

# The Foundation of Intimacy with God

Feb 13, 2011

## I. Review:

### A. Jesus Christ is the only foundation on which to build our lives.

1 Cor 3:11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ (Eph 2:20-21; 1 Pt 1:20-21; 2:6).

### B. Understanding God's eternal purpose makes our foundations stable.

1. His purpose was carefully calculated before the world began (Eph 1:4; 3:10-11; 2 Tim 1:9).

2. Progressively, He reveals His purpose through His covenants.

### C. Knowing (faith in) God's character makes our foundations stable.

1. He is a covenant making, keeping, revealing and enabling God.

2. God's eternal purposes will be accomplished through the church (Eph 3:1-8).

## II. The Foundation of God's love:

### A. God is love.

1 John 4:8 ... God is love.

1 John 4:16 We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

### B. Quote from Jack Frost

The foundation for intimacy with God is the realization that we are His happy thought and that nothing we will ever say or do can change His mind about us. There is nothing you can do to cause God to love you anymore than He does right now. There is nothing you can do to cause God to love you any less than He does right now. Unconditional love is never based upon the merits of the one receiving it; it is based upon the loving nature of the one giving it.

### C. The love of God is everlasting.

My Father loves me with an everlasting love. I have never not been loved by Him.

Jer 31:3 ... "I have loved you with an everlasting love ; Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness (Isa 43:4).

## III. Scriptures reveal His true character of love and forgiveness:

1. God loves you so much that He gave His only Son to die for you, so that you might know His love. John 3:16-18 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might 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.

2. God wants us to know how much He loves us, He demonstrates this unfailing, unconditional love toward us by sending Jesus to die for us while we were yet (Rom 5:6-11):

a. Helpless (Rom 5:6)

Rom 5:6a For while we were still helpless,

b. Ungodly (Rom 5:6)

Rom 5:6b at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

c. Unrighteous (Rom 5:7)

Rom 5:7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.

d. Sinners (Rom 5:8)

Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

e. Enemies (Rom 5:10)

Rom 5:10 ... while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, ...

Eph 2:1-4 makes it very clear that before Christ we were utterly lost, trapped by sin, self, the world and the devil.

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

3. God desires that we would know experientially this love; (Rom 5:9, 10, much more then) so He declares us: (Rom 5:6-11)

a. Justified (Rom 5:9a)

Rom 5:9a Having now been justified by His blood ...

b. Saved from the wrath of God (Rom 5:9b)

Rom 5:9b we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

c. Reconciled

We were reconciled (Rom 5:10)

Rom 5:10a we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son,

We have been reconciled (Rom 5:10)

Rom 5:10b much more, having been reconciled,

We have been reconciled (Rom 5:11)

Rom 5:11 we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

d. Saved by (to) the life of God (Rom 5:10)

Rom 5:10c we shall be saved by His life.

Eph 2:5 declares that God's love releases His mercy and grace into our life, and makes us alive together with Christ

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ ( by grace you have been saved),

Titus 3:4-6 we are saved only on the basis of God's love, mercy and grace.

But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

3. God desires that you know the love and affection of the Father.  
John 16:27 for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.
4. Nothing can separate you (not even your faults or problems) from God's love.  
Rom 8:38-39 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
5. Receiving the love of God causes us to live an overcoming victorious life.  
Rom 8:37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.
6. We are to keep ourselves in God's love.  
Jude 21 keep yourselves in the love of God,

#### **IV. Experiencing the Father's Embrace** (by Jack Frost)

The foundation for intimacy with God is the realization that we are His happy thought and that nothing we will ever say or do can change His mind about us. There is nothing you can do to cause God to love you anymore than He does right now. There is not and you can do to cause God to love you any less than He does right now. Unconditional love is never based upon the merits of the one receiving it; it is based upon the loving nature of the one giving it.

#### I AM FATHER GOD'S HAPPY THOUGHT!

The following Scriptures demonstrate how, in Christ, you are Father God's "happy thought." They reveal His true character of love and forgiveness. As you meditate on these verses, allow the Holy Spirit to begin to transform your image of Father into that of a loving Daddy who longs to care for you.

My Father loves me with an everlasting love. I have never not been loved by Him.

I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness (Jer 31:3)

My Father loves me so much that He gave His only Son to die for me so I might know His love.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life (John 3:16).

My Father loves me so much that He wants to express His love and affection to me.

For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from the Father (John 16:27).

Nothing can separate me (not even my faults) from God's love for me.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom 8:38-39).

My Father loves me just as much as He loves His Son, Jesus.

[I pray] that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. (John 17:23).

Even when I have sinned, Father loves me and asks me to sit beside Him

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:4-6).

My Father wants me to overflow with His love.

[I pray that you may] know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:19),

Even when I am wounded, my Father sees me as beautiful and takes pleasure in me.

For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the afflicted ones with salvation (Psalm 149:4).

My Father's thoughts toward me are always good and filled with hope for me.

"For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

I am beautiful, handsome, and pleasant in His eyes.

"How beautiful you are, my darling, how beautiful you are! Your eyes are like doves." How handsome you are, my beloved, and so pleasant"(Song of Solomon 1:15-16).

My love for Him fills Him with ecstasy and joy.

How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much better is your love than wine (Song of Solomon 4:10).

My Father is so pleased with my being His child that He will never leave me. He wants to meet all my needs.

And he said to him, "My child, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours" (Luke 15:31).

My Father likes being with me so much that He made His home with me.

Jesus answered and said 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" (John 14:23).

I am to shine the light of my Father's love throughout the earth.

