

# WHAT'S NEXT?

GETTING MORE OUT OF YOUR SUNDAY SERVICE



June 21, 2021

This week we are looking at our response to Pastor Ronnie Phillips' sermon titled, "The Abba Cry" (Romans 8:15). Take time to examine this message more closely, alone or with a family or friend. This message will also be discussed on Sunday in many LifeGroups at Abba's House.

1. In this message Pastor Ronnie explores one of the most important aspects of God for us to understand and enjoy—the fatherhood of God. The Abba cry is possibly one of the earliest words or phrases a young toddler will speak. You see, Abba is the Aramaic word for father. A little child can call out "dada" often before forming any other word. While a child in this Hebrew culture had an earthly abba, the fatherhood of God is rarely mentioned in the Old Testament. We hear Him called "Everlasting Father" in Isaiah. David described Him as the "Father of the fatherless and protector of widows."

In the New Testament, a quick concordance search explodes with scripture references of the fatherhood of God! So, what did Jesus mean when He told the disciples, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father?"

2. Pastor Ronnie explained that as a representative of the Heavenly Father on earth, all of Jesus' sermons and parables were to reveal the heart of Abba to a people who were bound and blinded by religion! The priests had a religious system in place that kept intimacy with the father at arms length. In that culture fathers were more like lords, or rulers of the family. How can a father who is distant or who never expresses his love impact the relationship between them and their children? How has your relationship with your earthly father impacted your perspective of the Heavenly Father?

### WHAT'S NEXT:

Each of us is an extension, a representative, of our earthly father and our Heavenly Father. Pastor Ronnie described the proper motivation for right living. Love and honor for your parents should be the primary motivating factor for always living your life in a way that reflects well on your parents. The thought of letting mom and dad down should be too high a price to bear. In the same way, as children of God, we represent our Abba Father. Remember when people see you, they are seeing a representative of the Father. You represent a kingdom that is bigger than your family! When people look at you, they should see the Father. This should affect every decision that we make! This week, before you decide to make a wrong choice, consider how your actions will reflect on the reputation of your earthly family and your spiritual family. What would Daddy have to say?

### GOING DEEPER:

One of the basic needs of mankind is to know and be loved by a father! We need affirmation! Those who have never been affirmed by a loving earthly or heavenly father will manifest symptoms.

- **Restlessness** You will be restless. One place offends you and then the next job offends you. You go through life making and breaking covenants, jumping from church to church, relationship to relationship, and job to job. This restless spirit comes from not knowing who you are in Christ or from never being loved by a good earthly father. God is not the same as your dad!
- **Insecurity** The absence of an earthly father produces insecurity. God's plan was always for a father to be present in the home, to love and protect. When that doesn't or cannot happen, insecurity can creep into the fabric of our lives.
- **Fear and Anxiety** These spirits can come when you do not know the love of an earthly father. If you were pushed away by your father and didn't get the proper love, you will seek it in other places. Your love language becomes the flesh, but it leaves you empty. This stronghold has to be broken and the heart healed.
- **Orphan Spirit** People with an orphan spirit need to be seen and heard. They have to be out front in order to be gratified. There is a little child inside them who never was told they were good enough and they have to be seen to feel important. An orphan spirit causes a person to self-destruct. So they hate themselves, regardless of the goodness that is in their lives. They will walk away from the blessing of God because they don't feel worthy to receive it. Unless

healed, this pattern will continue, always blaming someone else for their wrong choices. Jesus came to set us free from this bondage!

In the New Testament we see the term Abba three times:

### **I. Jesus cried out for Abba in His Agony in the Garden (Matthew 26:36-39)**

The number 3 means "to become with." Jesus is one of the three parts of God. In the garden, Jesus drank from the bitter cup of our redemption. There were three ingredients in the cup:

1. **SUFFERING:** this was not the greater part of the cup. He was born to die. He knew the abuse, punishment etc.... would come.
  2. **SIN:** this is a greater part of the cup, but not the greatest. His deity and holiness repelled at the sin in the cup! Every sin, for every man, for all time was in that cup! Think of it: the most vile and ghastly, ugly things were in that cup! Because He drank that cup, I am healed of every disease, delivered from every demon, and forgiven of all defilement!
  3. **SEPARATION:** This was the greater part of the cup! 3 crosses, 3 nails, 3 PM, 3 days & nights that Jesus was separated from the Father!
- What was Jesus doing? (Colossians 2:14-15) Jesus cried Abba so we can have an Abba, so that we can walk in healing, be free of guilt, and have more than we ask or think! He cried Abba so that we can be one with Him.

**Take time to review the story of the prodigal in Luke 15:11-32.** Pastor Ronnie talks about the prodigal's attitude toward the Father. Like the prodigal, when we come home, He runs to us, kills the fatted calf, throws a party, and brings out the robe, ring and shoes! He celebrates!

### **II. We cry out Abba in our Anointing of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:15)**

Pastor Ronnie made it very clear: Despite the fact that we were created to be, we are not all the children of God! The book of Ephesians teaches us that without Christ, we are infidels, pagans, aliens, and strangers from the Father. You see, when Adam sinned, it severed his family title. The imperfection in your family situation is not unique. Dysfunction in your family is an excuse! God's first son (Adam) didn't have a perfect family and he had the perfect Father! Joseph overcame a messed up family and so did David. You can spend the rest of your life complaining about how you were treated and how bad your parents were, or you can do something with it! How?

By embracing a:  
New Father  
New Family  
New Future  
(Romans 8:17-19)

### **III. The Spirit cries out Abba in our heart at our Adoption (Galatians 4)**

MANUEL'S STORY – Pastor Ronnie's tells the story of his friends, Mike and Sherry Hulsey, and their son, Manuel. Sherry found Manuel in a hog pen, naked, and in terrible physical and emotional condition. The whole community thought he was demon possessed. He fought people and was mean. The town was afraid of him. But Sherry wanted to adopt him. Manuel screamed at the indoor shower and commode. He slept with shoes and clothes, afraid someone would take them away. He suffered many issues because of infant detachment. But one day, after thousands of dollars, and almost impossible odds, he came to the U.S. and in a court of law heard a judge declare: "You are now Manuel Hulsey!"

He looked at Sherry and Mike and said, "Now I have a momma, and now I have a daddy?" For years they had to remind him that they were not going to leave, that they were not going to take away all that they had given him, that he had a home and he belonged to them!

That's what happens to us when we come into the family of God! Abba Father pulled us out of the hog pen, abandoned and naked! He cleaned and clothed us, and most important of all, adopted us! We have a Daddy! Not just a Father, but a Daddy!

The Romans understood ADOPTION. The word is Huio – Son, Thesia – to place = to place a child in another family. By law, you could adopt anyone of any age, but you could never disown them after they were adopted. So, when I am in doubt about who I am or what I have, the Holy Spirit cries Abba, to remind me.

**Let the Holy Spirit remind you today:**

I am a SON not a slave.

I have an inheritance that is legally mine!

I can resist the flesh.

I no longer belong to the minority, I have become royalty.

I have become a person of Abraham's promised prosperity.

Galatians 3:26-29 says that we are ALL sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

What Paul reveals to the Galatians is that they are bewitched by religion and the result is they are living beneath their privilege.

- But the Holy Spirit has been given to my heart:
- Every time I behave as a slave not a son, He cries ABBA!
- Every time I live in the flesh not freedom, He cries ABBA!
- Every time I live like I'm in the minority and not royalty, He cries ABBA!
- Every time I settle for less than my promised prosperity, He cries ABBA!