Mother’s Day 2017: Living Loved

- Here at PLC we love our Moms
  - and we want you to know
    - that we love and appreciate you.
- However, even more than we love you,
  - God loves you with an everlasting love.

**We have a small gift for you:**
- *Read bookmark.*

- Several years ago, a student in seminary class
  - stood to his feet and announced to the professor,
    - "I don't believe in God!"
- The professor, unfazed, replied,
  - "Describe this God you don't believe in?"
- After the student had described
  - an unlovely and vengeful God,
    - the professor confessed,
      - "I don't believe in that God either.
      - My God is a God of love."

- How do you describe a rose to a blind person?
  - How do you describe your favorite song to a deaf person?
- How do you describe the unlimited,
  - infinite love of God
    - to limited, finite humans?

- One of the most vivid characteristics of God
  - is that he is a God of love.
- The Psalmist was descriptive in recording
  - the love-nature of God.
- He stated that he was "full of faithful love" (Psalm 103:8),
  - "For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
    - so great is His faithful love toward those who fear Him"
    - (Psalm 103:11),
  - "As a father has compassion on his children,
    - so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him"
    - (Psalm 103:13),
  - and "But from eternity to eternity the LORD's faithful love
    - is toward those who fear Him"
    - (Psalm 103:17).

- The point is not simply that God "loves,"
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- but that he is love itself.
- Love is not merely one of his attributes,
  - but his very nature.
- The Scripture say,
  - "And we have come to know and to believe
    - the love that God has for us.
  - God is love, and the one who remains in love
    - remains in God,
    - and God remains in him"
  - (1 John 4:16).
- To say that God is love,
  - is not to imply that love is God.
- There is a difference
  - like there is a difference in me saying
    - my dog is a girl
    - and my girl is a dog.
- God is love means
  - that God wants the very best for you.
    - God has your best interest in mind.
  - He wants to give you good gifts
    - and provide you with "all his benefits"
    - (Psalm 103:2, NIV).
- God’s love touches every part of our life.
  - Nothing - no calling or circumstance,
    - no adversity or advancement,
    - no pain or promotion,
      - no status or station –
        - escapes the brush strokes of God’s love.
- God’s love bleeds into every
  - fabric and fiber of our lives.
    - His love touches every area of our lives.
- There is nowhere we can go
  - to escape his love.
- There is no problem
  - that we will encounter
    - that is not touched by his love.
- There is no advancement that we will make
  - where God is not already there.
- Even when our world falls apart,
  - we can say,
    - "God, I don't know why this is happening.
      - I don’t understand it,
        - but I’m sure glad to know you love me."
• We are like the little girl
  o who got separated from her mother
    • in the mall.
• She was looking around for her mommy,
  o and getting scared.
• She began to cry
  o because everyone was a stranger
    • and everything looked so confusing
      • and she couldn’t find her mommy.
• But all of a sudden,
  o her mother found her
    • and picked her up.
• Immediately, her tears stopped,
  o not because her surroundings were changed,
    • but because of whose arms she was in.

• When you have someone holding you
  o who loves you with an unshakable love,
    • it doesn’t matter anymore
      • what is going on around you
        • Or what happens in your life.
• When you are in the arms of a loving God,
  o when you have been consumed with his love,
    • you share in his benefits.
      • You quickly realize
      • That in every circumstance
        • In every situation
          • You are living loved!

• Mother’s I want to remind you this morning,
  o you are loved!
    • You are treasured.
• God’s great love covers your entire life.
  o It’s a personal love.
    • It’s a measureless love
      • that impacts every part of your life.
    • It’s a limitless love
      • that will last for all eternity.
    • It’s a boundless love
      • that you can share with others.
  o When you have all of that
    • You can face whatever life brings to you
      • Because you are living loved!