You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world (Matthew 5:13-14).

I am a witness of God's love to the world.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth (Acts 1:8).

I am a minister of God's restoring love.

Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18).

I am an ambassador of God's love to the world.

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:20).

I can do all things in God's love.

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13).

Jesus is not ashamed of me.

For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren (Hebrews 2:11).

God is not ashamed to be my Father.

Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them (Hebrews 11:16).

Father has forgiven my iniquity and remembers my sin no more.

'And they shall not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the Lord, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more"(Jeremiah 31:34).

God has put all my sins under His feet and cast them into the depths of the sea.

He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our enemies underfoot. Yes, Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea (Micah 7:19).

God has redeemed me and forgiven all my sin.

For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:13-14).

God forgives and cleanses me from all my sin.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

I am called a child of Father God.

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name (John 1:12).

I am called Jesus' friend.

No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you (John 15:15).

God sees me just as if I had never sinned.

Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1).

I belong to my loving Father, not the world.

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price (1 Corinthians 6:19-20),

I have been adopted and placed in my Father's presence.

He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will (Ephesians 1:5).

In God's love I am complete.

In Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority (Colossians 2:10).

In God's love I am free forever from condemnation.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:1-2).

My Father is always for me, never against me.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? (Romans 8:31).

Troubles do not separate me from God's love.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (Romans 8:35).

In God's love I am hidden from sin.

For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3).

I am filled with God's power, love, and a sound mind.

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV).

In God's love I find grace and mercy.

Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need (Hebrews 4:16).

Father's perfect love for me displaces my fears.

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love (1 John 4:18).

The evil one has no right to touch me while I am in my Father's arms.

We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him and the evil one does not touch him (1 John 5:18),

My Father wants to hold and comfort me when I'm afraid.

For thus says the Lord, "Behold, I extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall be nursed, you shall be carried on the hip and fondled on the knees. As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; and you shall be comforted in Jerusalem" (Isaiah 66:12-13).

Father did not send His Son to die for me so that I might be judged by Him. When I believe in Him, I am not judged.

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 3:17-18).

My Father does not judge me.

For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son (John 5:22).

Jesus came to save me from my sin, not to judge and condemn me for it.

And 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 (John 12:47).

The Church could be powerfully transformed if God's people would saturate their minds in the truths of these simple verses. I hope you will meditate on them until you are convinced that Father's love for you is deeper than you could ever imagine.

## **VI. The Father's Love Letter:** (by Jack Frost)

The Cry of a Father's Heart From Genesis to Revelation

My child...You may not know Me, but I know everything about you...Psalm 139:1.

I know when you sit down and when you rise up...Psalm 139:2.

I am familiar with all your ways...Psalm 139:3.

Even the very hairs on your head are numbered...Matthew 10:29-31.

For you were made in My image-Genesis 1:27.

In Me you live and move and have your being...Acts 17:28.

For you are My offspring...Acts 17:28.

I knew you even before you were conceived...Jeremiah 1:4-5,

I chose you when I planned creation...Ephesians 1:11-12.

You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in My book... Psalm 139:15-16.

I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live... Acts 17:26.

You are fearfully and wonderfully made...Psalm 139:14.

I knit you together in your mother's womb...Psalm 139:13.

And brought you forth on the day you were born...Psalm 71:6.

I have been misrepresented by those who 'don't know Me... John 8:41-44.

I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love... 1 John 4:16.

And it is My desire to lavish My love on you...1 John 3:1,

Simply because you are My child and I am your father...1 John 3:1.

I offer you more than your earthly father ever could...Matthew 7:11.

For I am the perfect father... Matthew 5:48

Every good gift that you receive comes from My hand...James 1:17.

For I am your provider, and I meet all your needs...Matthew 6:31-33.

My plan for your future has always been filled with hope... Jeremiah 29:11.

Because I love you with an everlasting love... Jeremiah 31:3.

My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore... Psalm 139:17-18.

And I rejoice over you with singing...Zephaniah 3:17.

I will never stop doing good to you...Jeremiah 32:40. For you are My treasured possession...Exodus 19:5,

I desire to establish you with all My heart and all My soul- Jeremiah 32:41.

And I want to show you great and marvelous things...Jeremiah 33:3.

If you seek Me with all your heart, you will find Me... Deuteronomy 4:29.

Delight in Me, and I will give you the desires of your heart,, Psalm 37:4.

For it is I who gave you those desires...Philippians 2:13.

I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine... Ephesians 3:20.

For I am your greatest encourager...2 Thessalonians 2:16-17.

I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles... 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.

When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you...Psalm 34:18.

As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to My heart... Isaiah 40:11.

One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes... Revelation 21:3-4.

And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth... Revelation 21:3-4.

I am your Father, and I love you even as I love My son, Jesus... John 17:23.

For in Jesus, My love for you is revealed, ..John17:26.

He is the exact representation of My being...Hebrews 1:3.

He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you... Romans 8:31.

And to tell you that I am not counting your sins... 2 Corinthians 5:18-19.

Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled...2 Corinthians 5:18-19.

His death was the ultimate expression of My love for you...1 John 4:10.

I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love... Romans 8:31-32.

If you receive the gift of My Son, Jesus, you receive Me... 1 John 2:23,

And nothing will ever separate you from My love again... Romans 8:38-39.

Come home, and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen...Luke 15:7.

I have always been Father and will always be Father... Ephesians 3:14-15.

My question is...Will you be My child?...John 1:12-13.

I am waiting for you...Luke 15:11-32.

Love,  
Your Dad, Almighty God.