# Lesson 9A - The Mother Heart Of Father God

**The Feminine Heart of the Father**

The church and most of the world see only the masculine qualities of God, but God said, "Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...in the image of God He created him, **male and female He created them**" (**Gen. 1:26-27**)

- The image of God is as much in feminine qualities as it is in masculine.
- Today God wants us to know and experience His tender, gentle, loving nature and see fully who He is.
- His name, El-Shaddai, means all-breasted One, which is a prophetic picture of our God being a place of comfort and nurture.
- He is the Father of Mercies (sympathy and pity) and the God of all Comfort (consolation and encouragement) (**2 Cor. 1:3-4**)
- Jesus came to reveal the Father to us and He dwelt in the bosom (in the intimate presence) of the Father. (**John 1:18**) The word "bosom" speaks of the breast, close to the heart, kindness, tender affections, or an embrace.
- We need to see Father God through new eyes of love. Read **Matt. 9:36, Matt.11:28-30, Matt. 23:37, John 14:8-10, Ps. 22:9-10, Ex. 33:18-19, Ex. 34:6, 2 Cor. 1:3-4.**

**Both masculinity and femininity reside in God and in our spirits.**

- The **masculine heart** is creative and cries out, "Do, do, do." Man was made to create, rationalize, and intellectualize. Boy babies move their hands.
- The **feminine heart** wants to "be" and seeks union and communion. She cries out for relationship, connection, and intimacy. A girl baby moves her mouth.
- God transcends gender. It takes both parts to give us a complete image of God.
- Society and the body of Christ often place greater value on the masculine over the feminine.
- In these last days, God wants to restore His mother heart so that a tsunami of His love can be poured out on all people.
- Our ability to receive and give love is the true test of the depth of our relationship with God. Receiving love and expressing it to others should be natural for us.

**How a Mother Affects Our Lives**

- Mothers are **the place of welcome, connectedness, purity and warmth**. Mothers are our first connection to love, bonding, and relationship.
- The mother is the most important figure in a child's life from the nine months in the womb through the first two years of life. She strongly influences the child by the way she nurtures, comforts, and expresses affectionate love.
- **A mother teaches us to receive and contain love**. It's God's way of teaching us to receive and contain love. He wants us to be fed from Him and be content like a baby. **(Ps. 131:2)**
- Many people struggle in their ability to have healthy relationships because they did not receive the right kind of love from their mothers in those formative years. Their ability to trust is gone and they may have feelings of abandonment and rejection.

***Storge* Love's Importance**

Every child needs *storge* love or family love from a mother and father to develop into a healthy person. Children can actually die from a lack of expressed love.

- The Greek word "*storge*" means a strong natural affection. It is the love which lays a healthy foundation for growth and maturity.



From Jack Frost *Experiencing the Father's Embrace* and Denise Jordan DVD "Mother Heart of God the Father
Written and compiled by Rick and Sue McCoy, Abba's Arms International, Inc., PO Box 1396 State College PA 16804-1396 2009

- *Storge* speaks of *nurturing, empathy, compassion, gentleness, affection and tenderness.* Mothers first carry the child in their womb imparting security, warmth and trust.
- Her *storge* love imparts faith in the child to trust bonding, and to receive and give love.
- *Storge* love awakens the feminine heart of God in each of us. *Storge* love **calls a child into nurture, acceptance, belonging, and life.**
- As adults it gives us the ability to have empathy and compassion.
- The ability to be comfortable with love affects all our relationships. If we are uncomfortable with our self, we can be uncomfortable with God. If we are uncomfortable with God, we are often uncomfortable with our self and others. If we find ourselves uncomfortable with others, we are usually uncomfortable with God and self.
- Babies in the womb, infants, and young **children's spirits are open and vulnerable to what goes on around them.** They pick up and interpret experiences with their spirit, not their mind or intellect. As a child grows he will interpret each succeeding experience of life in light of what he has already perceived life to be. Thus **a child needs large amounts of simple affection or their spirit will be starved and wounded.**
- If we did not get sufficient *storge* love as a child, we will find it difficult to be intimate with God and others.
- He desires that we run to Him for comfort and rest in His love. (**Matt. 11:28-30**) God wants to bring us to a place where we "live and move and have our being in Him (Love)." (**Acts 17:28**) He wants us to abide in love, so we can live, breathe and drink of Him. (**1 John 4:16**)

***Storge* love is shown in three primary ways by mothers:**

**1. Affectionate touch –** We were created for expressed affection. Touching someone says that they are important to you, they belong, and they have value. Doctors have proven scientifically that without regular doses of affectionate touching, the body and emotions become unhealthy. We need about 13 touches a day. Without touch the skin withers and wrinkles. In the 1990's a study was done showing that if people are not touched on a daily basis, there is a significant increase in diseases such as heart problems, cancer, and arthritis.

