whom we have no final control, and who seems only intermittently either to want our involvement or be in the least, grateful for it."

 What do you think about what Rob says here?

3. Your kids will remember you


Rob quotes Gerald Ford, a previous president of the U.S.A., who said: *"You can hold high office, but when your time is over the world will forget you."*

Rob says that is not true of motherhood: *"Your kids will remember you forever."*

 Write down some of your thoughts about your own mother, or draw something that comes to mind when you think about her.

4. Your experience of being a mum

In Chapter 2, Dianne writes an account of her own experience of motherhood.

 Describe your children and/or your own experience of being a mum. Do this in any way you wish – a drawing, poetry, a story or a list of words or phrases.

Dianne ends her story on page 12:

"I am a mother. I am not a perfect mother – I learnt a long time ago that 'perfect' is too great a burden to carry."

Next time ...

The next session will look at Chapter 3, where we'll discover the greatest gift a mother can give her child!

