



A Mother's Touch Is Like No Other

By Flo Hubbs, director of PFOX

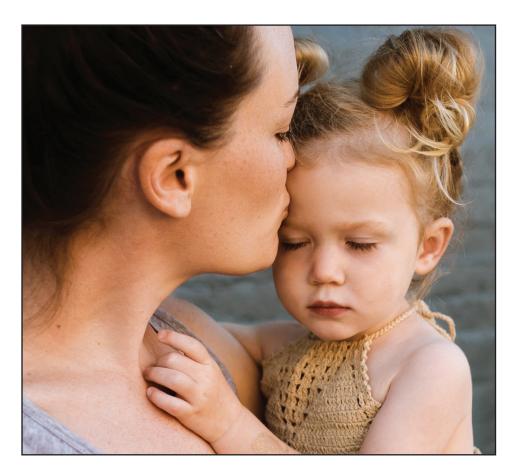
hen a family first hears that they are expecting a baby, there is a lot of excitement.

Plans are made for the new arrival, with moms and dads preparing for their roles. Despite the ongoing deception pushing society to pretend that both sexes are the same, each has different strengths.

Fathers are very important, but May is the month in which we celebrate Mother's Day, so let's look at how God has given mothers special qualities for nurturing the young. Women have a natural tendency toward compassion, understanding, support, encouragement and patience. These gifts develop a special bond between a mother and a child.

It's natural to protect your child from danger or disappointment. Just as you applied a bandage to a scraped knee or elbow, you want to "fix it" when they announced their "coming out" as gay or transgender.

When I told my mother about my same-sex feelings, I wanted, deep down, for her to tell me this relationship was not proper in God's eyes and would not ultimately make me happy. She responded instead with a sort of neutrality, probably figuring that there would be less friction this way. Looking back, I know that she was wary of experiencing another rejection after having endured two divorces.



Yes, Your Feelings Are Valid

As a mother, your feelings of shock, anger, disbelief, depression, denial and sadness are common when a child announces he or she is following this wrong path. These feelings are understandable and valid.

God understands your broken heart. Psalm 34:18 says, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who

are crushed in spirit." The things that break your heart also break God's heart.

Common questions that parents ask themselves are: What went wrong? Who is to blame? Why has this happened to our family? What do we do now? What now, Lord? Why, Lord? When do we tell family members? Who do we tell outside the family? How much do we share? It is important to know who your

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trustworthy friends are. These are the ones willing to listen, invest time and pray with you.

We are often afraid of what others might think about us. We may be trapped into "keeping up appearances" instead of speaking the truth. Pride incorrectly tells us that it is important to look like families with no problems.

In all things, we must ask God for guidance. God gives us true wisdom and discernment in deciding with whom it is safe and profitable to share our heart's deepest feelings. You might be surprised at the depths of what the Lord can reveal to us about a potential confidante.

When sharing with someone it is important to pray for God's timing. Pray that God will prepare your heart and those of the people around you, as you begin to share your grief.

The "Hot Topic" Test

Fear of how others may judge or reject us is a very real concern. It's sometimes good to lay some groundwork first. Try using another "hot topic" to gauge their reactions. If they respond harshly, they may not be receptive candidates for sharing. If the person can't be faithful with little things, she or he probably won't be faithful with your "much."

As you share your family news with appropriate people, expect questions. It's helpful to end with a statement like, "If you have any questions, please call me" or "Is there anything else you want to ask me now?" People around you may be at a loss for words when you first share with them. Give them time to process this. You needed time to process this.

At PFOX, we know we can't offer just one prayer to God and watch all things magically return to the way they were. A difficult but necessary part of the journey is surrendering your child to God. In time, God can change a person,

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She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. Proverbs 31:26

leading him or her toward the light.

As you, yourself, draw closer to Christ, He is the One who will heal your broken heart. This is a journey that takes time. Know that you are not alone.

Getting Support

Our late executive director, Regina, began her support group sessions by sharing the truth of her grief over her son's gayaffirming life. Following in her footsteps, I offer phone conference support on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month. If you would be interested in a Zoom meeting, or conference phone number, email info@pfox.org

Happy Mother's Day (May 8).

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Flo

Family & Friends Prayer List | Joel, Lance, Mary Beth, Tom, Sean, Stan, Christopher, Lucas, Beth, Elaine, Joshua, Benjamin, Hampton, Cheryl, Stacy, Carol, Mattie, Nicole, David, Bob, Rose, Steve, Ronald, James, Madeline, Jesus, Rick, Gary, April, Maureen, Jen, Michael, Eric, Allen, Sara, Damon, Sam, Matthew, Deborah, Corey, James, Jeffery, Melanie, Stan, Brooke, Lisa, Emily, Tyler, Jim, Chad, Brett, Charles, Brian, Jerome, Pamela, Kelly, Tim, Roger, Gaetano, Christian, Judy, Michael, Monte, Gary, Karen, Hillary, Stephan, Brooke, Terri, Elise, Joseph, Vickie, Tricia, Paul, Tobby, Sandy, Brian, Larry, Alan, Christian Tom, Delores, Mark, Tara, Angela, Jessica, Dawn, Alicia, Jason, Frank, Paul, Edward, Maria, Mario, Michelle, Connor, Angela, Carl Jr., Marcus, Brandon, Gaylon, Edmond, Kesha, Shannon, Paige, Melissa, Donny, William, Wendall, Leno, Mandy, Andy, E., Erik, Lauren, Chris, Todd, Jayson, Carl III, Steve, Zachary, Kelly, Toby, Cody, Dylan, Wayne, Tom, Jeff, Walt, Cayce, Tim, David, Charles, Edward, Matt, Marc, Heather, Gary, Bill, John, Jeremy, Jen R, Cindy, Karen, Brian, Shellie, Pattie, Emily, Carrie, Alicia, Michelle, Bruce, Rebecca, Suhmin, Phil, Bryce, Ethan, Doug, Tom, Nick, Harold, Kent, Glenn, Rob and Heath, Angela, Julia, Wess, Christine, Catherine, Jeremy, Katie, David, Troy, Mike, Lisa, Bruce, James, Mary, Samantha, Victoria and Buddy, Christopher A., Jeramie C., Adam C., Christopher K., Perry N., Eric, Missy, Nathan, Michelle, Joe and Idario, Miranda Marie, Sarah, Seth and Rob, Kent, Tim.



