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## **Unconditional Love**

"Your love never fails, never gives up. It never runs out on me."Those are lyrics from the worship song "One Thing Remains" by Jesus Culture. Last night I was enjoying an outdoor worship concert with my family and we all sang along with this chorus. Amid the chaos and children running around me (many of whom were mine!), I was really trying to grasp God's amazing love for me as I sang these words. God's love never fails me. His love for me never runs out. He never gives up on me. It is hard for this performance-driven and goal-oriented girl to comprehend God's unconditional love for us. For me.

At one point in the song, as I sang the words aloud, I turned my head and saw one of my daughters sitting on her daddy's shoulders. In the moment I looked at her, she reached out her arms and turned her head toward me with eyes that asked me to hold her. Time stood still for a moment. And in a flash I realized how short I fall from God's standard of love. You see, this particular child of mine tests my patience. Often. She tests the boundaries continually. She makes life more, let's say, interesting. Do you have one of those children? Or maybe work with someone like that? Or are married to someone similar?

And with such a quick reminder, God covered me with his love again. He full well knows the ways I fall short. He knows when I'm short tempered with my children or quick tongued with my husband. He knows the conditions I put on the people around me, really without even meaning to. And all the while God loves me. His love never fails, never gives up. It never runs out on me. Or you.

"But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." (Romans 5:8) Lord, as I pause for a moment in the chaos of my day, I am reflecting on your love for me. It is without condition and without end. Thank you! Help me to accept your love and be unconditional as I share that same love with others today. Amen.

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