



Rick & Sue McCoy

“Father Knows Best!”

Father whispered the words, “Father knows best,” to my heart a couple months ago. These words may cause some of you to recall a TV show by that title from many years ago. Typically, it is a little child that believes his/her father knows best. Their simple faith trusts their father to know what’s best for them, at least during their early years. But often as we grow up our hearts think we know what is best! Father has been speaking to me (Sue) about walking like a little child in humility. He has been showing me that growing up spiritually is very different than what I had thought in the past. To be a reflection of Jesus in my daily life, I am learning it means asking Father what is best in each area of my life! What an adventure it is learning to live every day being a little child and resting that my Father knows best!!

In **Matt. 18:3-5** Jesus said, “...*unless you become as little children you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.*” What are the characteristics of a little child? A little child or toddler is humble as he knows he is small, weak, and helpless. A child depends on his parents to take care of him providing food, clothes, shelter and more. Children are quick to ask for help and are willing to be led. But what happens as we grow up and get older? Usually we lose our ability to believe and trust that our father or our Heavenly Father knows best. Because of the hurts and pain that we experienced in our childhood, we become independent and have our own way of doing things. But our True Father, who never changes, says that His ways and thoughts are higher than our ways or thoughts. (**Isa. 55:8-9**) Recently Father has been showing me areas of my life where I haven’t asked for His help. He has also put the spotlight on how Jesus, as an adult, lived His life as a son totally depending on His Father like a young child telling Him what to speak and what to do? (**Read John 5:19-20**) Wow!

Recently Father had me read Andrew Murray’s book, *Humility*. My heart saw all the ways pride, the opposite of humility, shows up in our lives. Pride is present each time we act independently of God and focus on self! In today’s world we may hear people say, “I know best!” SELF is the focus – what they want, think and believe! Many in the world act like orphans: doing things themselves, not able to trust, needing to be in control to be safe as well as being responsible for their lives and meeting their own needs. It is an exhausting and scary way to live. I lived in much of what I just described for quite a few years. “I” was constantly trying to do it right, which left me feeling insecure inside and very self-conscious! Father showed me how often I read my Bible, prayed and did good things for others because it all made me feel good about myself. Father views things differently than we do. Father spoke to me through **Galatians 2:6** and **6:3**. Both verses say if anyone thinks himself to be something, he deceives himself! Murray says, “*Just as water seeks the lowest place, as Father finds my heart abased and empty, His glory and power can flow in to exalt and bless.*”

SAVE THE DATE – OCTOBER 14-15th, 2016

We want to give you a heads up that we are planning another encounter weekend - Friday evening-Saturday until 4 pm this fall. We have had several people ask us when there may be a time to encounter and experience more of Father’s Love, so this weekend will be your chance to have your heart impacted by His love! We hope you will also invite others to join you! Put the date on your calendar and begin to pray that Father will touch your heart and draw many to come for the weekend. Look for an e-mail or an announcement on the ministry’s Facebook page with more information in September!

WEBSITE INFORMATION

Our website, **www. Abba’s Arms Intl.org**, is now into its fifth year. We are not sure if everyone reading this Love Letter has been fully aware of our website, so we decided to highlight it now. It is exciting to realize that we are able to impact and touch people in many nations around the world that we may never be able to visit! There have been over **116 nations** that have viewed our website with an increased number of people and pages viewed. We appreciate all of you who have prayed for us and the website! It is a wonderful tool to share the love of our Father in places near and far! A friend of ours from Africa shared our site with a hotel employee in a totally closed country and downloaded our materials for him! Wow, only Father knows the seeds that were sown in his life!

For any of you who have yet to visit the website, there are many **free resources** available. Rick has worked hard to put many **audio files** on the site that include groups that we have held in our home, retreats that we have done, weekend meetings that have several sessions, and even the short focuses we share at our soaking evenings. You can either listen to them or download them to listen to later. You can also access all of our past Love Letters, marriage encouragements, lessons we have written and more! We hope you

will check it out if you haven’t and share it with your friends! It’s www.abbasarmsintl.org.



It's not about us or what we do, but Father who is all! I heard a man of God speak about a lesson he learned about himself. He had many abilities and could do many things well such as sing, write songs, speak and more. He thought they were all things he could do until one day Father took away all the different graces that were on his life. He woke up one morning unable to put sentences together! Father showed him all the pride in his heart and life. He realized it was God, not him, that made the difference. Then he shared verses about how he lives his life now that I have never forgotten: "I am nothing (**1 Cor. 13:2**), I know nothing (**1 Cor. 8:2**), I have nothing (**1 Cor. 9:16**), and I can do nothing without Him (**John 5:30**). Humility is the displacement of self and all my efforts from being on the throne of my life. Instead, I now see Father to be **everything** I need and myself as nothing.

