



God's Enfolding Love

In Acts 17:28 Paul is quoted using this deeply spiritual description in speaking of God: "In whom we live and move and have our being."

My Old Testament Seminary professor began every class with that as a prayer. Over the years those words have stuck with me, perhaps because of that repetition. However, in the last 20 years these words have become a mantra for me. They are powerful words that transform the total purpose and meaning of faith and life.

The message it bears, if allowed to sprout within us, is one that can change the entire perception of our relationship with God. To be honest most of the time we Christians perceive God as sort of a *hip pocket helper* who can be pulled out when needed as in a time of stress. The truth of the matter is that our very essence is totally enmeshed with God whether we acknowledge it or not. It is a wonderful discovery, a great *aba*, when we move into a deeper awareness that we are inextricably ensconced in God's holy

being. The consciousness that we live within God's being takes faith and life to a different level.

Think about moving into a new home. Everything is different inside and we see different things when we walk out the front door. We have new views in every direction. Some things are familiar; our furniture, clothes, pots and pans and perhaps tools, but it is a new experience.

Life becomes a new experience when we perceive the profound meaning of: "In God we live and move and have our being". Life first and foremost is about God's enfolding us in His love every moment of our lives. The more we tap into that reality, the more fulfilling that will become.

