

God's Love Our Ultimate Healer

By Roger Taylor
Places In The Father's Heart

Genesis 1:26 Amp. God said, *“Let us (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) make mankind in our image, after our likeness. Vs 27 So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them.”*

Father's love was first expressed when He created mankind and made Himself available for personal relationship. Also consider, I John 4:8 and 16 Amp. *“God is love.”* He is the ultimate source of love for all mankind. Then in John 3:16, He expresses His love for His entire creation by sending His Son to die for us and make it possible for each of us to have relationship with Him. For you see love is essential to life and the quality and quantity of love we receive must measure up to Father's design specifications or our life experience will be less than He intended. As evidence to this truth, let me share a testimony I heard a couple of years ago that came from a European country. Perhaps you heard that an experiment was conducted with some orphan children. It turns out to be a horrific experiment, but it supports my statement above. Some of these orphans were isolated in a secure environment. They were clothed and fed, but no one was allowed to hold them, rock them, or in any way touch them that would express love and affection. They were left entirely on their own without expressions of love or comfort. The end result of the experiment was that every one of the children in this group died in a relatively short period of time. All their physical needs were met. All their love needs were not. Their spirit, soul and body responded to their decadent atmosphere by shutting down and dying. Expressed love is essential to life.

Now to further this point, let me say that my wife and I have had numerous personal encounters with people who have had a death wish. They all had physical and/or emotional problems that were increasingly debilitating. Not one of them realized that their death wish was associated with their problem. Yet in each case when the death wish was revealed and they repented, then chose life not death, their life conditions began an immediate turn around.

What promotes a death wish? What causes a person who is alive to wish they were dead? It is love hunger; the absence of the proper quantity and quality of love that God designed for our lives. Abandonment and rejection are usually the root cause of a death wish.

By comparison, God designed us to breathe oxygen. So if our lung capacity is normal and we are in a place with normal oxygen content available, every time we breath in, we receive 100% of the oxygen we need to prosper and be in health. But what if conditions are not perfect? What if our lungs do not function properly? What if we find ourselves in a situation where oxygen is not readily available? Will we suffer? How much can our oxygen supply be reduced before we begin to suffer; before we lose consciousness; before we die?

For the purpose of this discussion if we could see our lungs as our oxygen tanks and consider that any reduction of lung capacity equals a reduction in our life experience, then I would like to purpose that Father God designed us with a love tank. In order to function properly, in order to experience life fully, our love tank should receive 100% of the love necessary to fulfill Father's design specifications. Anything short of that adversely effects our quality of life. Love is the fuel we were designed to run on. So how do we know how full or empty our love tank is? How do we measure what we have against what Father determined we should have? Obviously we cannot just look at a gauge and tell where we are. But similar to our other needs for life, the lack of love will reveal itself if we know what evidence to look for. Oh, by the way, what does this have to do with healing? Everything! I believe love is the most powerful weapon we have against all the issues of life that are present to diminish our quality of life.

I have already mentioned love hunger but I want to stress its importance because I will continually refer to it throughout this writing. Receiving love moves us towards life. The absence of love, or love hunger, moves us towards death or a diminished life experience. There is power in love to heal. There is power in love hunger to kill or destroy. Remember this. Love is so important to human life that life without love will not rest. I like to say it this way, love hunger demands satisfaction and there can be no peace until love hunger is satisfied. I believe most every character flaw and most all social ill can usually be traced back to love hunger.

Remember, love is not life giving unless it is expressed appropriately. Telling your spouse you love them on the day you get married and assuming that's all that is necessary is an inadequate foundation upon which to

build a successful marriage relationship. Patting your child on the head and handing them a present on their birthday does not adequately express parental love. Living our lives without a personal love relationship with Father God is the most devastating of all possibilities for humanity. So what is necessary if a true life of love is to be our experience? You can rest assured that Father has the plan and the provision. I believe we can see part of God's plan for humanity in Genesis in how Father walked and talked with Adam and Eve. Then there are several others like Enoch, Abraham, Noah, David, Daniel and more who knew God and were friends of God. They walked and talked with God. There is Jesus, who I believe ultimately demonstrated what intimate relationship with Father should look like for all humanity.

