

A Champion's Heart

Let's read **Psalms 118** together in the MSG (Message Bible Version) starting at verse one.

1-4

Thank God because He's good, because His love never quits. Tell the world, Israel, "His love never quits." And you, clan of Aaron, tell the world, "His love never quits." And you who fear God, join in, "His love never quits."

5-16

Pushed to the wall, I called to God; from the wide open spaces, He answered. *(the wall here is the symbolism of love boundaries for human relationships and the space here is breeches when fathers and men fail is on love).* **Let's keep reading.**

God's now at my side and I'm not afraid; who would dare lay a hand on me? God's my strong champion; (Jesus is my Father with a champion's heart) I flick off my enemies like flies. Why because of the Father Jesus Christ who fights for me. Far better to take refuge in God my Father than trust in people; Far better to take refuge in Jesus Christ my Father than trust in celebrities. Hemmed in by barbarians, in God's name Or my Daddy's name I rubbed their faces in the dirt; Hemmed in and with no way out, in My Daddy's name Jesus I rubbed their faces in the dirt; Like swarming bees, like wild prairie fire, they hemmed me in; in God's name I rubbed their faces in the dirt. I was right on the cliff-edge, ready to fall, when God grabbed and held me. God's my strength. This Jesus has a heart of a champion. He's also my song, and now He's my salvation. (or in Hebrew this word salvation means He is my Yahshua). Hear the shouts, hear the triumph songs in the camp of the saved? "The hand of God my champion has turned the tide! The hand of God my champion is raised in victory! The hand of God my champion has turned the tide!"

17-20

I didn't die. I lived! And now I'm telling the world what God did. God tested me, He pushed me hard, but He didn't hand me over to Death. Swing wide the city gates—the righteous gates! I'll walk right through and thank Jesus my Daddy! This Temple Gate belongs to The Champion Jesus Christ so the victors can enter and praise.

21-25

Thank you for responding to me; you've truly become my salvation! The stone the masons discarded as flawed is now the capstone! This is God's work. The Heart of a Champion! We rub our eyes—we can hardly believe it! This is the very Father's Day God acted— let's celebrate and be festive on this Father's Day. Salvation now, God. Salvation now! Thank God He is good. He never quits.

Would you lift your voice on this Father's Day for our real Father the champion Jesus Christ who never quits on us.

**A true champions heart sets new bar levels for achievements and excellence
that are above the status quo of life.**

- Michael Jordan and Lebron James are now mentioned in the same breath because they both set new bar levels for athletic excellence.
- Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, an African American doctor, pioneered the first open heart surgery in July of 1893. He had the heart of a champion with an 87% success rate for his patients recovery from their procedures.
- A true champion sets higher bar levels for his peers and competition to live and perform by.

Jesus Christ our champion and Real Daddy has set new bar levels for love and world performance by Calvary that is greater than Michael Jordan, Lebron James, and Dr. Williams.

- No human can match the bar level of this Father Jesus Christ when it comes to relational love.
- The great performance of Calvary is my evidence for making this claim on the heart of this champion.
- The bar level of this Champion, Jesus Christ was set by His relentless love even now that reaches for us in our darkest and most failing moments of our lives.

I implore you to reconsider your definition of Fatherhood today in spite of your cultural and experiential upbringing:

- Despite our media, racial paradigms, Hollywood and academic institutions of what a Father should be, please consider the definition of Fatherhood from the man Christ Jesus for a few minutes here today!
- Because from personal experience I can tell you **this Daddy Jesus is the only Daddy that can complete and make whole human love in your life today!**

A Fathers love impacts a home, our jobs and church life like no other kind of love can do.

