

Healing the Wound of Fatherlessness

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Session 10: How to Develop Intimacy with Father God

I. Learn the Role of the Holy Spirit in Fathering us

1. He is the Spirit of Our Father (Mat 10:20)

- Mat 10:20 *for it is not for you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.*

2. He Reveals to us what the Father is saying (Jn 16:13)

- Jhn 16:13 *However, when He the Spirit of truth has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but **whatever He hears He will speak**; and He will tell you things to come*
- Jhn 16:14 *He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*

3. He Gives Access to Father (Eph 2:18)

- Eph 2:18 *For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father*

4. He Affirms our Sonship (Rom 8:16/ Gal 4:6)

- Roms 8:16 *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God*
- Gal 4:6 *And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"*

5. He is Assigned to Us by Father to (Jhn 14:18)

- **Establish our Identity**(Rom 8:16)
- **Transform and Mature Us**.....(2 Cor 3:18)
- **Lead & Guide Us**.....(Rom 8:14)
- **Empower us in life**.....(Acts 1:8)

6. Don't Grieve the Holy Spirit (Eph 4:30)

- Eph 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption*

II. How to Engage God as Your Father

1. Develop Daily Intimacy through Prayer

• How to do this?

- Honour Who He is
 - Come before Him boldly and confidently
 - Express gratitude and praise
- **Use Scripture to Praise & Connect**
 - Personalize it
- **Use Imagination**
 - Imagine a picture scripture revelation

- **Surrender Your Heart & Life**
 - Set Your Heart to Love Him
 - Align Your Heart with Him
- **Listen for Him to Speak**
 - Spontaneous flowing thoughts
 - Write them down
- **Enjoy His Presence**
 - Don't bring a shopping list
 - Fix Your attention and become conscious of Him being near
- **Prioritise His Kingdom**
 - Pray to know and do His will
- **Bring Your Needs to Him**
 - Share Your Concerns
 - Expect His interest and provision

2. Practice Prompt Obedience

- Jhn 14:21 *He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him **and manifest Myself to him.***
- *Jesus answered and said to him, "if anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him.***
 - We cannot separate our relationship with God from our response to His Word
 - To love Jesus and love the Father we must value and live by His Word
 - We highly prioritise the Word of God and applying it to our lives
 - Living by the Word of God deepens His Presence in our lives
- Ps 140:13 *Surely the righteous shall give thanks to His name; **The upright shall dwell in Your Presence***

3. Commit to Serve

- Jhn 12:26 *If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If **anyone serves Me, him My Father will honour.***
 - Jesus model's the Pattern Son. He is The Example to follow
 - Jesus models what Father God is like
 - Jesus models what a son is like
 - Sons are builders
 - Sons serve their Father and expand His Kingdom
 - Father honours those who serve Him

4. Remove Blocks to Intimacy

- Rom 8:29 *For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be **confirmed to the image of His Son**, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren*
 - The Spirit of God is assigned to sanctify us, to transform our lives
 - The pattern he is shaping us towards is Jesus (Rom 8:29)
 - Jesus is the express image of Father God (Heb 1:3)
 - Jesus was totally one with Father God. There was no heart barriers (Jn 10:30)
- Any unresolved heart wounds caused by a natural Father create heart barriers to deepening intimacy with God as Father

5. Become a Father to Children (Natural & Spiritual)

- *Ps 68:5 A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His Holy habitation*
 - We can only give to others what we have received
 - Study, Learn, Draw from Role Models what good fathering is like
 - We have an assignment from our Father to bring an end to destructive patterns and establish a Godly Legacy (Is 61:1-4)

- **Some Practical Actions:**
 - **Be the Spiritual Head (Gen 2:15)**
 - Pray for Them
 - Create a Godly life example for them to see
 - Family Devotional times
 - Teach them
 - **Be Present & Engaged**
 - Children need your time
 - Special times together, dates
 - Celebrate birthdays and successes
 - Games and fun together
 - **Protect Them**
 - Set Boundaries, Values and Standards
 - Stand up for them
 - Guard and limit media exposure
 - **Say you are Sorry when you hurt them**
 - **Be Affectionate with them**
 - Hug & Kiss them
 - Tell them you love them
 - Affirm them with words
 - **Outings & Special Holidays together**
 - Special times to reconnect
 - **Laughter**
 - Just be Silly
 - Dad Jokes
 - **Let them see you Love their Mother**
 - Patient
 - Kind
 - Affectionate
 - Respectful

III. Activation

- **What has Impacted you the most this Session?**
- **Why was this Impacting?**