TRUDY BEYAK

Award-Winning Journalist
NONFICTION AUTHOR

"I will comfort you as a mother comforts a child" - Isaiah 66:13

THE MOTHER HEART OF GOD

Unveiling the Mystery of the Father's Maternal Love by Trudy Beyak

"An award-winning journalist pursues a global investigation into the nature of God, and along the way discovers the love and comfort that brings healing to every soul!"

I didn't plan to write a book.

In fact, I was totally happy working in a successful career as an investigative journalist. But one day, I was reading sacred texts in the Bible where God stated that he made both the male and the female in his image and that he consoles us "as a mother comforts a child." This intrigued me and I felt God calling me to pursue a global journey to interview leaders of faith all over the world and write a book.

However, I put it off for years. I was a busy mom with three daughters and I couldn't afford to take time off work. It wasn't until I had a near death experience when I fell over a steep slope on Mount Baker that I finally decided to take a sabbatical and follow God's calling.

My global investigation led me to the top! I spent time praying and studying ancient Scriptures in a Benedictine monastery and became friends with three elderly monks. Then, with pen and notebook in hand, I flew to the Middle East where Jesus taught and healed people. During the next five years, I interviewed 50 global leaders of faith, from Vancouver to Tripoli, Mumbai and Oxford University, including:

- **Ruth Graham**, author and daughter of Billy Graham.
- Dr. Raymond Damadian, the inventor of the MRI machine.
- **J.I. Packer**, editor of the *English Standard Version Bible*.
- **Dr. Francis Collins,** former director of the Human Genome Project.
- Jürgen Moltmann, Germany, one of the world's leading Protestant theologians.
- Gary Chapman, Brennan Manning, Danae Dobson, Nicky Cruz and Tony Campolo.
- The Vatican, Sandra Schneiders, Fr. Fio Mascarenhas in India, and many others.

What began as a global investigation ended up being a powerful spiritual experience!

"I was pleasantly surprised to discover a new, engaging picture of the God I thought I knew. In a world reeling from one crisis to another, it is deeply encouraging to know that God not only loves us as our kind heavenly Father, but, also on a deep spiritual level *as a mother comforts a child*.

This spiritual insight is relevant and uplifting. What a gift it is to be a father or a mother – a woman made after God's own heart! Compelling and informative, **THE MOTHER HEART OF GOD, Unveiling the Mystery of the Father's Maternal Love** reveals ground-breaking evidence in the Bible to answer the most relevant spiritual questions being asked today by contemporary thinkers about the nature of God.

THE AUTHOR: Trudy Beyak is a nonfiction inspirational author and an investigative journalist, who has earned 30 "First Place" Journalism Awards and Awards of Excellence. She is a mom of three daughters, and a Christian with a deep compassion for people and a passion for the truth. THE MOTHER HEART OF GOD is published by *FaithWords*, Nashville, USA, Hachette Book Group (formerly Time Warner).

// Q & A

Why is the topic of the gender of God newsworthy?

PARADIGM shift is unfolding all over the world. I saw it happen before my very eyes. The year I interviewed various leaders of faith, very few people were talking about this issue. By the time my book was published, public interest had skyrocketed as Google reported well over a 100 million hits on this question – a shocking increase. *This is the spiritual issue of our day!* As I interviewed leaders and scholars all over the map – from the US to the Middle East, they shared insights from the Bible about the maternal side of God's mercy that had been ignored or downplayed for many centuries!

What is God like and why does it matter?

THE BIBLE beautifully reveals how much God loves us as our kind heavenly Father but also in a mysterious way, as a mother comforts and nurtures a child. Our knowledge about the maternal metaphors in the Bible that unveil God's lovingkindness and mercy, have been overlooked for more than 5,000 years. Today, this discovery is igniting on a global scale bringing hope and healing to every soul.



~ KUDOS TO TRUDY ~ "Honesty . . . Empathy . . . Tenacity"

~ OUOTES ~

"When God created men and women to be like him, women are half of the equation – we are half of the picture."

RUTH GRAHAM, BEST SELLING AUTHOR

"This new book is an amazing example of how a collection of articulate, educated people deeply committed to differing religious faiths can agree on a concept that has never even occurred to most of us. And, yet the concept is so obvious."

VIVIAN RUSKIN, COLUMNIST RELATED TO MARK TWAIN

All three persons of the Godhead reveal paternal and maternal qualities in their relationship with us. They are one in essence . . . The paternal aspect of God is a combination of authority and care. The maternal quality is one of loving support.

J.I. PACKER, GENERAL EDITOR, ESV BIBLE

"Trudy has captured the true meaning of the verse in Genesis that both the "male and the female" are created in the image of God. Self-esteem will be restored as women take their rightful place in the world, as God intended. It's been a long time coming . . ."

SUSAN JANETTI, MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

"I think of God as holy, as an immensely great and loving Intelligence – God is holier than we can ever imagine."

DR. FRANCIS COLLINS, GENETICIST



How will your audience benefit from learning about this topic?

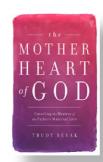
Men and women are seeking answers to this contemporary question about the nature of God. However, the answer is not found on the Web, but in the ancient words of Scripture.

To keep this biblical study in context, how should we pray to God?

Jesus taught us to pray: *Our Father in heaven; hallowed be your name...* It is an awesome honor to pray to the Creator of our world as *our Father*, and experience his answers.

What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

God created males and females equally to reflect his image in complementary design! End of story. Each person is equal in the eyes of God, regardless of sex, age, or color of skin. While we pray in the name of *our Father* – it is also true that Scripture describes the love of God "as a mother comforts a child." This powerful maternal metaphor has been downplayed for more than 5,000 years. Why is that? And what is happening today?



How does discovering the big picture about the nature of God help women?

"Dear Lord, who am I?" That is the question millions of teenagers and grown women struggle to answer every morning as they face the mirror. Many women, unfortunately, do not understand how they are created in the image of God, and they suffer a deep lack of self-worth because of this. Since the answer is spiritual, this has the potential to bring about profound emotional and psychological healing for half the human race!

Does this biblical truth also help men?

I love the element of surprise. More than half of the leaders I interviewed are male so the "voice of men" is well-represented in my book. From Oxford and the Vatican to Louisiana and Mumbai – men are teaching on the divine mystery of God's maternal love. Of course, God is beyond gender, but he relates to us like a loving parent, as our *Father of mercies and our God of all comfort!* Isn't it time to celebrate this?

Why are these insights relevant for us today?

As our world faces financial, political and environmental upheavals, we need to know our Creator God as *our Comforter* who will give us courage, confidence and calm in the ongoing chaos. We are not alone! God is with us! There is no better time than today to know God as our Creator, Savior, and *Comforter*.

~ MILE MARKERS ~

- 1. Travel with me to the Middle East to meet Orthodox theologian **Daniel Ayuch.** Find out what he said about the mercy of God that will transform everyone's way of thinking about the nature of God!
- 2. What do authors **Ruth Graham, Gary Chapman**, **Tony Campolo and Danae Dobson**, and other devout Christians of various denominations believe in common that inspires deep spiritual growth?
- 3. What does the **Vatican** teach about the nature of God, and why is this insight so powerful?
- 4. What amazing biblical truth is taught by **Jurgen Moltmann**, a leading Protestant scholar in Germany?
- 5. Discover what Oxford professor **Sebastian Brock** found in ancient Syriac texts about the Holy Spirit!