

Introduction

The Father

I truly wonder how many Christians know the Father. Do we really have a relationship with the Father?

Without relationship there is definitely no revelation. We have to become relationship based so we can operate out of the Presence and not out of an atmosphere of performance. Jesus' whole ministry was to please the Father.

1. He was sent by the Father:

Scripture

- **John 20:21**

²¹Then Jesus said to them again, Peace to you! [Just] as the Father has sent Me forth, so I am sending you.

2. He prayed to the Father:

Scripture

- **John 17:11**

¹¹"Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name-the name you gave me-so that they may be one as we are one"

3. He obeyed the Father:

Scripture

- **John 15:10**

¹⁰If you keep My commandments [if you continue to obey My instructions], you will abide in My love and live on in it, just as I have obeyed My Father's commandments and live on in His love.

Something is missing?

We don't have a lot of father figures in the natural or spiritual.

Many men have abdicated their role as fathers. Everything that comes in our lives comes because of the Fathers' love for us.

I hear so many people saying:

1. "I want to be used."
2. "I want my ministry."
3. "It's my time."
4. "Why aren't I being used?"

All these things are from a selfish attitude.

I am so convinced we don't see what Jesus promised us because:

1. We seek the gift
2. We seek the sign

3. We seek the blessing
4. We seek His hand
5. We seek the title and position
6. We look for the acceptance of man

We should be looking for the heart ...the heart of the Father.

Let's look at Jesus' attitude to the Father.

Jesus, at a young age, was concerned about his Father's business.

Even when Jesus was being tempted to promote Himself:

Scripture

- **Matthew 4.1-11**

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted^[a] by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'^[b]" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'^[c]"

⁷ Jesus answered him, "It is also written: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'^[e]" ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Notice here 3 times Jesus turns it back to the Father:

Vs 4: ⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'

Vs 7: ⁷ Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'^[d]"

Vs 10: ¹⁰ For it is written: "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'^[e]"

After His temptation Jesus returns in the power of the Spirit:

Scripture

- **Luke 4:14**

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

Power came from relationship with His Father and using the Word to defeat the enemy.

Jesus begins preaching:

Scripture**• Luke 4:18**

¹⁸The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me, because He has anointed Me [the Anointed One, the Messiah] to preach the good news (the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to announce release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to send forth as delivered those who are oppressed [who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed, and broken down by calamity],

- Good News (the gospel)
- The Kingdom is near
- It's His Father's Kingdom
- There is power from on high when we GO!

The Father honours us going in what we've received.

There is no power in wondering just what might have been. Power comes when you step aside and He takes control. That is why Jesus tells us in:

Scripture**• Matt 6:33(AMP)**

³³But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.

- Seek His Kingdom, in other words His rule.
- Seek His righteousness, and his ways of being right.
- And His benefits will be added unto us.

Many people miss the benefits because they don't seek him first.

They don't understand the Kingdom of Grace and living under the new covenant.

Too much of Christianity comes from a platform of fear, works, and condemnation. When Jesus says "He came to bring life and life more abundantly"

Jesus was submitted to the authority of His Father. There is protection in submission. He was submitted to the Father's ways.

Most of us are only submitted so far.

We submit to what suits us, and what feels good.

Today there is a total rebellion against authority, therefore, a rebellion against God.

Jesus said He and the Father were one. The opposite to this truth is we are many. (legion).

That's the worldly attitude of "its mine". I am more convinced the greatest revelation coming to the body of Christ is a true understanding of the Father Heart of God.

People getting to know the Father, being One with Him.

We don't need a label or a title to do it, its' God's heart for mankind.

Scripture

- **John 14:7**

⁷If you had known Me [had learned to recognize Me], you would also have known My Father. From now on, you know Him and have seen Him.

Jesus said that if we knew Him we knew the Father. Such a union together - Father and Son.

Scripture

- **John 17:4**

I have glorified You down here on the earth by completing the work that You gave Me to do

Notice Jesus said He finished the work the Father sent Him to do, even before going to the cross.

That work was to reveal the Father and His Kingdom to man, to bring God to the people.

We live our lives out of who teaches us and who has the most input into our lives.

Kingdom people portray Kingdom and demonstrate the Kingdom with signs and wonders following. Christianity without the power of God is just a form of religion.

Denominational people always confess the denomination they belong to. Too many people identify with the building, and go to the building to meet with God, when they need to come to the revelation that the Kingdom and the Father live within.

Jesus said He must be about this Father's business. He said He only did what He saw His Father do and only said what He heard the Father say.

For us to be truly led by the Spirit and to be effective for God, we must always remember to go back to the Word because Jesus never ever confirms anything that's not in His Word.

I hear people say "let the spirit have His way", and that is true, but the Holy Spirit only does what He hears the Father say to Jesus.

Scripture

- **John 16:13-15**

¹³But when He, the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving Spirit) comes, He will guide you into all the Truth (the whole, full Truth). For He will not speak His own message [on His own authority]; but He will tell whatever He hears [from the Father; He will give the message that has been given to Him], and He will announce and declare to you the things that are to come [that will happen in the future].

¹⁴He will honour and glorify Me, because He will take of (receive, draw upon) what is Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you. ¹⁵Everything that the Father has is Mine. That is what I meant when I said that He [the Spirit] will take the things that are Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you.

If we come to a true understanding of this scripture and have revelation that Jesus says here “everything that the Father has is mine”, and the Holy Spirits job is to take what is His and reveal, declare and transmit it to us.

So the Holy Spirits job is not only to lead us and guide us, but He brings us into a revelation of son-ship and relationship to the Father.

This scripture will bring freedom and release to most people who meditate on it and allows it to become revelation in their hearts. Knowing that the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth and unity.

He is not called the spirit of confusion.

The Son came to please the Father, to have relationship with Him. Jesus knew the Father heart of God.