God's love, our ultimate healer, is a profound truth I am still growing into, but one that has the capacity to be totally life changing for those who will embrace it. Without setting anything in concrete, let's look at love that has the potential to change our world as we have known it. It is called experiential love. Father created mankind to have a personal, intimate relationship with Him. Not just head knowledge from hearsay or what's been written, but through a personal, experiential encounter with the person of Father God. Adam and Eve knowing Father on this level should have been able to express God's love to their children as soon as Eve became pregnant and then raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord until they reached an age when they could be introduced directly to God Himself. It seems reasonable to me to deduce that each set of parents since Adam and Eve should be full to overflowing with God's love and be ready and anxious to pass it on to the next generation. However, since Adam and Eve sinned, the love dynamic for mankind totally changed. Consider this: when God put Adam and Eve out of the Garden, they lost the only home they'd ever known. They lost God's provision for food and shelter and most of all they lost the privilege of His intimate presence. (Sin separates.) Also note that they did not have children until after they were put out of the Garden. God gave them time to get to know each other before they had children. They are in a new world of sin, their flesh, and the devil. Do you remember when Father confronted them with their sin in the Garden? They already had the ability to avoid responsibility and blame someone else for their sin. Is there any possibility that they felt abandoned and rejected? Could they have felt that their punishment was too harsh? Were they angry with Father because of their punishment? Did they feel insecure and unsafe? Now that they did not have the Garden to keep as Father directed, what was their

purpose for living? I believe these are all very possible realities and I believe that this was the birth of love hunger in mankind.

The absences of expressed love, the absence of affirmation and attention, the absence of a safe and secure environment and the absence of a purpose for living promote an environment for all the social maladies we see today in the world and the church. I believe these basic expressions of love from our parents are essential for a healthy life. Their absence typically promotes a repeat of our sin upon the next generation. The absence of expressed love has a major negative impact on character development. This sense of abandonment and rejection can promote:

Anger

Fear

Low self esteem

Self centeredness

Control

Bitterness

Resentment

Jealousy

Performance

Depression

This, of course, is only a partial list.

Can you look at this partial list of consequence to love hunger and see the adverse impact these characteristics continually have on relationships? Our potential is usually much greater than our experience. Relationships are the essence of life. Relationship is our only opportunity to receive and give love; yet relationships seem to be our weakest ability in life. Just look around you in your world and look at the unhappiness and its evidence. It is everywhere and growing rapidly. In our nation we are becoming more and more irrational as a people. I believe it is directly related to our rejection of God on a national level. To reject God is to reject love and to reject love is suicidal to relationships, and relationships are essential to life. No nation

can reject God and avoid dire consequence unless they repent (Nineveh knows first hand.) Love hunger is having a disastrous hay day in our nation and in our world.

Now back to Adam and Eve. Their first born child was Cain. What was Cain like? What was the fruit of his character? Obviously Adam and Eve worshipped God in some way because they taught their children to bring an offering unto Him. See Genesis, Chapter 4. When Cain brought his offering to God it was rejected. What was his response? The Bible says he got angry. (Rejection usually produces anger.) Angry at who? It seems apparent that Cain knowingly brought an unacceptable offering to God. Was this rebellion like his father's? God spoke directly to Cain and confronted him with his anger and warned him sin was at the door. His response was to go and kill his brother, Abel. Cain's anger toward God and his jealousy toward Abel resulted in murder. Then the Bible records the conversation between God and Cain about the murder of Abel. What was Cain's response? Did he accept responsibility for his sin or did he act like his mother and father when God confronted them in the Garden? God pronounced punishment on Cain for his sin. (Chapter 4, verse 12.) Cain was cursed with the ground. It would no longer produce for him. Then God pronounced him a fugitive in the earth. What was Cain's response? He said to God (vs 13), "*my punishment is greater than I can bear. I am being driven out of the land and away from Your presence, it's too much!*" Imagine the range of emotion in Cain: rebellion, anger, fear, loneliness, depression and perhaps more. Do you see history repeating itself? Do you see a possible generational curse? Do you see evidence of love hunger? Do you see yourself or someone you know?

Lest we forget, we have each been given the freedom of choice. I Timothy 2:14 says, "*It was not Adam who was deceived, but Eve.*" So if Adam was not deceived, then he chose to willfully rebel against God and sin. That is our privilege also; to obey or disobey. What do we choose?

With regard to love hunger, and its consequence, we the Body of Christ are not much better than the world. We have the same problems but most of us feel it necessary to hide the truth of pain in our lives so we put on our mask of "I'm OK, I got it together." We don't realize you cannot fool all the people all of the time and eventually our real fruit leaks out from behind our pretense and relationships can be damaged. It seems many of us feel guilty for having struggles and somehow feel that as a Christian it is not acceptable to have the kind of struggles that we have. This is especially true with church leadership. Just let one of our leaders succumb to their

love hunger. Then when their sin is exposed it is “throw the bum out; we don’t want their kind here.” It is amazing we do not see that this attitude towards someone who has fallen is just as ungodly and sinful as the sin that has been revealed in the fallen one!

