

# THE LOVE LETTER

Abba's Arms International, Inc. (Kings Kids Unlimited, Inc) Volume 5, Issue 1

### 1st Quarter

## Fatherheart A School Coming to State College April 14 -20, 2013!



We are excited to announce that Fatherheart Ministries will be holding their second A School at the State College Assembly of God Church Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> through Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>. You will be immersed for six days in the Father's Love by an international team, led by Trevor and Linda Galpin. The A school is designed so that you can be restored into an authentic, intimate and experiential relationship with Father, and understand His Fatherly love for you. *We received many testimonies last year from people's lives being changed and relationships restored after experiencing the Father's Love for a week at the school.* 

For an entire week, you'll experience:

- - solid theological teaching and biblical revelation
- - aspects of Father's true character and personality you may not have known before
- - a recovering of your true masculinity and femininity
- - having your heart restored and your paradigms shifted.

Cost: \$420.00/person – <u>Register before March 1 and receive a \$40.00 discount (\$380.00)</u>

More information on the A School is available at our website: www.abbasarmsintl.org or www.ucjc.org/fatherheart-ministries/

We often refer to a child who is disobedient or who won't listen to us as being "out of control." I was told to "control myself" when I was out in public and "don't draw attention to yourself." Or we might think that someone who is wildly praising the Lord during a service or responding to the anointing of the Holy Spirit on them as being "out of control." Our society puts a great deal of emphasis on being "in control."

There are times when we do need to control ourselves, like when driving a car, obeying the laws, or not doing something that might hurt us or someone else. However, Father showed me through a problem I had with my prostate last year that there are areas of my life where I need to let Him be in control! For most of my life I tried to control myself and my environment and only let Father into a small part of it. As Sue and I prayed about this prostate problem, Father showed me that the root of this was extreme control. To avoid what my two older brothers experienced with my dad, I had decided to be the obedient child who would never anger my dad. I did it out of fear and not love for my parents. I believed the lie that it would not go well when someone else was in control of my life. I also discovered that by controlling my life, I

## **OUT OF CONTROL!**

would receive praise and affirmation from my mother! Words of affirmation is my love language which caused me to control even more!

Control became the way I lived my life. I felt safe and things seemed to be easier to do if I was in control and did them myself. It was natural for me to also try to control the spiritual part of my life too. I was comfortable trying to get my heavenly Father's praises and attention by doing the right things like praying, confessing the Word, obeying the scriptures, and doing what others said I should do to have my faith "work" and grow. The problem was that I never saw a lot of victories or successes in the things like health, prosperity, and getting rid of bad habits. I was trying to do everything in my own self-effort and will power. I needed Father to dismantle this stronghold of control in my life.

### I Must Die!

The first step was to ask Father's forgiveness for trying to control my life and not letting Him help me. I also forgave those who contributed to my need to control and I forgave myself. Then I broke the power of the spiritual forces of control, pride, independence, self-reliance, rebellion, fear, escape, bitterness, unbelief, shame, and anxiety and came out of agreement with them. Finally, I broke the judgments I had made and wrote a <u>Godly Belief</u> that **"Father only has good things for me, He loves me, and things go well when He is in control."** 

Mark Virkler in his book Naturally Supernatural helped me put things in the right perspective when he talks about the "Christ I" being the one who does the work in us. I thought that if I just spoke the Word and made good confessions I would receive whatever I believed for. Those may be good things to do, but I couldn't bring healing to my body, reduce the size of my prostate, put pigment back in my skin or do anything else! I need to be like Jesus who said, "I do not speak on my own authority, but Father who dwells in me, He does the works." John 14:10 Paul tells us in Gal. 2:20 that we are crucified with Christ and we no longer live, but Christ lives in us. The "self I" has been replaced by Jesus who now lives in me! I have to believe in the faith of Jesus who is now in me to do the work through me. Jesus said, "...all things are possible to him who believes." Mark 9:23 Jesus was referring to himself as the one who believes! The Centurion and Syro-



phonecian woman did not have faith themselves (they couldn't do anything about their situations), but <u>they believed in Jesus' faith</u> to heal and He said that they both had great faith! It's Christ in me, the "Christ I," who does the works! I have to rest in Jesus' faith.

