

"A Mother's Heart Compared to the Heart of God"

A parent once said, "I often tell my kids when we are in places where there are thousands of people and getting lost from us can happen in a few short seconds, 'If you get lost from us, watch for a mother who is pushing a baby in a stroller or holding a young child by the hand, and ask them to help you find your mommy.' Nothing is safer in those situations than appealing to a mother's love and to the motherly instinct." The prophet Isaiah does this very thing. In the verses that we are going to look at today, he refers to a mother's love to offer encouragement to his people.

The Lord says in Isaiah 49:15-16, "Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet will I not forget you. ¹⁶ See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands..." A mother doesn't forget the baby she gave birth to. She doesn't lay her baby down and forget where she laid it. There's nothing that could preoccupy a mother's attention, causing her to be oblivious towards her baby. Most mothers go overboard the other way, especially with their first child. Even mothers that have given their children up for adoption at birth still think about them, and wonder. Even bad, irresponsible mothers, who mistreat and abandon or lose their children never forget them. Mothers have compassion on the children they have borne. There's nothing like the protective, forgiving, all-embracing love of a mother. Though a mother may forget, God will not forget us! Many have felt forsaken by God at various times, but He is always with us and always mindful of us. He's the God-who-sees; His ears are attentive to our cries. God has even inscribed us into His hands, so that we are always before Him and He will never forget us.

The Lord also says in Isaiah 66:13, "As one whom his mother comforts, so will I comfort you; and you shall be comforted in Jerusalem." A mother comforts her children. It comes so natural for a mother to console a child who's troubled or soothe the sting of a hurt and make it all better. A mother eases the pain through her comforting ways and by the tender touch of her hand. That's the way it is with God. We can't see Him, and yet we feel His powerful touch upon our lives. Mothers go to extraordinary measures for their children. There is not protector like a mother. As a mother comforts her children, so God will comfort us. God comforts us by assuring us of His protection. God comforts us by assuring us that He is always with us.

Discussion Guide/Action Steps

- 1. Think about your mom and honor her.
- 2. Be comforted by realizing that God will never forget you, and He comforts you.