

Today is a great day! Today's a wonderful day. We get to spend it together. We especially get to spend it with our mothers. All of the mothers going into today, Wednesday, and I had a great conversation about what it means to be a mom, and it didn't start off on a positive note. I know that's hard to believe, but I asked her what she wanted to get Mima for Mother's Day, and she looks at me and says nothing. So, I thought they were fighting, you know, it's very common. And so I said, well, why not? And she's like, she's not a mom. She's a grandma. I'm, like, well, what does that mean? What does that mean to you? What does that mean to her is what I asked. And she said, I think it's pretty obvious she's a grandma. This is Mother's Day move on, and you can all hear her saying that, can't you? Yes.

So I told her a story I'm like, I want, I have a question for you about moms, and I want to know what you think. So, I say, I was in high school a long, long time ago, and it was my junior year. We're getting ready for graduation. We all had to go through the ceremony. They had the seniors walking on the stage and lining up and making sure they had the right shoes and all of that. And the juniors had to stand there and act like we are handing out flowers to the moms. So we had to walk up and down the aisle. Randomly pick where people are going to be sitting and they were assigning each one of us a person. So, if we were close to the family, we made sure and got them. Well, it came my turn, and I do not for the love of me, remember who it was, but they're like, okay, Bryce when you go to hand this person's mom their flower, you make sure and hand it to this mom, and not that mom because they were divorced. The husband got remarried, and now she had two moms. I'm, like, well, If she has two moms, why am I not giving out two flowers, Or at least have somebody else go with me, and we hand out the flowers. And the administration was animate that only the birth mom got the flower.

As I'm telling this story to Wednesday, and she asked me, well, I said, do you think that's fair that only one mom got the flower, not the other? And she said, why do they have two moms? And I explain it that you know she has plenty of friends who have two moms. So she understands that part, but she didn't understand why they're separating out those two in particular. And so I explained a little bit to her, and she's, like, well, don't both moms take her to school. I said, well, they tried to. Don't both moms go to their music concerts and their t-ball games. It was hard explaining that they don't have t-ball. We didn't have t-ball back then. She couldn't believe that. She got kind of derailed. I said yes, both moms go to them. Both moms have been in every event as long as I can remember, She said so then they both love her, right? And I said yes, Check. Well, then that's all that matters.

It's the love. Love is what makes today so important, not the title, not the name, not anything else but just celebrating the love. She sees it as a six-year-old. The love is greater than anything else. She did remind me Mima is my mom, and so she still deserves a present. So, don't worry about that part of it. But we all love one another.

Paul's letter today is about that love. He's riding to the church and Philippi, telling them in this prayer of Thanksgiving how much he loves them. The church has been with him through hard times. He's been imprisoned. He's been released. He's been chastised. He's been sent away, but they still follow. They still share that love for him for starting the church. That love for him for spreading the word of Jesus by sharing the gospel by sharing the good news. They were taught how to love greater than they had ever known before. And that's what today is about.

We get the privilege of celebrating today with the moms, with all moms And grandmas and aunts, and everybody that they can think of because that love that God installed in us, the love that we can't find words for, that we know is there, that we know we share with one another, that we share with no cause. We share with no expectation. We share without a need For it to be returned because we know that it is. That love is so great and so powerful that even when they're not with us, that love is still there. That God wrote their names on our hearts. That we get to share it each and every day, just like Paul did. We get to share that love. And we get to share it through Christ.

We know that this love is eternal. We know that this love has no bounds, no boundaries, no limitations because of the sacrifice that Jesus made for each and every one of us, just like the sacrifices that all of you mothers have made and grandmothers and mothers of fur babies and mothers of adopted families, adopted kids, friends of parents. We don't. I just totally destroyed that sentence. You get the point.

Today is a celebration of Love, so let us keep that in our hearts as we pray.