#### **Transformed into Christ**

I am a vessel in which someone else lives and rules. Before salvation, Satan lived, flowed through me, and controlled my life. I was a slave to sin, and it was easy to live for the devil and let him control my life. Rom. 6:17 (I was deceived into thinking that I was the one in control of my life!) However, when I was born again, Satan had to leave and Christ came to live in me. Even though Christ was in my life, I still hung on to thinking that I was in control. Holding on to this deception, Satan was still able to control parts of my life. The old sinful habits continued; the old thought patterns of negative thinking continued; and the old bad ways of reacting to situations and treating people continued. Satan was still controlling my life even though I was born again. I was acting like an orphan even though I was now a son in Father's house.

I was finally able to forgive my mother and father and start feeling like a son of my Heavenly Father, but there was still this problem of me "trying" to be a son and "live for Christ." I was still in control and under the influence of Satan in my life. "I" still had not died and been crucified with Christ so that He could fully live and occupy this vessel. I had to stop "trying" to be like Jesus and allow Christ to fully control me. Gal. 2:20 I had to allow Christ to remove the deception and change the way I had always lived my life. I stopped being a slave to Satan and became a slave to righteousness. Rom. 6:18 As I have allowed the "Christ I" in me to control my life, I am now being transformed into His image and likeness. Rom. 12:1-2

As I tune to flow and focus on the presence of Christ and Father in me, they are able to do what "I" could never do – break the old bad habits, change the way I respond to people and situations, and change the patterns of negative thinking. Humbling myself to Christ and giving up control is helping me get rid of the pride, rebellion, and independence that got me into so much trouble! Now the spiritual fruit of "self-control" helps me to also say "No!" to temptations. Tuning to flow and responding from our spirit is how we all can control self!

#### **Controlling Our Flesh**

Another area that I used to try and control was my flesh. I was addicted to pornography and masturbation for over 40 years, and after becoming a Christian, I tried everything that I could to stop. Nothing ever seemed to work or have a lasting effect. All my efforts to try and stop sinning were just another form of control over my flesh. "I have to stop porn in my life." "I have to stop masturbating." "I have to stop fantasy lusts." I could identify with Paul in Romans 7 where he expresses his frustrations about trying to stop doing what he knew was wrong. Only the Holy Spirit has the power over our flesh and can set us free from the law of sin and death. Rom. 8:2 When we are trying to control our flesh, we are setting our minds on the "things of the flesh" and that only leads to death!

When we give control of our flesh to the Spirit (walk and live after the Sprit), the result is "*life and peace*!" **Rom. 8:5-6** If the "Christ I" lives in



you, He gives "*life to your mortal bodies*" and you will have complete victory over your flesh and its desires. **Rom. 8:11** We must give the Holy Spirit control over our lives for only the Spirit has the power to control our flesh and lusts.

If we try to overcome our flesh with our mind, we end up in a stalemate and nothing is accomplished. The mind is not any stronger than our flesh and we end up warring against ourselves. When we give up control, we are no longer at war with our flesh. Giving control of our flesh to the Spirit allows Him to have the victory over our flesh. Just trying not to do something in our own strength has "*no value against the indulgences of the flesh.*" Col. 2:20-23 Paul told the Galatians that they were foolish to have started in the Spirit and now try to be "*made perfect by the flesh.*" Gal. 3:3 I cannot do it, but He can!

Mark Virkler provides several ways to put to death the deeds of the flesh: 1. Become Spirit conscious. Be aware of the fruits of the Spirit in your life. Don't let anything steal your joy! **John 16:22** 2. Focus on the Spirit being joined to your spirit. Listen for the languages of the heart: spontaneous flow, imagination, emotions, and meditation. Sense the Father's emotions and feelings. 3. Welcome the Spirit's presence by talking with Him, sharing your thoughts and feelings, feel His presence, publicly acknowledge His presence.

