



Rick & Sue McCoy

We're Back from our Middle Eastern Trip!

The trip was filled with many surprises, new friends, rich fellowship, fun adventures, opportunities to share about the Father's Love and times to just rest and enjoy life! **We want to thank everyone who prayed for and supported us so that we could accomplish what Father had put on our hearts.** Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Here are a few highlights from the trip:

Gathering of the Eagles – Cyprus It was fun seeing some of the beauty God created on Cyprus, but the greatest part was reuniting with friends from the 2014 Gathering in NZ and meeting new friends from around the world that are a part of Fatherheart Ministries. We were able to put faces to names we had heard, and it felt like we were participating in a big family reunion!

Cairo Egypt – Though others showed concern about us going here, we felt the Father's protection and covering everywhere we went. Seeing the pyramids and sphinx was amazing as well as visiting Garbage City and the Cave Church. Just riding around the traffic in Cairo is an experience in itself! We ministered to Sudanese elementary children over two days about the 3 stories in Luke 15. Sue also shared with the teachers about their identity and approval are in being His son or daughter. It was well received with several people visibly impacted.

Israel – We spent 11 days in the land staying with our friends in Zichron Ya Akov. We shared about a loving Father (*Experiencing Father Heart-to-Heart*) one weekend and to a small group from Germany who were praying in the land. Many were noticeably touched by the Father's Love. We visited Jerusalem twice, once to see the Old City and Market and another time to tour with a well-known archeologist who had discovered many of the special ancient sites around the Western Wall. He was able to take us places where the public are not permitted! Toward the end of our visit we got to celebrate the beginning of Passover and a Seder meal in Migdal near the Sea of Galilee. Our hearts are full with a deeper love for the people of the land!

Check out our Facebook page to learn more about our ministry! www.facebook.com.AbbasArmsIntl

"A Father – Son Relationship!"

In the last Love Letter, I (Rick) introduced the reality that God is our true Father and He wants to "father" us. God wants to be the father that we may have always wanted, but never had. I want to continue to explore this Father-son relationship that we all can experience in our own lives.

The Amplified version of **Eph. 2:4, 7** says, "***But God, so rich is He in His mercy! Because of and in order to satisfy the great and wonderful and intense love with which He loves us, ...He did this that He might clearly demonstrate through the ages to come that immeasurable (limitless, surpassing) riches of His free grace (His unmerited favor) in kindness and goodness of heart toward us in Christ Jesus.***"

Wow! The first time I read that it did not seem possible that any father could have that much expression of emotion and feeling towards his children. It sure wasn't my experience at home, nor could I say that I ever saw it in any of the other fathers that I was around growing up. Another verse that still gets me is what Jesus said in **John 17:23**. Those words Jesus spoke continue to impact my

life "...*You have loved them as You have loved me.*" It's the confession I speak often before I go to sleep and it's becoming more real to me all of the time! "***I thank you Father that you love me as much as you love Jesus!***" I still get excited saying that!

It has been a long, and sometimes difficult, journey that has taken me from a wounded little boy to a place of knowing that I am

Father's special son, who loves me just as much as He loves Jesus. I am thankful for Sue and our friends that have helped me get free from my past and the bad choices I made out of the pain that was in my heart. Becoming a true son has been a process that I am still walking through as Holy Spirit keeps bringing up more things that are yet hindering me from fully coming into my sonship.

Orphan vs Sonship

Barry Adams who wrote the Father's Love Letter was the first person who said a very simple, but profound, statement, "To be a son, you first have to have a father." And there is where we all struggle because as long as we act like orphans, or to the degree that we still have orphanness in us, we cannot fully experience the Father's love for us.