Humility is also the place of complete dependency like a little baby. That is the way Jesus lived His life on the earth, with Him being nothing and letting Father be all. Several times in John's Gospel, Jesus says, "**I can of Myself do nothing.**" (**John 5:19, 30; 8:28**) The only way Father can be all is if we are nothing! Some people walk in a false humility feeling they aren't worthy and speak negatively about themselves. However, C. S. Lewis said, "*True humility is not thinking less of yourself, but it is thinking of yourself less.*" Jesus walked secure in His identity as Father's son who was greatly loved. If we focus on our Father's love, bigness, ability and power, there won't be time to think about ourselves!

Little children are very teachable which is another part of humility. Too often as adults we think we have all the answers, but a child keeps his heart open. King Solomon had a sincere childlike heart, not as king for selfish things but seeing himself small in his own eyes. When God asked him what shall I give you, Solomon replied, "**...I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.**" **1 Kings 3:7** We see the opposite attitude in Saul, as shared in the books of Acts, who was highly educated and thought he was doing what God wanted killing believers. God knocked Saul off his "high horse" (Acts 9) thinking he knew it all and changed him from the inside out. Father blinded Saul's natural eyes so he could begin to see a new way. Saul turned into Paul realizing it was not about knowing the Word, but about knowing the heart of the One who wrote the Word! Placing ourselves daily into His hands and living in helpless dependency will bring our hearts to a place of rest, meekness and humility like little children!

We can learn like Paul to boast in our weaknesses that the power of Christ may rest on us. **2 Cor. 12:9-10** The more I let Him be in every part of my life, the more I am becoming like Him! **2 Corinthians 3:18** says, ***But we all with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory just as***

by the spirit of the Lord." It is not about me trying harder to change myself, but my seeing Him and all that He is! He can transform our hearts and lives as we spend more time in His presence getting to know who He really is! Authentic

metamorphosis is what happens when a caterpillar turns into a butterfly. Father is the one who brings the beautiful butterfly forth after a time in the cocoon. Transformation starts when the caterpillar finds a safe, secure place to attach himself to and then hangs upside down with his head in the lowest position trusting that his Creator will do the work. Believing that Father knows best requires the same heart attitude in us. We must let go of all our ways, our thoughts and how we see ourselves. Can we trust that He will bring beauty out of the ugly, messed up places of our lives? During the time in the cocoon, the caterpillar becomes totally mush. All the parts of the caterpillar dissolve. What if one leg or antenna doesn't want to go through the process? Father showed me it may just prolong the process before the beautiful butterfly can come forth. For me, caring for my elderly mother in our home for over two years was my cocoon time. All ministry stopped and I felt alone and trapped. Father worked deeply to remove my identity coming from ministry and all that I did. It was a humbling time, but He began to transform my life and I am forever thankful!

The longer I walk with Father as His daughter, the more I am content to live in the moment being His little child. I like living as a humble little child with a big, big Papa who desires that I live every day knowing that I am loved and cared for by Him! When my grandchildren were very young and their parents planned a trip for the family, all the kids had to do was trust Mom and Dad to take care of all the details. They were free to simply have fun and enjoy the adventure! The past couple trips Rick and I have taken have been easy, sensing that Papa was orchestrating and leading us each step. I believe our good, good Father wants us to know that His heart only has good for us! **Jer. 32:39-42** He has a great future planned for each of His children without us needing to figure things out ourselves or try hard to make things happen. Father wants us to relax and rest that He knows best! That doesn't mean we wouldn't do anything, but when our souls and hearts are quiet then we hear His thoughts and learn to walk in His ways! So today ask Him if there is an area of your life where you haven't thought Father knows best? Then be still and wait for Him to speak to your heart!





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Blessing – Father Knows Us Best!

I bless you to experience a greater revelation of the truth that Father truly does know best! May your heart be open to trusting Him just like a little baby or child trusts his parents to take care of all his needs. I bless you to come humbly as a little child and let go of your thoughts and ways of living your life, so you can begin to learn His thoughts and ways. May Father become bigger and bigger in your eyes while self and self-consciousness become less of a focus. I bless you with becoming like Jesus when He said, "I can of myself do nothing," so Father can be and do all in your life! May you be teachable, filled with meekness and willing to let Father lead you into the good future He has for you. May He transform your heart and life into a beautiful new creation as you rest and behold Him! I bless you with the freedom to enjoy all the adventures and fun that Father has planned for your life too!