4. Speak forth what the Spirit is revealing to you. Pray in the Spirit.

5. See yourself hanging on the cross with Jesus where He takes your infirmities and sets you free from sin. See yourself with His love flowing through you. **Rom. 8:17 Phil. 3:10** 

The Heavenly Father gave Mark Virkler a word about grace, "Grace is you letting Me do what I want to do in this earth through you. It requires being at peace. You being absolutely still (mentally), immovable in your decision to wait upon Me to bring about the desired result."

#### Some Other Control Issues

We must be careful of our attitude even in living by faith. I used to try and "work my faith." I would try to do all of the things that everyone said we had to do before our faith would work. It seemed like there was always one more thing that I had to do before faith was going to work in my life. In reality, faith is rest. When my faith runs out, then Jesus' faith can take over and get the job done. It's the Father in me; He does the works. John 14:10

Control usually results from fear and trust issues. We can be afraid of what other people think about us or fear being rejected and control our emotions and feelings. Fear can stop us from taking risks and controlling our decisions to make sure everything is safe. We can be afraid of making a mistake and control what we say and do. We can control others in hopes of getting our love needs met. In reality, the only one who can meet our love needs is our Heavenly Father.

We have to be sure that the attitude of our heart is right in what we are doing. Through religious activities, we can try to control our environment and how we feel about ourselves. Why am I doing the things that I do in the church or in my Christian walk? Am I trying to earn the Father's love and approval? Am I trying to feel good about myself or get my identity through my ministry to others? Do I volunteer for things at church because Father is telling me to do it or do I hope that people will like me or I will feel useful if I do this? We can do good things, but for the wrong reasons. We need to make sure Father is telling us what we



should do and not respond just because there is some need. As we walk worthy of the Lord with Him in control, we will be fully pleasing to Him and He will strengthen us with His power and qualify us to partake of His glorious inheritance. **Col. 1:10-12.** When Father is in control, we just have to walk alongside of Him and enjoy His fellowship!

Another area where it is easy for me to take control is when I am faced with a project to do, a problem to solve or fix, or some adversity comes against me. Too many times when I have a project to do and think that I know how to do it, I dive into the project without reading the instructions, getting any advice, or asking Father or the Holy Spirit for help. It isn't until I am in some sort of trouble or having a challenge getting it to go right that I even think about asking for help or letting Father take control of the project. A couple years ago I spent about 5 hours trying to hang a couple closet doors. I had nearly destroyed the doors before it dawned on me to look at the instructions. (I believe that it was the Holy Spirit speaking!) As soon as I looked at the picture, I saw exactly what I was doing wrong and it only took about 15 minutes to get them hung! We all could save a lot of money, time, and emotional energy if we would just humble ourselves and let Father be in control all of the time!

I also have the tendency to want to rush into some negative situation or adversity and try to fight the devil myself. I start binding and loosing, speaking the Word, and commanding the demons to go in Jesus name instead of approaching it from a position of peace and rest. Jesus has already won all of the battles and our Heavenly Father fights for us. 2 Chron. 20:15 The Father may still tell us to do something to resist the devil, but we do it with the peace and assurance that Father is in control. Our feet are shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace so that we can crush the devil under our feet and keep him there! Eph. 6:15 Victory only comes when we stop trying in our own strength and start trusting in Father's strength to give us the victory. His strength is made perfect in our weakness. 2 Cor. 12:9

#### It's All About Rest and Peace

"Trying presumes that you are strong. Resting presumes Jesus is strong for you." Mark Virkler

We have to let go and let Father take over our lives! We can't give up control unless we can trust Father. In Ezekiel 47:3-6 he describes a river rising so high that you could no longer stand in it and touch the bottom. When the waters become too deep to walk in (us in control), we are lifted up and supported by the water and it carries us. It is not by our own strength or effort that we do it, but it's by His grace and power (Father in control). It requires us trusting in the Father and His love for us. "Lean on, trust and be confident in the Lord, with all your heart, and mind, and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know, recognize and acknowledge Him, and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths." Prov. 3:5-6 Amp.