Orphans are fatherless, have no inheritance, and behave like servants or slaves. ***The orphans have come into the churches and created a form of orphan Christianity focused on works. It's all about doing all the "should's," focusing on the 10 Commandments and being holy, obedience, discipline, and living by the letter of the Law rather than by the Law of Love.*** Because orphans cannot be led by love, they need formulas, limits for their behavior, laws, and rules to keep them in line and not sin

Sons walking in love don't need these because **Love cannot sin!** It is one thing to know that God is Love, but a whole different thing to know that He is loving us all the time. If we are filled with God, we are filled with His love and the Law of Love compels us to do only what we see Father doing. I want to be just like Jesus, a perfect son! However, if we have not forgiven our natural father and are not in a loving relationship with him, it is impossible for us to have or experience a loving relationship with our Heavenly Father and be filled with His Love. Only a son can be like his Father! As a Christian, I could not understand why I could not get rid of the addictions to pornography, voyeurism, masturbation, and fantasy lust. All the prayers and "programs" never helped me. It wasn't until Jack Frost of Shiloh Place Ministries exposed my orphan heart and the pain from my mom and dad, that I finally found the root of my problems. Walking through forgiveness and cleansing from all the bad choices I had made was the first step towards total freedom. I began to receive Father's Love and the addictions just seemed to melt away to where I didn't need them any longer because my heart was being comforted by Him. But I still have a ways to go. Being able to totally trust and submit everything to Father is still difficult for me.

Sonship - Being "fathered"

Leanne Payne defined true masculinity as "being totally submitted to God." I never really understood the significance of that until I read Mark Gyde's book *A Father to You*. He made this statement, "Other people know me as a father because I have children, but only my kids **know me as father** because they have allowed me to father them." It isn't until we are willing to have our Heavenly Father "father" us that we can really know we are His sons. One of the biggest areas where I was not allowing God to father me was in my will and control of my life. It wasn't until I had put myself into a very dangerous situation that I realized how much I was still controlling my life. It's not that God didn't want to be a father to me, but like the Israelites in Bible times, I just didn't let Him!

As much as our natural fathers influence how we see our Heavenly Father, how we responded and interacted with our natural fathers as a son can also influence how we see and understand being a son to our Heavenly Father. We can have a distorted idea of what Sonship is and how to be a true son or daughter to our Father. The more I have submitted to Him fathering me, the more I see myself living from my heart,

living a love-driven life. The more of His love gets into my heart, the easier it has become to forgive from my heart, resist the old temptations, and walk free from my past. He is urging me to step out of the boat, take more risks, and explore new adventures. I'm more in touch with my emotions and feelings now and am responding to Sue differently than I did in the past.

But how do I know what parts of me still need fathered by God? My wife Sue asked Father that question and this is what He said to her, "*Any part of you where you do not have My heart, is a part that has not been fathered by Me yet.*" I realized that there were a whole lot of parts of my heart where I still don't have His heart of love. It's not about "What Would Jesus Do?" that we should ask ourselves. ***We need to ask ourselves "What Would Love Do?" before we respond to life's situations; we would avoid a lot of problems, keep from sinning, and not hurt anyone else! Everything we do needs to be an expression of our love for Him!*** We will only get there as we allow Father to change all the areas in our heart!

Father is a Family Man!

Father created us to have relationships – family, friends, church. We are social beings because Father wants to have a relationship with us. He wants to know that we have a place in our heart for Him. We also have that desire to know that someone has a place in their heart for us. It's unnatural to want to be alone or isolated. Father is saying, "Come on into the house!" **The Christian walk is all about finding our way home.** Father doesn't want us to just have soulless surface-level relationships that are shallow, dull and unfulfilling where conversations never go beyond news, weather and sports. He wants us to have spiritual-level relationships that are from the heart - rich, deep, fulfilling, and intimate. ***Our relationship with Him must be heart-to-heart.*** There is love flowing between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and we get caught in the middle of it! It's a Love Triangle!

God's character and personality is Love. God's only relational nature is Father and we can only relate to Him as a son to his father. It's who He is, not something He does! We need to have the heart of a son before we can bring anyone else into the family or introduce them to Father. **Can you be a little boy or girl who needs to be loved by his father?**



A Blessing for Living in a Father – Son Relationship

I bless you to walk in the fullness of your rights and privileges to walk in the position of a son or daughter of your Heavenly Father. I bless your spiritual eyes and ears to be open so that you can hear and see what the Father is doing in your life and the world. I bless you with the confidence and courage to step out into all that the Father is calling and showing you to do as part of His grand plan to bring back the Kingdom here to the earth. I bless you with greater intimacy and oneness with the Father and a passion to draw near to Him and hear His heart beating with yours. May you have His Shalom peace and rest so that all you do is from a place of rest and love for Him. I bless you to live a love-driven life that brings glory and honor to Him.