The major difference between the Body of Christ and the world is that the Body of Christ has been given the tools to solve our love hunger problems. It is a tragedy that we, the Body of Christ, have been freely given all things necessary to bring resolution to our love hunger issues and most of us are unaware that the provision is there just as most of us are unaware that love hunger is our problem. To be loved and accepted is man’s greatest quest.

Because the need to be loved and accepted is so powerful some of us drop healthy boundaries and make ourselves available to extreme anti-social elements of society such as rape, robbery, murder, extortion, intimidation, drugs, alcohol, sex, gangs of all sorts, extreme religious beliefs and much more. This is all because of abandonment and rejection and our love hunger demanding satisfaction at any price. This is a clear demonstration of rebellion brought on by the pain of love hunger. Also due to abandonment and rejection, some of us believe the lie that something is wrong with us. We are deficient and unlovable, so we develop varying degrees of self-hatred and we also take on anti-social behavior in the form of withdrawal and isolation and/or a mantle of invisibility. Guilt, shame, anger, fear, and loneliness are common symptoms related to love hunger and as such they are constant, painful reminders of unresolved issues of love hunger.

A couple of years ago, I was in my prayer time with Father and He said to me, “Son write this down. I want you to get it.” Then He said, “Life is love and love is life.” I immediately thought, “Wow. That is profound.” I believe I have only scratched the surface of this profound revelation. But let me make a few comments. By the way, if Father gives you revelation into this quote, please let me know. It seems to say, that life without love is not life at all. So to the degree that we have not received the love that Father planned for us; to that degree we have not experienced the life that Father has planned for us. How much more love is available to us than we have already experienced and therefore, how much more life is available than we have already experienced?

Years ago my wife and I were listening to John Sandford from Elijah House Ministries teach and he made a statement that grabbed our attention. I don't remember the subject matter, but he said something like, "In this situation we are not fully human." I didn't understand at the time, but now putting this thought together with life is love and love is life, I am willing to say that to the degree we have not received the love that Father intended for us; to that degree we have not had a full human experience. Father has designed and made available much, much more than we have known. In fact, it is supernatural! Far, far beyond the natural human experience most Christians live is the supernatural realm of life that is available for all who will go. Love empowers life and love empowers faith. Faith reveals the supernatural life available from Father for all His children.

Was it not love for His Father that empowered Jesus to give up His heavenly place and come to earth to live and suffer as a human being? Was this not our Heavenly Father's ultimate gift to us? However, this was only the beginning of Heavenly gifts made available to mankind. The same personal, intimate love relationship Jesus had with His Father is also available to all born again believers today. Sadly many people have received Christ and have been born again, but have never moved on in their walk with God and met Father, Himself, the head of the family. I assume some are like me. I didn't know I could have a relationship with Father. In fact, I didn't want one because I pictured Him as always being angry and I knew He could see the sin in my life. The only thing that kept Him from beating me with that big stick He carried, was Jesus staying between Him and me. So really, I didn't want a close relationship with Father because I was afraid of Him. I dearly loved Jesus. He is my Savior and my Friend. He is kind and loving and giving and always there for me. But Father? No way! Never mind all the years I spent studying the word of God and teaching the word of God and I never saw Hebrews 1:3 and Colossians 1:15 that both basically say that Jesus is the exact representation of His Father. In fact, Jesus Himself said in John 14:9, "*If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father.*" He repeatedly directs us to the Father. See John 14:6; John 17:3; Matthew 6:6.

How could I miss it so badly? To some, Father is so holy He is unapproachable. Our sinful lives even as Christians prohibit the possibility of a personal encounter with Him. Hebrews 10:19 says, "*Therefore, brethren, since we have full freedom and confidence to enter into the holy of holies (by the power and virtue) in the blood of Jesus.*" This tells me that because I am washed in the blood of Jesus I have full access to my Heavenly Father's

