

6. Jesus Washes The Disciples' Feet

John 13:1, NIV – *“Having loved His own who were in the world, He now showed them the full extent of His love.”*

John 13:3-4, 14-15 – *“Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God, and was going back to God, rose from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself about. Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded ... If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.”*

GOD THINKS ONLY LOVING THOUGHTS OF YOU!

1 John 4:8, NIV – *“... God is love.”*

1 Corinthians 13:5, KJV – *“Love thinks no evil...”*

Jeremiah 31:3 – *“I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with loving-kindness.”*

1 John 1:5, 4:16 – *“God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all... God is love...”*

1 Corinthians 13:4-8, paraphrased – *“Father is patient, Father is kind ... Father does not take into account a wrong suffered ... Father bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Father never fails.”*

Jeremiah 29:11, KJV – *“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”*

YOU ARE FATHER GOD'S HAPPY THOUGHT!

Psalms 139:17-18, GW – *“How precious are Your thoughts concerning me, O God! How vast in number they are! (18) If I try to count them, there would be more of them than there are grains of sand. When I wake up, I am still with you.”*

A Revelation Of The Father's Love # 3 – Finding Rest In The Father's Love David Hibbert – September 11, 2005

THE RELIGION OF FEAR

1. God Wants The Best For Us

Luke 15:20, NIV – *“So he [the prodigal son] got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”*

2. Without A Correct Revelation, We Live In Fear

1 John 4:18, NIV – *“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. ...”*

The idea that God the Son loves us, but God the Father is angry at us, has been ingrained into our mindsets, and as a result, while we can develop a deep and meaningful relationship with Jesus, we don't know what to do when it comes to intimacy with Father God

3. Where Do We Run When We Fail?

- An addiction - which deadens the sense of pain and failure, and helps us to forget our failure
- An unhealthy relationship - which offers acceptance, but usually with many strings attached
- Hyper-religious activity - that offers us a false chance to atone for our sin, and appease an angry God, and therefore earn false relief.

WE WERE CREATED TO FIND REST IN THE FATHER'S LOVE

1. The Father Wants To Make A Place Of Rest In Us

Isaiah 66:1, NASB – *“Where then is a house you could build for Me? And where is a place that I may rest?”*

John 14:18,21,23, NASB – *“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you ... I will love him and will disclose Myself to him ... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him.”*

- ❑ Rest = “place of rest” / Abode = “abiding place, dwelling place, place of rest”
- ❑ The Father’s greatest desire is to come to us, and make a place of rest in us, and in doing so, bring us to a place of rest in Him

2. Most People Are Afraid Of God’s Presence

- ❑ Visitation versus habitation

3. The Consequences Of Not Finding Our Rest In The Father

- a) Insecurity
- b) Competition
- c) Need For Approval
- d) Struggle
- e) Fear-Based Relationship With God
- f) Duty-Based Relationship With God

TWO REASONS FOR NOT FINDING REST IN GOD'S LOVE

1. We Received A Religion That Is Based On Fear, Hyper-Religious Activity, Or Performance, Rather Than On God's Love And Grace
2. We Received A Misrepresentation Of The Father's Love By Our Parental And Earthly Authorities

THE FATHER HAS A SAFE DWELLING PLACE FOR US

1. It’s The Place Void Of Fear Or Anxiety

John 13:21, NIV – “After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, ‘I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me.’”

2. It’s The Place Where Jesus Abided

John 14:1-3, NASB – “Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request the Father on your behalf, for the Father Himself loves you [phileo — naturally demonstrated affection] because you love Me, and have believed that I came forth from the Father.”

4. Jesus Touches And Cleanses The Leper

Mark 1:40-42, NIV – “(40) A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, ‘If you are willing, you can make me clean.’ (41) Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. ‘I am willing,’ he said. ‘Be clean!’ (42) Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.”

Hebrews 2:11 – “... He [Jesus] is not ashamed to call them brethren.”

Hebrews 11:16 – “God [Father] is not ashamed to be called their God”

Luke 19:10 – “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save [to heal, protect, to make whole] that which was lost [marred, destroyed, perishing].”

