

The Whole Church #19 – The Fatherhood of God, Part 5

AT Snacks- April 21, 2024

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Monday:

If you've been around here very long, I normally don't talk about the end times a lot. But I've started to, and some of these indicators here are the reason why, so it's important that we understand where we are in terms of where biblical history is.

The tension in the world now is hitting a fever pitch. It's nation against nation, black against white, male against female, Republicans against Democrats, it's everybody against everybody. We have to be careful, as the body of Christ, as kingdom people, not to get in there and play that game.

It seems obvious that we're in the End Times. And if that's true, we have been talking about this thing of the heart for a long time now; that's what God is after. But He doesn't force it on you.

The most sane, sensible thing you can do is throw the door open on your heart and say, "*Lord, have at it*". And He will. God is conforming you into the image of Jesus right now, and He's getting you into place so you can be a major contributor to the move of God, to cooperate with what God is doing.

We are in is what I believe is the greatest move of God that's ever happened on the planet. So, you have to decide what you're going to do. You and Him wrestle around about that and see where you come out.

The Kingdom of God needs you and people like you, and it needs you right now.

These are things that are important to us, and important to God, that we focus on around here (our DNA):

The Kingdom of God Relationship with the Father Grace Relationships with One Another
Equipping the Saints Signs and Wonders The Poor

Tuesday:

Please read John 1:1-13. It talks about the Word being with God, and the Word was God. It's talking about Jesus, Who was also referred as the Light. It's not talking about the Bible. John the Baptist testified of the Light.

In reference to salvation, I don't even think you have to ask for Jesus to come into your heart. All you have to do is receive it. "*But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God*".

We have all been given the same amount of faith. What you do with that faith is going to dictate whether that faith is strong and able to move mountains, or it just lays there dormant.

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God”, Romans 8:14. When referring to sons of God, it means both men and women.

It discourages me when people hand out these notes, and I walk around after church and I see these notes laying around here, because these notes are not just so you can stay up during the word, they are so you can understand what we’re talking about, and you can get on the same page, so that we’re all talking about the same thing.

That’s why Wednesday nights at Digging Deeper are important. This is what they talk about.

That’s why the AT Snacks that they hand out, or that you can get online, to reinforce the things that we talk about on Sunday.

That’s why we do the Kingdom Cowboy podcast, so we can get the word that God has given us out here into your hands as an opportunity for growth. **SO, IF YOU’RE NOT GROWING AROUND HERE, IT’S NOT OUR FAULT.**

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are children of God”. Do you have that witness in your spirit? That you are the child of God, handpicked for this particular generation? God did that!

We should take up the responsibility. We should answer the call, and let Him lead us into whatever this is, and however it plays out.

I sit down on my porch, and my times with the Lord are so rich, and I start my conversation with the Lord like this, *“God, I don’t know anything”*. Well, because I don’t! I have no idea how He’s going to get us from this spot to the next spot.

So, I’m desperate to hear Him. I’m committed to tell you what I believe I’m hearing, and it’s your job to decide if we’re hearing God or not. That’s your job. You have to decide. Check out what I say according to the scripture.

Wednesday

Everybody has sufferings in life, everybody. It’s not just you. It’s every one of us. Life comes at you fast, nothing easy about life. It’s hard! But He is there to help us and carry us, through grace, which is sufficient in every situation.

“Abba, Father”, with means Daddy. But the Hebrew language goes a bit further which means, *“Daddy, whom I will obey.”*

You need to be paying attention to what He’s saying to you. You need to be paying attention to what we’re talking about when you come on Sunday.

What I’m about to tell you is what I would call an apostolic word for this hour. So, please don’t blow it off, because of the simplicity of it. That’s your instructions.

What we talk about around here, it’s having that initial encounter, and then further encounters, where you meet Him, salvation, and then you start to spend time with Him and you start to

develop a relationship. We call that relational equity, first with Him and then with one another.

