

2017 Mother's Day Sermon

(Sorry. It's the safest title I could think of.)

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / May 14, 2017

1. Remember—it is only after both Adam *and* Eve are created that God calls His creation “very good.”

Gen. 1:26,27,31; 2:18 ²⁶Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let **them** have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created **them**...³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, “**It is not good that the man should be alone...**”

The Scriptures roundly and consistently show that men and women are created both equal in value, but different by design. Since men and women are designed to function differently, we necessarily display different attributes of God. Although God is *always* referred to in male terms, the Bible uses many feminine metaphors to call our attention to attributes that are better displayed by women than by men.

2. God comforts us as a mother comforts her children.

Isaiah 66:13

¹³As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

What about *you*? How have you experienced the patient comfort of the Lord during the painful times in your life? Who comes to mind as a good example of this attribute of God? Do you seek to imitate God in this way?

3. God shows us tender affection and constant care as a mother does for her children.

Isaiah 49:15,16

¹⁵“Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.” ¹⁶Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;

What about you? Have you experienced God’s tender affection and constant care? Which are you most in need of today? Which do you need to grow in when it comes to how you care for the people God has placed in your life?

4. Although we go through the pains of labor in this life, God promises us deliverance!

Isaiah 66:9-13

⁹Shall I bring to the point of birth and not cause to bring forth?” says the LORD... ¹⁰ “Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her; ¹¹ that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious abundance.” ¹² For thus says the LORD: “Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip, and bounced upon her knees. ¹³ As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Romans 8:22

²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved.

What about you? Do you allow the “labor pains” of your earthly life to cause you to forget the deliverance that is sure to come? What can you do this week to perhaps remind yourself of God’s promises that you’ve forgotten?