- My personal experience, I had no idea the absence of my Dad's love affected me when I married and had children.
- I experienced deep feelings of insecurity and lack of self assurance as a teenager and young adult.
- This caused me to use religion and the pursuit of soul winning in an innocuous way of coping with low self esteem.
- I wrestled with family intimacy and relationship control because of the deep voids and abandonment of my own Father in my growing up.
- I sought my identity only in doctrine and religious disciplines and organizational identity largely because of the paternal absence of love from my Dad.
- I became a co-pendant and a junkie on people who affirmed me for winning souls and doing a good job for them more then getting affirmed from Jesus, my true Father.
- I am sharing some transparent experiences with you because wherever there is an absence of human paternal love there will be difficulties in becoming intimate and transparent with people as an adult.
- This applies to Dad's who also raised us but could not show affection or perhaps abused us emotionally and physically as well.

- Men were told as boys that real men don't cry and show emotion.
- This kind of manhood left us as human cadavers unable to show vulnerable emotions and real physical affection to our wives and children as adults.
- God said it's not good for man to be alone. Yet we live and work around people everyday who feel alone. They don't realize that this aloneness cannot be satisfied by being a workaholic, or sexual companionship alone, or by pouring yourself into your children.
- News editorial reporter, J Warner Wallace, wrote, "***Fewer people are celebrating Father's Day than ever before, a fact that may have less to do with the nature of the holiday than it does with the nature of American families***".
- He goes on to say that the U.S. Census Bureau study found that the percentage of children living in single-parent households increased from 12 percent in 1960 to 31 percent in 2016. During that same timeframe, "the percentage of children living with only their mother nearly tripled."
- These numbers are sobering because according to recent studies, kids who lack an engaged father (and so may be less likely to observe Father's Day) are also less likely to experience a healthy, contented, and successful life.
- Researchers have recently discovered that fathers who are engaged with their kids are less likely to suffer from stress and depression and are more likely to have increased self-esteem, job and relationship satisfaction, and confidence in their parenting skills.

I believe one main reason for this is children and adult need emotional, physical and spiritual boundaries to protect and nurture the paternal love of Jesus Christ:

- Real sustaining love must have boundaries to grow a long term relationship.
- Look what God says concerning the boundaries of love in **Genesis 2:15-18**

Genesis 2:15-18 AMPC

[15] And the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend and guard and keep it. This grading and keeping is a Fathers love introduced here as the law of the first mention. 16] And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; 17] But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and blessing and calamity you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die. 18] Now the Lord God said, It is not good (sufficient, satisfactory) that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper meet (suitable, adapted, complementary) for him.

- God's word and His spirit is our bar level for paternal love.
- And without practicing these boundaries in our private lives we will always wrestle with spiritual and emotional self confidence that comes from our Father.
- We are living in end times where both Satan and our secular humanism constantly seeks to attack the paternal value of a Father's love. The devil tries to move Adam and Eve's boundaries for paternal love by saying God's Word is not all you need to live by for finding love. You will be like gods if you seek love from other sources of good and judgement evil.

- This attack on the Dad's image and application of love causes boys and girls to not know what real love looks like.
- When we constantly tear down the structure of family, civil, and church authority we are eroding God's structure for love.

So this paternal Father Jesus Christ wants to manifest the power of His love to us all here today on Father's Day.

- He can rewrite your past through forgiveness of the Dad or male authority that failed you. We call this quantum disentanglement. Where God's spirit can go back into your past and rewrite your identity by His word and power right on Father's Day.
- He has the power to reconstruct your paradigm about a Father's love right here in this service if you are hungry for Him to fill those voids.

Here is how He does it.....

Luke 15:20 AMPC

[20] So he got up and came to his own father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity and tenderness for him; and he ran and embraced him and kissed him fervently.

Dr. Henry Cloud says, ***“you must build boundaries for real paternal love in your life in order to find real purpose in human relationships”***.