presence. I have discovered that His love for me is unconditional and ready to be fully expressed. I have discovered by my own experience and through the testimony of many others that when I pursued Him, He pursued me, (James 4:8) and made Himself available to me in the most personal, intimate and life-changing way imaginable. He spoke to my heart with such love, I was completely overwhelmed and undone by the experience. The love I experienced when I met Jesus was life-changing and wonderful, but the love I experienced when I met Father was exponentially more profound and life-changing again! I went from a position of “I don’t want to know him” to “He is my Father and I can know Him” to “Now I know Him up close and personal and He is my Daddy (Abba)!” This is especially wonderful for me because my earthly father was killed in World War II and I never knew him. Now at 64 years old I have a Daddy and oh what a Daddy He is! I want to spend the rest of my life telling everyone about Him! I want everyone to know He is available to them. He is waiting for you! Jesus didn’t die for us just so we could be saved from eternal damnation. Your inheritance is much bigger than salvation alone. Your inheritance includes the most powerful weapon made available to mankind. God’s love is that weapon! No weapon developed by man will ever change the sin nature of mankind. Nuclear weapons can destroy millions but they will never change man’s inner nature. They can never resolve man’s love hunger. Only God’s love can bring that supernatural change through Jesus and ultimately Father Himself.

Why is God’s love our ultimate healer? First of all, God’s love is our ultimate healer because it can heal us spirit, soul and body. His love can bring life, healing and prosperity to all three areas. His unconditional love and acceptance pouring into our being where unconditional love and acceptance have never been before will bring a supernatural transformation to our lives. We will begin to see God differently. We will see ourselves differently. We will see others differently. We will see our life and our potential differently. We will see our problems and/or our circumstances differently. We will see relationships differently. His love pouring into us produces a wonderful sense of self worth and legitimacy. His love provides a wonderful sense of safety and security. It builds our trust in Him and our faith explodes in growth. We can quickly experience a new found purpose and drive for living.

I must say that my experience in getting to know my Heavenly Father has been wondrous far beyond all I could ask or think. But I want to make you aware of a pronounced side effect that is unavoidably connected to

experiencing Father's love. It is part of the tremendous blessing of His love, but it can be painful and discouraging if you are unaware of its potential. Father's love pouring into our lives will confront anything within us that will hinder our ability to be completely intimate with Him. Sin in any form, hidden or known will be gradually pushed to the surface. Woundedness that is unresolved will suddenly and painfully surface. Areas we thought we had successfully dealt with may surface again. Thoughts and attitudes we believed we had had victory over can come rushing back with a vengeance. This experience will be unique to each person because we are individuals and because we will each develop our relationship with Father on a personal basis. This is not a one size fits all situation. You can renounce and reject, take authority over, rebuke the devil and nothing will change, because Father is the source of this discomfort and pain. It is a personal gift of love from Him to free you of more of your personal bondage than you otherwise might never be free of. Besides He wants you to be able to experience the fullness of intimacy with Him and the fullness of His gift of life to you. If you will continue to pursue Him during these difficult experiences, He will be faithful to you and reveal what the real root of the problem is, not just the symptoms. He will also lead you to the resolution and freedom you need. These can be very traumatic times. I know from first hand experience. However, if you will be diligent and push on, pursue and press into Him, there will be a dramatic change in your life experience. It is like being born again, again!

We must learn to practice James 5:16, "*Confess your faults one to another and pray for one another that you might be healed.*" I realize this will produce concern or even fear in some because you have been betrayed by someone in the past that you confessed your sin to. However, we cannot set aside Father's provision for our healing because someone sinned against us. It would be helpful if gossips, talebearers and those who betray confidence were exposed for their sin and corrected. It is vital that we each have a safe place, a safe relationship, where we can freely, with trust and confidence, share our pain and/or our sin and receive support and encouragement as we walk out our repentance and healing. Someone else, a trusted friend, will help us see issues in our life that we can't or don't want to see. If we truly want to be free of our dark stuff we will embrace each opportunity and press through the difficulty to freedom. With every healing, with every repentance, with every change of mind and heart for righteousness, comes the opportunity for more of Father's love to flow into our being and bring new life.

As we experience Father's love, we experience healing in all three areas of our being; spirit, soul and body. His love for us expressed and received will bring transformation far beyond our expectation. Intimately connected to Father our spirit will soar in legitimacy and thus grow in authority over our soul and our body. This is its rightful place. Our spirit being strong and courageous can more ably lead us in the supernatural experience of life that Father intended for us. Father's love also brings desperately needed healing to our soul, our mind, intellect, emotions and personality. I know you might quickly think of someone else who really needs help in the personality area, but don't go there! Concentrate on yourself for now! This area of the soul is where our woundedness, our sin, our unresolved issues become upfront and personal in our relationships. Our willingness to face and confront these issues will determine our level of transformation and the degree to which we become a carrier and distributor of Father's unconditional love to our world. Remember in Isaiah 55:8-9 where Father says, *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, says the Lord?"* As our soulish woundedness and our issues of sin are exposed and resolved and the walls of self protection and self determination are torn down and we invite Father's love to come and fill the void, our mind, intellect, emotions and personality will all change. We literally change from the inside out. A new person will emerge for all to see who want to see. Some people in our world will refuse to see the new person and will continue to judge us by who we used to be. That is their privilege and their loss. Don't look back, but press on into love and new life!

