**Notes**

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****June 18, 2017**



**Love Life &**

**See Good Days**

Part 5

“The Tender Love of a Father”

Welcome

**Love Life & See Good Days**

*(Part 5: The Tender Love of a Father)*

**Psalm 68:5 / John 14:9 / Romans 8:15**

**Abbá – "Father"***-* a term of tender endearment by a beloved child – i.e. in an affectionate, dependent relationship with their father; "daddy," "papa."

* **God is seen by many of His followers as:**

Almighty / Master somewhat distant.

 Strict judge / Difficult to please

* **Yet, few followers it seems, enjoy Him as:**

**‘**Abba Father’: up close, personal, engaged and present.

**Jesus showed us what the Father is like to ‘children’**

**Matthew 19:13-15**

**In contrast, many believers sadly carry an ‘orphan’ spirit**

* ‘Orphan’- without living parents

 - without protective affiliation, isolated, abandoned

* Bad life experiences growing up:

 (Authority figures @ home, school, church even)

* Broken promises / lack of affirmation / discipline & direction
* These ‘dysfunctions’ produce:

 Underlying distrust, A sense of rejection,

 A victim mentality and over sensitivity to feelings & emotions

A determination to protect ourselves from hurt

 Withdrawal – ‘been there done that, and got burned’, …

 Tendency to try to control situations

* Stuck in a cycle of actions & reactions that ‘sabotage’ God’s dealings with them.

* Even a drive to be ‘perfect’ in a fruitless effort to please Him

**“Abba-Father’s” solution**

* He reveals His pleasure in **adopting** and **accepting** us:

 Through Jesus we enjoy asense of **belonging.**

***Ephesians 1:5-6***

* As a good father, He points us to a pathway to **becoming** all that we are supposed to be:
* Growth is characterized by an inner ‘delight’ of a trusting relationship, … and not an outer religious ‘duty’.
* He delights in us **Psalm 149:4**
* As a response, we delight in Him **Psalm 40:8**
* True power of holiness: *“I want to”* not *“Do I really have to?”*

**2 Corinthians 3:18** J.B. Phillips New Testament & Living Bible

* An up close personal encounter with His person:

 No veil of religious self-effort allowed

* We behold or gaze intently into His face and are changed

**Final Take Away & Communion**

* Respond to His outstretched hand of compassion with fresh faith.

**John 3:16-17** *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

**This is the way of “Abba – Father”**