Dear Friend,

I’m writing to you today about an wonderful gift God has given us. In the coming weeks, we'll celebrate Mother's Day, a day set aside to recognize that blessing – our mother.

Hilary is an amazing mother to our 3 children, Hannah, Laura and Matthew. Even though they are getting older, our children will always need their mother because she provides an uncompromising place of acceptance and belonging.

I want to share with you an excerpt from a Mother's Day sermon Hilary preached at the Peoples Church a few years ago…

The other night, Charles and I were praying and thanking God for our mothers. We were thinking about the things that they taught us, about loving people and being kind to people. They didn't say it; they just modeled it, so we saw it, which is always much more powerful of course.

Mother's Day is a day to celebrate many things, but probably the feeling we are most aware of today is that feeling of belonging. And we all long to belong – mothers, fathers, children, teenagers, men, women, boys.

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girls — we all feel a need to belong because God implanted it within us. The Bible tells us it’s not good for man to be alone. And when a man, or a woman, or a child is alone, they feel it deeply.

For most of us, our first place of belonging is our family; it’s our home. And if you look around the planet, all creatures on the planet have a home. It was only the Son of Man who had nowhere to lay His head because He was coming to make His home in us and to call us home.

But there is a flip side to belonging. For everyone included, there is always somebody who is excluded and that can make you feel like a nobody.

I want to answer this question: ‘Where do I belong?’

The Bible tells us where we have first belonged. God put us in our mother. That was our first place of belonging.

Psalm 139 says, ‘You have searched me, Lord, and you know me ... For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made... All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.’

Just as my babies were set in God’s plan, this psalm tells us that everybody is planned. We are told in Verse 13 He created us and God had a plan for each of us. We are not random!

The womb you were put in was God’s choice, not your choice. It wasn’t even your mom’s choice. He placed you in a particular womb and He ordained your life. God had a purpose for each of our lives.

We are told everything about us was written in a book before it came to be. He wrote about us. We might write about our story as our story happens; we journal it; we look back; we write about it.

But remarkably, God wrote the book before it happened and before we even stepped out of the pages of the book, God knew all about us because He knows us personally.

I hope that brings you comfort. For some of us, Mother’s Day can be a day of hurting. But God wants us to remember our place is with Him. If you are suffering today, I want you to know there is hope, help and there is healing.

Before your mother even knew you, God knew you. And before your mother ever felt you, God formed you. And before you became your mother’s child you were the child of your Heavenly Father.

I pray that Hilary’s words fill you with joy this Mother’s Day. I want to ensure that every believer finds renewed thankfulness and joy in remembering God has a plan for us. We must continue to walk with Him to experience all that He has planned for us.

May you have a wonderful Mother’s Day filled with all His joys and blessings... and maybe breakfast in bed for Mom!

In Christ,

Charles and Hilary Price

P.S. Your gift today brings the Word of God into thousands of homes around the world.