

## CS3. The Orphan Heart

### I. Introduction

#### 1. Jesus Promise to Us

- Joh 14:18 *I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.*  
he last words of Jesus are full of significance.

- He is concerned for His disciples
- He has been their spiritual Father for three years
- Aware of His impending departure Jesus made a promise
- *"I will not leave you orphans"*

#### 2. What is an Orphan?

- **Our Culture:**
  - An orphan is a person who has lost both parents
- **Bible Culture:**
  - **An orphan is a person who has lost his father**
  - Even though he may have a mother, he is an orphan because he has no father
  - The source of a person's honour was his father
  - "Orphan" meant "without a "father" in both OT and NT
  - Society labelled a person who was a widow or orphan is having no rank, status, value
  - Widows and orphans were vulnerable often exploited
- **What is the Significance of Father?**
  - **Father means "source or originator**
  - All things originate from a source
  - Father is a source of:-
    - Identity
    - Provision
    - Protection
    - Direction
    - Discipline
    - Blessing
- God is the Father of all spirits. He is the originator of Fatherhood.

#### 3. What is the impact of being an Orphan, Fatherless?

- Statistics from across the world reveal the serious impact naturally when a child has no Father.

- Poverty
- Educational Failure
- Drugs & Alcohol
- Poor Health
- Emotional & relational issues
- Crime (Boys)
- Pregnancy out of Wedlock (Girls)

- **Fatherlessness and its impact is of great concern to Father God**

## II. **What is the “Orphan Spirit” or “Orphan Heart?”**

### 1. **Characteristics**

- It is not a demonic spirit to be cast out (however it is empowered by demonic spirits)
- It is a paradigm, a mindset, a way of thinking and believing and viewing life
- It is a stronghold that develops in a heart wounded by a fathers’ absence, neglect or abuse

### 2. **It is a Bondage in the Heart**

- Pro 4:23 *Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.*
- The heart refers to the inner man, the core of our identity
- The heart is the focus of Gods attention (1Sam.16:7)
- What is in the heart determines the limitations and outcomes of our life and relationships
- *Pro 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.*

### 3. **How does it Manifest in People?**

- **An orphan heart reveals itself in ways of thinking**
  - *No one is here for me.....I am on my own*
  - *I am alone .....People will abandon me*
  - *No one wants me.....I don’t belong*
  - *No one loves me.....I am unloveable*
  - *No one values me.....I have no value*
  - *No one provides .....Its all up to me*
  - *No one protects me.....I don’t trust anyone*
  - *No one affirms me..... I need to promote myself*
- **An orphan heart reveals itself in ways of relating**
  - *Oversensitive.....Misinterpret communications and are easily offended*
  - *Strive to prove self.....Constant comparison*

- Low personal esteem.....Cannot value self and express feelings & needs in healthy ways
  - Constant search for recognition and approval
  - Driven to perform.....Competitive, use people to get ahead
  - Passive.....Withdrawn and addicted to false comforts
  - Treat other people badly.....Constantly misinterpret communications and react
  - Angry and rebellious.....Unable to submit to any form of authority
  - Cycles of failure in life and relationships
- Every person born into this world is a spiritual orphan in need of relationship with Father God
- People live their lives without the presence and provision of a Father who loves them
  - People live as spiritual slaves struggling to survive rather than as Sons in their Father's House

#### 4. Jesus came to reveal what Father God is like

- Col 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
  - Joh 1:18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.
- Jesus revealed the Father
    - His Ministry
    - His Miracles
    - His Compassion
    - His love and acceptance of people

Luk 15:1 Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him.  
Luk 15:2 And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives

    - His Teaching
 

*Luk 15:20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.*
    - His Cross

### III. How to be Healed of An Orphan Heart

#### 1. Repent and Receive Jesus Christ

- *Joh 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name*

- Father sent Jesus Christ to represent Him and reveal Him
- Our response to Jesus gives us access to become part of the family of God
- This is our first step in the journey to Sonship

○ Rom 8:15 *For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."*

Rom 8:16 *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*

- When we receive Christ we receive the Holy Spirit who comes to indwelling and transform us
- Holy Spirit is called "The Spirit of Adoption" ...The Spirit that prepares and places us into Sonship

## 2. Recognize Unresolved Heart Pain regarding a Natural Father

○ **As you think of your natural father what negative feelings or thoughts about him come to mind?**

- Angry?
- Unpredictable?
- Abusive?.....verbal, physical, sexual
- Physically Absent or emotionally unavailable?
- Passive?.....no leadership in the family
- Abandonment? ...Left the Marriage and family and abandoned you
- Rejection?.....
- Harsh or demanding
- Perfectionist.....nothing you did was good enough
- Failure to protect and stand up for family
- Conflicted.....you have both positive & negative feelings about your natural father?

○ **How have you reacted in response to what you have experienced?**

○ Eph 6:2 *"HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER," which is the first commandment with promise:*

Eph 6:3 *"THAT IT **MAY BE WELL WITH YOU** AND YOU **MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.**"*

- God has set in place a principle that we must honour our source of life
- A key characteristic of Sonship is the ability to Honor
- Unresolved heart reactions to either Father or mother cause reactions of dishonor that have lifelong consequences on life and relationships
- You are not responsible for parental failures but you are responsible to resolve the pain and reactions

○ **Typical reactions that establish and energize an orphan heart**

- Buried grief and anger

- Unforgiveness
- Bitterness
- Bitter judgments
- Inner vows.... *"I will never be like him"*
- Reactions that dishonor parents

### 3. **Take Responsibility to Resolve the Pain and the Ungodly Reactions**

- Invite Holy Spirit to reveal and uncover what is in your heart
- Journal out your experience with your father
- Identify and list the good qualities that you can be grateful for and honor
- Identify and list the actions or neglect that have caused you pain and grief
- Identify how it has affected you and continues to do so
- Identify how you feel and grieve your loss
- Identify how you have reacted and dishonored him
- Release the Grief through tears and through giving it to the Holy Spirit
- Release Forgiveness for parents failing to represent the Fatherhood of God
- Repent and confess your ungodly reactions, and ways of coping
- Break your agreement with all inner vows and judgments and withdraw them
- Ask Jesus to deliver you from the defilement

### 4. **Build the Truth of Your Sonship into your life Daily**

- Meditate on the Word of God; eg Luke 15:20
- Practice relaxing in the presence of Father God and receiving His love
- Commit your day and needs to Him daily and expect Him to supply your needs
- Choose to walk in forgiveness daily and bless people
- Catch old negative thoughts as they come and resist them
- Stop placing unrealistic expectations upon people to meet your needs and come through for you
- Practice Honor daily...Appreciate and value people especially those in authority
- Commit to study further study and seek revelation on the Fatherhood of God and what it means to be a Son

## IV. **Ministry Time**

1. What did the Holy Spirit reveal to you during this session?
2. In What ways do you think or behave as though you are an Orphan?
3. What negative pattern do you see in your life that is fruit of unresolved pain?
4. Are you willing to release control and ask Holy Spirit to bring healing and deliverance?
5. Set aside time to prepare your heart for this ministry