

The Story Behind the Song ***Being Your Mom***

On Mother's Day 2003 my wife Marsha Lake sent an email to her two children describing her hopes and dreams for their future. Her main message was "I love being your Mom." Marsha died eight months later. Her children insisted that the email be read at their Mom's funeral. It triggered a flood of tears, especially among the mothers.

Flash Forward: In June 2005 I decided, as her husband, to try to raise \$10,000 to build a school in Angola in Marsha's memory. But I was leaving for Angola for 6 weeks on July 1. So there was little time to plan and organize the event. I scheduled the fundraiser for late August, sent out an e-vite to everyone I could think of, and sat down to plan the program.

I knew that Marsha's email message had to be part of the program. Out of the blue God planted this thought in my mind - put her words to music. The most amazing thing happened. I heard the song playing in my head – exactly as you will hear it in the song! In 20 minutes the song was finished. It was a God thing.

I even knew who should help me. I asked our worship leader, who is a recording artist himself, if he knew of anyone who could record the song. He made the arrangements. I asked the Promiseland director (our children's ministry) if she would sing it for the recording. She agreed.

I gave her a signed, blank check and told her, "Please just make it sound great!" Then I left for Africa. I didn't hear the final product until one week before the fundraiser. I was listening to it for the first time while in my car. I almost drove off the road because I was crying so hard. The song was perfect – just as I had heard it in my head almost 2 months previous.

No one at the fundraiser knew about the song (except the singer and me). Right before I asked people to make their donation I played the song to a PowerPoint slide show. The pictures all showed Marsha with our children at various stages of their lives. The response was overwhelming. There wasn't a dry eye in the place. Ultimately, we raised \$30,000 and were able to build 3 schools!

Only God!