The most important thing I'm doing right now is listening. God's talking, but you have to get in the zone. So deal with the distractions, get your focus on the Lord, pay attention to what He's saying, and listen.

God has given us this word because God thinks we will do something with it.

God doesn't give important stuff out there to someone who doesn't want it or listen to it. It's the Holy Spirit's job to open the door. So, don't try to push the door open if people are not ready.

I encourage you to live your lives. I've started to tell people when they get ready to leave, "*Be safe, but don't live safe*". Some of you are trying to live too safely. Take that and do something with it.

I know God heals. I know God fixes things. I know God delivers people. I've seen so many miracles down through the years. But not to the degree that I believe that I would see by this time in my walk with Him. The Bible depicts, and is clear that there's going to be a time where those things are going to become commonplace.

Thursday:

How does it work with little kids just saying, "*Lord, fix it*", And You, Lord, just fix it. God showed me that He can trust them with it. Well, think about it for a minute.

Does that mean God can't trust us with it? And I'm talking about supernatural power, grace in the proportion that God wants bring, wisdom, the gifts of the Spirit and all those things. Can You trust us with it? Can You not trust us with it? We might have to have a serious adult conversation with ourselves about this.

Does God trust us with it? Why will it happen with kids, but it doesn't happen with us all the time? Because God's bringing us to a place, if we will be obedient to Him, where it does happen like that.

I know some of you are tempted to blow this off, because it's so simple.

If we can capture what God's trying to say here, it's going to set the tone for the greatest display of the supernatural signs and wonders and miracles that the world has ever seen. That's what God is setting you up for.

How do we get from where we are now, to where we need to be? You become as a little child. We know it's to become as a little child, but how does someone in their seventies become as a little child? I'm not going to give you all the answers, because I don't have all the answers today.

The things that God is tweaking and adjusting and shifting and moving around and wrestling with in me is the same thing that He's wanting to do in everyone. We become as a little child, which is everybody's answer.

All I'm asking is that you take it and do something with it.

Stuff like this is happening in these little rooms right over on that side of the church right now. We are pouring this kind of stuff into these kids right over here, because they're going to come along when all of us are old and graduated to heaven and gone, and they're going to do this stuff that God's calling us to do, and do it a whole lot better.

If you are serving in children's ministry or if you're not, maybe you should be, so you can learn from a child. I'm not doing this whole thing to recruit for children's ministry, but it ought to be one of those signs that if you hear what I'm saying, we ought to have a backlog of people a mile long wanting to get in there and teach those kids, so they can in turn teach you how to become as a little child.

Friday

Here are some qualities that are significant about children:

- Childlike faith: If you can believe your Father like they believe their dad, you would turn the world upside down.
- Humility: children are free of all deceit, cunning, hypocrisy and dishonesty.
- Curiosity: children are naturally curious, always eager to explore and learn. I call it a holy curiosity.
- Vivid imagination: Children have a great imagination.
- They are resilient: Children can bounce back quickly from setbacks and disappointments.
- Authentic: Children often express their thoughts and feelings openly.
- Joyfulness (often finding joy in simple pleasures) and a natural ability to appreciate the present moment.
- Playfulness: the ability to turn mundane activities into opportunities for fun wonder.
- Fearlessness: Children are willing to take risks and try new things without worrying about failure.
- Kindness: they demonstrate genuine kindness and compassion for others.

Saturday:

Children just want to be with their daddy. It should be the same for all of us. It wouldn't just be all right, everything would be all right. And you would succeed in everything that you ever did in life.

Matthew 18:3-5 says, "*Surely I say to you, unless you're converted, and become as a little child, you will by no means enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself, as this little child is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. Whoever receives one little child like this in my*

name receives me”.

Matthew 19:14 says, “*Let the little children come to me and don’t forbid them for it such is the Kingdom of Heaven*”.

The above characteristics are all just indicators and byproducts of our relationship with the Father. So what are the things the Lord is doing to adjust you towards your sonship?

Will you please do something with this word so what you do today right now will either speed up what’s happening in your life or it’s slow it down.