Trust is proven by your actions. You have to let go of worry, let go of anxiety, let go of stress and the need to do something! We have to believe what He says in His Word and let Father do what only He has the power to do for us. It still takes faith and effort to enter into His rest and peace. **Heb. 4:11** We have to cast all our cares on Him, cast down imaginations and every high thing that tries to exalt itself, meditate on scriptures day and night, refuse to fear, forgive, seek first His kingdom, quiet yourself, choose to think of good things, pray, give, etc. But it is not us having to do all this. It's not about performance! It's not a

"have to!" We do these things with the right attitude in our heart



wanting to please the Father. We do it through the grace of God that is in us. 1 **Cor. 15:10** Doing it in the flesh doesn't work!

We enter into His rest and cease from our own works (our control is our own works!) We were made to enter into a Sabbath rest with Father. Father created man on the sixth day so that his first day on the earth would be a day of rest! Father wants to bring us into our Promised Land, a place of blessing, to drink from wells we did not dig, live in houses we did not build, and eat from vineyards we did not plant. Everything is already provided for us to enjoy! We have to receive and abide in the finished work of the cross. Jesus accomplished everything on the cross for our health, prosperity, protection, forgiveness, cleansing, peace, and rest. We still work for a living, and sometimes the work can be hard, difficult, or stressful, but on the inside we can go through the day and be at rest and peace. Even in dangerous or fearful situations, we can be at peace on the inside because we know His love for us. I experienced that the first of January when I was in the hospital for laser surgery on my prostate. I was able to pray in the Spirit and stay perfectly calm through the whole procedure.

#### I am Nothing!

Letting go of control is simply walking in faith and believing that everything has been taken care of on the cross - salvation, righteousness, provision, healing, and protection. I must realize that "I am nothing, I have nothing, and I can do nothing!" It is only through the "Christ I" in me and the Father doing the works that I am able to do anything. By giving Him control, we allow Father to flow into us and through us to release His power, love, and anointing to others. We become a natural extension of His divine nature on the earth. With Father in control, He can begin changing our environment, moving the obstacles out of the way, and positioning us to receive our inheritance as sons and daughters. As we release control and are led by the Holy Spirit, we become the sons of God. Rom. 8:14 Sons value their Father's Word over their own and put to death the deeds of the flesh. We can know that we are on the right track when we feel the flow of love, joy, peace, patience, faith, and hope. It produces faith, hope, and love in us. We become an empty vessel through whom Jesus and the Father flow. Let go and let God!

Although dealing with the issues of my prostate has been challenging, it has helped me to start down a new path away from trying to be in control of my life and letting Father be in control. The results have been much more peace and rest and a lot less stress and irritation about myself and my body. I have found that this letting go of control is not automatic and there have been some relapses with, of course, not so good results! My new Godly Belief that things go well when Father is in control certainly works and is my way of getting back on track and keeping focused on giving up control. It is a process, but I'm committed to keep going until I can say that I have given Father control of everything!

# A Blessing for Walking Free From Control

I bless you with the will and commitment to give your Heavenly Father complete control of your life. I bless you with the revelation of Father's love and commitment to you that will give you the confidence and ability to trust Him with your whole heart. As you let go of control, may you experience all of the emotions of the Father – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. I bless you with the courage to say "no" to the things of this world and allow the Father to take complete control and lead your life. As you allow the Father and the Holy Spirit to lead you, may you experience a greater revelation of your position as His son or daughter and walk in the full inheritance that He has provided for you. May His peace and rest rule in your heart and give you victory in every area of your life. Let go and let God be in control of your life today and forever!





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