Luke 15:20 – “And he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him, and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him, and kissed him.”

5. Jesus Came As A Servant

Matthew 20:26-28 – “Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave. Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

John 17:4,6, NIV – “(4) I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. ... (6) I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. ...”

Matthew 23:11 – “The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.”

John 14:28 – “I go to the Father for the Father is greater than I.”

John 5:22, 24 – “For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son ... He who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment ...”

John 3:17-18 – “For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

John 12:47-48 – “If anyone hears My sayings, and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. He who rejects Me, and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.”

Hebrews 9:27, NIV – “... man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.”

Matthew 23:37 – “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.”

3. Jesus Calms The Sea

Mark 4:37-39, NIV – “(37) A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. (38) Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?” (39) He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.”

Matthew 6:8-9, NASB – “Your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him. Pray [cry out] then, in this way: ‘Our Father ...’”

John 16:23-27, NASB – “And in that day [the day of tribulation] you will ask Me [Jesus] no question. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you shall ask the Father for anything, He will give it to you in My Name. Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full. These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; an hour is coming when I will speak no more to you in figurative language, but will tell you plainly of the Father. In that day

3. It’s The Bosom Of The Father

John 1:18; 8:14, NASB – “No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him. ... I know where I came from, and where I am going ...”

John 14:4-6, NASB – “And you know the way where I am going. Thomas said to Him, ‘Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.”

- Derek Prince - “A way is meaningless without a destination.”
- Jesus is not just the way – He is the way to a destination – the bosom of the Father – the Heart of the Father – the Father’s embrace
- We have made so much of the way that many have not arrived at, or even sought, the destination ... the bosom of the Father.

JESUS REVEALS THE TRUE HEART OF THE FATHER

1. Jesus “Explains” The Father

John 1:18, NASB – “No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained [revealed, made known, shown the way of] Him.”

2. Jesus “Makes Known” The Father, So We Can Receive The Father’s Love

John 17:23,26, NIV – “... You sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ... I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

3. Jesus Came From The Father To Reveal His Love

John 16:27, NASB – “For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from the Father.”

- “Agape” love is The Father’s unconditional, faithful love
- “Phileo” love is The Father’s experiential love, His demonstrated love, His Fatherly love

4. Jesus Plainly Reveals The Father

John 14:7-8, NASB – “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him. Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.’”

John 14:9, NASB – “Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, ‘Show us the Father.’”

5. Jesus Is The Exact Representation Of The Father

Hebrews 1:3 – “And He [Jesus] is the radiance of His [Father's] glory and the exact representation of His [Father's] nature.”

Colossians 1:15 – “He [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God [Father] ...”

6. Jesus Only Did And Said What The Father Does And Says

John 14:10, 24 – “Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. ... the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.”

LIKE FATHER - LIKE SON

John 5:19-20 – “Truly, Truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing ... For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.”

John 5:38 – “... the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish, the very works that I do, bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me.”

John 8:28, 38 – “... I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me ... I speak the things I have seen with My Father.”

John 12:49-50 – “For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me commandment, what to say, and what to speak. And I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

THE WORKS OF JESUS REVEAL THE FATHER

1. Jesus And The Multitudes

a) Jesus Feeds The Four Thousand

Matthew 15:32,36-37, NIV – (32) Jesus called his disciples to him and said, ‘I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way.’ ... (36) Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. (37) They all ate and were satisfied. ...

b) Jesus Eats With Sinners And Tax Collectors

Luke 15:1-2; 7:34 – “Now all the tax-gatherers and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him. And both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, ‘This man receives sinners and eats with them ... a friend of tax-gatherers and sinners.’”

c) Jesus Is Kind (Merciful) To Evil And Ungrateful Men

Luke 6:35-36 – “But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.”

2. Jesus Forgives The Adulterous Woman

John 8:7-11 – “He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her ... Woman, where are they [her accusers]? Did not one condemn you? And she said, ‘No one, Lord.’ And Jesus said, Neither do I condemn you; go your way. From now on sin no more.”