**The little one that’s now joined your family has such potential to bring you both joy and pain. Your own childhood memories, good or bad, may still be quite fresh, and now you have been thrust into the responsibility of raising a child. Having a human wholly dependent on you for their life brings many challenges. Cuddles and smiles are fun, but broken sleep and endless crying can be a bitter reality.
It can also be a lonely season in your life in which many people you know are at work, and you only have your child to talk to. It’s not unusual to feel daunted, frustrated, or depressed.  As your baby gets a little older you realise the routine (or lack of it) has well and truly set in. Just when you finish all those tasks that come with parenting and keeping the household in order, it’s time to start again. The monotony can be draining, but it’s all so worthwhile when your child crawls into your lap, wraps their little arms around your neck, whispering, “I love you”.
Having a child can cause you to start thinking about the big questions in life.
– Why am I here?
– What am I doing? Is this my purpose?
– Am I doing the right thing with my child?
– Can I hang in there?
You may not be able to answer these questions, but there is someone who can. It may be of comfort to know that someone loves your child more than you do. Even in the womb, God knew all about your child, their hopes and fears, joys and triumphs just as God knows you.  So why don’t you take the opportunity to ‘taste and see that God is good’? A good place to start is by talking with God, who, like us, loves to be appreciated. Thank him for the gift of your own precious miracle; your child.  But God is also generous. You can ask him for the love and wisdom you’ll need. He loves to give good gifts to his children.
Want to explore this further? Check out a local church, where people just like you have been asking the same questions and would love to help you in your journey with God.  Jesus said, “I came to give life-life in all its fullness.” You can find this in the Bible in John 10:10.**