Here is a text message I exchanged with a friend the day before Mother's Day in 2019. Hopefully you will be blessed as you read this. My "Friend" and his wife have adopted now four children since they cannot have their own biological children. This church they were attending only gave out flowers to the biological mothers. I was so pleased he told me about this. Read on to see God spoke to us about this.

BR. You asked if our congregation celebrates Mother's Day. Yes we do. We also include a celebration of the women who started the Elmira chapel, so we call it Foundresses Day as well. And, of course we weave into it a celebration of Mary the Mother of Jesus as the model of perfect Motherhood and the radical yes to God's Will in one's own life. It turns into a very busy day in worship for us. How about your church, what do you do for tomorrow?

Friend: We do celebrate Mother's Day. Many women don't show up, like my wife, who are unable to bear children. The whole idea of celebrating this in His house is ridiculous because it excludes so many. I took tomorrow off and will worship at home with the family.

BR. OH MY GAWD! What a different concept. I am caught off guard by this one. From a Queer perspective: **Friend:** I'm going to bring it to the worship committee at some point, that we need to change our ways in the church about this. They give out flowers to all the mothers. All other women are excluded.

BR. We all share the motherly person of God many times in life when we are nurturing someone, when we hold a hurting person or animal, when we show that compassionate motherly love. All of us are capable of loving like a mother because being female is part of being made in the image of God who made us in Their Image: Male and Female. (Genesis 1:26, 27)

Friend: WOWWWWWW now THAT is real theology.

BR. All females and Trans females are receiving a candle from us that says happy Mother's Day, and we will be speaking to the men who are mothers too. All of us share and show Divine Motherhood, and we repeat this show on Father's Day.

Friend: Wow I love this

BR. All men mother not only for their own offspring, if they have any, but towards all hurting persons, or all birthday celebrations, all mourning death experiences, all tragedy moments, trauma, happiness, joy over a rainbow or the gut laugher after a huge thunder boom. We all share the Motherhood of God with others in all experiences of life.

You and your wife are perfect Mothers all the time. You have devoted your lives to being Mother to your children and hopefully as you think about this you will expand the living energy of Divine Motherhood to people you work with, visit with, listen to, help, and care about all through life.

Friend: I'd love to have a copy of your sermon on this!

BR. I do not write sermons. I stand up and let go and let God. And when it is gone, it is gone, like the wind. **Friend:** Well you should consider writing one on this subject. I think it would help multitudes.

BR. So, some of what you might be enjoying from me and thinking is "gay" is really our loving God who made us in the Divine image of male and female, Mother and Father, Creator and Redeemer, Saviour and Lover, sweetness, compassionate, and strong. Not really gay, just the Love of the real Lover coming through.....

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Friend: This is beautiful theology.

BR. In our society we honor the idea of women being strong, especially when they show strength in the day to day life of a family. We honor their strength when they problem solve in a family crisis, such as a flat tire on the way to taking the children to school, or when they manage money, or the incredible schedules they often juggle, or when

they have to confront someone and show leadership. It is honorable on our society when a woman shows strong attributes. HOWERVER We shame men when they show softer qualities when they comfort, hug, sit and take time to listen and understand the hurt feelings of someone else, when they listen first and speak second, etc.

These are the errors of flawed society and have made both men and women sick and mentally ill and spiritually bankrupt. We would all do well to enjoy the whole person of God and accept the gifts of the Holy Spirit given to each as the Holy Spirit wills. (1 Cor. 12:11) The Holy Spirit gives Gifts from the Person of God, a Self Revelation of God; therefore it will embrace the entire spectrum of male / female.

There are unique qualities on both ends of the spectrum for sure but to be strictly binary in our definitions of our lived experiences is to limit the joy of the Spirit and the flow of our lived experience as reborn saints. I have enjoyed many very feminine men and many very masculine women in my life and then thousands who are all over on that spectrum. I hope to be a person who can be as strong as a Lion and gentle as a butterfly, seriously. Upset me and you will hear me roar, but a mother's caress is shortly behind. And everyone walks away scratching their heads, LOL.

I was just looking at 1 Cor. 12:11 in the NKJV and it uses the word "activated" by the same Spirit. I like that. Activated.

So, I would say you both should celebrate the call to Motherhood you are living out in the Name of the Lord. You are both Mothers and you are both Fathers.

Friend: Love this.

BR: For you are God in Christ for your children and for each other. That is family. That is why I can live this even with a family of choice, because we live God in Christ in us for each other. In one gender religious communities there are strong and soft persons in the community and all are needed for the health of the monastery or convent or community, just like in the military or in a same gendered correctional facility. The whole population needs the whole person of God to be lived out in the open. Or we are lopsided and crippled and eventually we fall over in the storm.

Friend: SOOOOOO awesome

BR. Awesome only because it all belongs to Our Lord. He can only be awesome, that is all He can be because he is always Himself.

Friend: She is always Herself. smiley face

BR. All the time. All good and fine with me. "As a mother gathers her chicks... I gather you..." (Psalm 36:7; 57:1; 63:7; 91:4; Matt 23:37; Luke 13:34; Ruth 2:12) (Google search) Perfect example of Divine Motherhood. WELL, I JUST FILLED THE BULLETIN WITH VERSES ON THE HOLY SPIRIT in preparation for Pentecost. NOW I am going back and filling the notes section with this content of this text message because obviously it is for the Message tomorrow. Thanks for helping me find God's Word for tomorrow this morning, Friend.

Friend: THANK YOU for this!!! I will be sharing some of these thoughts on both Instagram and Facebook. **BR:** Great! I hope you and your wife can feel much better about God's Mother's Day and your share in the flow of the Living God in Motherhood together.

Friend: I'll get some bull crap responses from conservatives. YES

BR: Yes, that is what they serve, a great CON job. CON-servants. I just thought of that. It is not Christ's Gospel. They are servants of the CONjob, CON SERVatives.

Friend: Wow

BR: You two are eunuchs for the kingdom of God

Friend: smiley face

BR: The two of you have transformed not having biological children into having children in the Name of God for Christ's Sake.

Friend: Wow, what a thought.

BR: What a great example of Christ among us you both are in your parenthood. Many LGBTQI persons parent for the same cause – to love those children who need parents. We are eunuchs for the kingdom. **Friend:** Wow. It's a way different type of parenthood.

BR: You two are just as much real eunuchs as I am. We dedicate our state in life to Christ.

Friend: I need to read that book you sent. Eunuchs for the Kingdom.