When it comes to our physical bodies, I have already shared in the beginning how the absence of expressed love can bring physical death to our human existence. That is the ultimate or extreme result that love hunger can bring. However, there is much, much more in the way of sickness and disease that manifest in the body that can be the result of love hunger. The American Medical Association says that 80% of all hospitalizations are the result of emotional problems. For example, bitterness and unforgiveness can result in cancer and numerous other destructive and potential deadly diseases. Shame and self-hatred can result in Crohn's Disease or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and much more. Fear can result in Fibro Myalgia. Incurable muscle diseases can be the result of a death wish. Envy and jealousy can lead to mental disturbance in many forms. Addictive personality can be a result of love hunger no matter what the addiction. These are just a few examples of possible results of love hunger in our physical bodies. Once again, when repentance and forgiveness and

healing take place and Father's love flows into our lives, we can be tremendously transformed from what we have previously called life. It is the evolving from the natural life we have known to the supernatural life we should know.

Many times we fail at dealing successfully with our problems because we deal with symptoms as if they are the problem. They are not the problem, only the result of the problem. For example, someone may have a spirit of fear so we cast out the spirit of fear and think that the problem is solved. However, very often no one asked why the spirit of fear was there in the first place. Where is the open door? Is it generational? Was it the result of a very traumatic, frightful event? Or is this the result of long-term abandonment and rejection issues and this person has no sense of safety and security or legitimacy?

It matters not what the symptoms are, the cause of the manifestation must be revealed and healed if the person is to successfully progress in their transformation. So for those who struggle repeatedly in any area of life, I want to bring you renewed hope. No matter how many times you have tried and seemingly failed at conquering those debilitating strongholds in your life, let me encourage you to get up and dust yourself off and go again. This time go beyond your symptoms and ask the Holy Spirit to take you back and show you the root of the problem.

Has someone sinned against you? Then from your heart, forgive them. This is love in action. Give them a gift they may not deserve, so that you can be healed and move on. Repent for your sinful reaction towards them and then ask the Holy Spirit to take you back to the wounding event and ask Jesus to come and heal you. This is a spiritual experience and will bring you the healing necessary. It is best to do this with a prayer partner, but don't be legalistic. God also works one on one.

If your problems are rooted in a traumatic wounding event, then ask the Holy Spirit to take you back to that event, get in touch with the emotions of it and then ask Jesus to come and heal you. Look for Him in the event. Reach out to Him and He will heal the woundedness and the pain will leave. This healing will resolve the symptoms and provide wonderful opportunity for new life to emerge. Be patient with yourself because old habits sometimes die hard. Retraining your thinking can take time. You also need to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the lies you have lived by. Renounce those lies and replace them with truth. For instance, because of our wounding

we may have developed a condition of low self-esteem and/or self-hatred. In this process, we may have believed the lie that we are worthless and we are constantly self-critical. When things do not go right we may habitually say things to ourselves like “you stupid dummy; you scum bag; you idiot. Can’t you do anything right? You pathetic jerk.” Have I touched you yet? I am sure you get the point. These self-degrading comments are dark and evil and will produce darkness and increase bondage in our lives. As we are healed from the wounding that prompted this dark opinion of ourselves we also must ask those close to us to help us change the habit pattern of self criticism. We must learn to speak life not death. We must learn to declare blessing not cursing. A major part of this transformation comes as a result of our intimate, personal relationship with Father God Himself. His love pouring into us brings acceptance, self worth, and legitimacy like never before. Then confessing who we are according to Him reveals light where once there was darkness. It brings liberty where there was bondage.

Sometimes our relationship with God is based on what He can do for us. In other words we are self centered and value Him for what we can get from Him instead of valuing Him for who He is. We want the blessings but not the person. This is relationship without foundation and it will produce little fruit to change us. Besides, Father like the rest of us dislikes being used.

I sincerely hope that this brief article will bring you hope and courage to press on and press in to know Father God in true intimacy. The potential reward for your effort is wonderful transformation for you and a new and extravagant life experience. May Father richly bless you in your pursuit of Him.

