

Lesson 10 - You Were Created for Love

Father created us to receive and give love away

- God is love (**1 John 4:8**) – Everything Abba does is by, through, and out of love.
- There is not a time in our life that Abba has not loved us. There is nothing we will ever do or say that will ever stop Him from loving us. That is just the way He is!
- We were created with a need for relationship, first with Him, and then with each other. The heart of love wants you in His presence. Unfortunately, the power of relationship was lost in the Garden. (**Gen. 2:18-25, Gen. 3:5-10**)
- He also placed a longing in our heart for intimacy, to know and be known by someone else. Abba wants a personal intimate relationship with us, to know that we have a place in our heart for Him. Likewise, each one of us wants to know that we have a place in someone else's heart too.
- We do not learn how to love. A child is born with the capacity and ability to give and receive love. Loving and trusting others comes naturally to us because we are created in His own image, male and female. (**Gen. 1:26-28**)

Four Important Aspects of Intimacy

1. The image of yourself determines the level of intimacy or the lack of intimacy you walk in.

- ❖ If you are uncomfortable with yourself, you are uncomfortable with love and intimacy.
 - you will be uncomfortable with others
 - your image of yourself determines the depth of all your relationships
 - it determines what and how much of our life we will give to: our job, our marriage, church activities, friendships, and other activities
- ❖ If we walk in love, we will impact the world. However, without love, all our actions are meaningless. (**1 Cor. 13:1-13, Matt. 22:37-40**)

2. We have to see the deep need that we have for intimacy.

- ❖ If we do not have an awareness of our need, we will not pursue it. If you think that you do not have a need, it is probably because you are in control of your life and living independent of Father or anyone else.
- ❖ If you are a survivor, you have learned to deny your need for love. If you need someone else, you give them power over you, to potentially control and manipulate you. Independence is a lie we embrace from childhood to survive.
- ❖ We can be saved and still live independent and self-reliant from Father. "The only way I can be safe and keep fear away is to be in control."
- ❖ Love is more about who we are, the image we have of our self. Do you see yourself as a lover? Is it natural for you to love someone?
- ❖ Man was placed on the earth first so that he could find his dependence on Father. He first had to have an awareness of his need for love. Until a man's relationship with Father is secure, he cannot be trusted with a woman.
- ❖ Woman was taken from man's side because that is the place of comfort, nurturing and protection. Men need to give their wife her rightful place at his side.

You Were Created For Love

- ❖ We have a need to be known, nothing hidden or kept in secret. Love makes us vulnerable to being hurt or betrayed by another. The more we are hurt, the more we begin to deny our need to be loved. Walls go up to protect our self and the flow of intimacy stops.

3. We have to embrace our responsibility for intimacy.

- ❖ Jesus died for us to restore our intimacy with the Father and intimacy on the earth.
- ❖ *Our most important responsibility as heirs to the Kingdom is to know the Father and His love.* Our whole life must revolve around receiving His love and giving it away to the next person we meet.
- ❖ Like the Older Brother, we can live in the house, be an heir, and still not have intimacy with the Father.
- ❖ We also need to have tender, loving, nurturing, caring intimacy in our family too.
- ❖ When Adam sinned willfully (**2 Cor. 11:3, Rom. 5:12-21**), **he opened the door for male irresponsibility concerning intimacy.**
- ❖ Man began to deny his need for intimacy. The woman became the one solely responsible for intimacy and love in the family. "She has the compassion, sensitivity, and tenderness." "I am tough, strong, and the provider." *Men began to hide in their job, performance, church ministry, or helping others* rather than spend time building intimate relationships at home.
- ❖ We have to embraced the lie that men are doers and takers and women are "be-ers" and receivers with more sensitivity to the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ This lie has caused men to shirk their responsibility for love and intimacy with Abba, their family, and others. We take on guilt, self-consciousness, loneliness, escapism, anxiety, and fears of rejection, failure, receiving love, giving love, or having intimacy.
- ❖ Man forsook his responsibility for intimacy in the Garden when he tried to shift the blame for their sin onto the woman. He was responsible for the loss of intimacy.
- ❖ However, Abba made man and woman like Himself, with all His masculine and feminine characteristics. (**Gal. 3:26-29**) Every man has the ability to flow in intimacy.

4. Intimacy requires you finding value and self-worth in being what Abba created you to be.

- ❖ It is not about doing what we were created to do!
- ❖ If you do not realize your worth and calling on earth, you will struggle in your marriage.
- ❖ If a man is not willing to give his life to bring healing and restoration to his bride (or someone else if not married), than he is uncomfortable with himself. (**Eph. 5:25-29**) Because he is uncomfortable with himself, he easily turns to the false lovers and counterfeit affections to find comfort.
- ❖ We will not really feel good about our self until we start to lay down our life for our bride or for someone else if you are not married. We need to let Abba fill us with His love so that we will be able to give love to others in their insecure moments.
- ❖ If we move off-center of His love, we stop loving our wife as Christ loved the church. (**Eph. 5:25-26**) We stop covering and protecting her and she becomes even more insecure. We must receive His love so that we can begin to heal the wounds and insecurities in our wife.

You Were Created For Love

- ❖ When we start loving our wife or others, we start feeling good about ourselves. We start loving ourselves. The scripture says, "...love your neighbor as (you do) yourself." Amp. **(Matt. 22:39)** *You will only be able to love others in the way and to the degree that you love yourself.*
- ❖ When we sin willfully, and do not cover our wife, we feel shame and start to cover our self with work, church, religious activities, ministry, etc.
- ❖ As we start to express acts of love and kindness to our wife, children, and others, we become more Christ-like and the more we feel comfortable with Abba's love. **(1 John 4:16)**
- ❖ The more we submit our self to love and intimacy, the more it transforms our mind, character, and spirit. We fulfill all of the law when we receive His love and give it away. **(Matt. 22:40)**
- ❖ If you are married, the question Abba will ask you at the White Throne Judgment will be, "Did you love your wife as Christ loved the church?"
- ❖ There is no excuse that we have never been loved as a boy, so I cannot love you now. (I am a victim) Or "I was raised in a non-affectionate home or non-verbal home, so I cannot give you eye contact, words of affirmation, or affectionate touches that you need." Abba can make up for whatever you did not receive growing up.