1. The first way is to learn the word no when everybody's pulling at you to do things that are beyond your human limitations. We do this with a Father's love and not in anger or resentment. The prodigal son did not do this in **Luke 15:15-17**. He should have said no to all of these substitutes trying to make him happy when in fact he was real miserable living amongst the swine. People with poor boundaries struggle with saying no to the control, pressure, demands and sometimes needs of others. We feel if we say no to someone we endanger a relationship with them. So we passively comply. Your words define your paternal love from Jesus Christ. They communicate your feelings, dislikes, and intentions. The word no sets limits on love. Especially when other people refuse to take responsibility for their own actions.
2. The second paternal boundaries of love is making up your mind you are going to live by the limitations of truth of God's word like Adam and Eve in the Garden. Truth is unchangeable. To be in touch with God's truth is being in touch with God's paternal love. Many people live scattered and tumultuous lives outside of the boundaries of God's Fatherly love, because they refuse to live by the definition of His paternal love that comes by Jesus Christ. So either we define ourselves by this reality or become deeply injured in human relationships. The prodigal son said I will get up in verse 18 and return to my Father. He wants to return to the truth of his Dad's paternal love for him.
3. The next paternal boundary is geographical distance. The prodigal needed to remove himself from his Father's home to realize the absence of this Kingdom Community Cultural love he deeply missed. On another note, sometimes, for the sake of an abused relationship, we have to create some separation of distance in order to preserve paternal love God has put in us. These are practical boundaries of a Father's love.

4. The next boundary is taking ownership for how you feel without feeling ashamed, apologetic, or rejected by those you love. The prodigal did this and came to himself and said I will return to my father. He didn't blame shift all of his problems on Obama or the Republican Party.

Look what he does in [Luke 15:17-20](#)

[Luke 15:17-20 AMPC](#)

[17] Then when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father have enough food, and even food to spare, but I am perishing (dying) here of hunger! In other words my fathers ,over contrast with the love of my friends and neighbors is very different. 18] I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. Notice he postures forgiveness against the boundaries of his Fathers paternal love. Not his mothers but his fathers love.

This is where Jesus, the Holy Ghost comes in for us today.

Before we read the rest of [Luke 15:19](#) put up [Eccel. 3:11](#) in the amplified; [Luke 15:19](#) again.

19] I am no longer worthy to be called your son; just make me like one of your hired servants. [20] So he got up and came to his own father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity and tenderness for him; and he ran and embraced him and kissed him fervently.

Here is what you receive today from a Father's love (the four levels of wealth from Daddy Jesus)

[Luke 15:22-24 AMPC](#)

[22] But the Father said to His bond servants,

1. **Bring quickly the best robe (the festive robe of honor) and put it on him; - *this is new identity that is healed from past male abuse. This is where you become like Jesus.***
2. **and give him a ring for his hand. *This is God committing Himself to superior love to empower that which was dead inside of you. This is a commitment to intimacy you desperately need right now. This is to know him.***
3. **- and sandals for his feet. *This is love giving you new purpose for goals and career. This is being used by God in your community and in ministry.***
4. **[23] And bring out that wheat-fattened calf and kill it; and let us revel and feast and be happy and make merry. *This is receiving financial blessings by his mercies and grace in your life you don't deserve.* 24] **Because this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found! And they began to revel and feast and make merry.****

Today I want to claim the power to all in this paternal and wholistic love by the power of Jesus Christ.

A man must be born again of water and spirit for this process to begin. Whereby we cry Abba father. Becoming adopted as children of a paternal covenant of superior love.

And the saints beginning the process of quantum disentanglement of forgiveness and reconciliation towards ourselves and the men who have failed us.

They were first called Christians at Antioch because of the price they paid to forgive when the Apostle Paul came to preach to them.

Can you show a hug, or affection to somebody in this building or not in this building that has hurt you or offended you?

This Champion's Heart of Jesus Christ in return will give us:

1. Robe, a ring, sandals, fatted calf- four levels of wealth
2. He wants to give us a renewed fortitude and perseverance that only comes from Calvary.
3. A pure holiness of love without flaws or sin.
4. He gives us integrity to stand for what's right when nobody stands alongside of us.
5. He gives us the paternal love to not quit when times become very difficult for us.
6. He gives us the desire and passion to serve others while killing the human ego to be recognized.

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