- Touch communicates value saying, "You are beautiful and worth spending time with. You are important!" People with the most self-esteem got lots of storge love at home.
- Parents can love and strengthen a child's spirit in many ways. In our world of technology and computers, we must purposely touch our children.
  - Daily give them a hug when they arrive home or when you arrive home.
  - Take a child on your lap as you watch TV or plan times to snuggle.
  - Put a hand on a shoulder or give a pat on the back.
  - Have a romp on the floor and fun tickling.
  - Hold hands at prayer times.
  - Family mealtimes allow each person to drink of family fun and fellowship
  - Classical and devotional music fuels and refreshes our spirits.
  - A child may be too young to know how to pray, but he can be filled with an awareness of Father God's presence by your walk with Him.
- If we are not touched the right way, by adolescent years, we will allow ourselves to be touched the wrong way.



From Jack Frost *Experiencing the Father's Embrace* and Denise Jordan DVD "Mother Heart of God the Father
Written and compiled by Rick and Sue McCoy, Abba's Arms International, Inc., PO Box 1396 State College PA 16804-1396 2009

**2. Eye Contact** – The eyes are the windows of the soul where love is communicated to a child. (**Luke 11:34**) Babies will look you straight in the eye in order to drink the storge love that they need. If a child does not see love and understanding in your eyes, it can leave a hurt or wound that needs to be healed. Instead, they may get "the look" that communicates anger or devaluing. They then feel awkward, insecure, separated and out of place in their relationships.

**3. Tone of Voice** – Babies learn to trust and bond when their parents look them in the eye and speak loving words with an encouraging, gentle, tender, empathizing voice. Loving tones nurture the soul and bring health to the emotions. Our tone helps children feel acceptance and value so they can walk free from the fear of rejection and failure.

**A mother discerns her baby is in need:**

- She picks him up and her tone, body language and everything about her change. Love, comfort, and tenderness start to flow through her to that child.
- The baby senses she is doing everything possible to meet their needs. Receiving her storge love allows the child to develop a godly belief that they will be comforted and their needs met by others.
- In later years they have faith for relationships with others and with God who can meet all their needs.
- A child drinks much more than milk from their mother's breast. As they are fed, held, and cuddled, **babies learn to trust life, relationships and even God**.
- Without a mother's *storge* love, children may grow up with an inherent fear of intimacy and relationships. These can create many problems until we let the Lord work in us.

**The War against the Feminine**

Since the beginning, the woman and Satan have been enemies. **(Gen. 3:15)** Satan knew that through the seed of women, he would be defeated.

- Satan has gotten societies to hate women, devalue them, and in many ways enslave them.

- Women were made to be intimate, to respond, and to receive. Thus **if the enemy can destroy her image, he can destroy her ability to nurture and sustain life.**
- **When women are devalued and put down, they become hard, aggressive, and forceful, trying to prove themselves.** Women are made in God's image too.
- If a woman's femininity is violated, she is unable to nurture.
- If Satan can destroy the feminine image, then it is hard to see God's feminine qualities which reveal Him as the place of comfort.
- Satan fears the power of feminine intimacy, a place of living loved that brings overcoming strength out of relationship.
- Satan uses **accusations against the feminine to put down and distort it.**
  - Women and the church are weak, illogical, and needing a crutch.
  - Men are considered weak when they show the feminine nurturing heart of God. The enemy has stolen many men's God given ability to nurture.



From Jack Frost *Experiencing the Father's Embrace* and Denise Jordan DVD "Mother Heart of God the Father
Written and compiled by Rick and Sue McCoy, Abba's Arms International, Inc., PO Box 1396 State College PA 16804-1396 2009

**What Occurs When There is a Lack of *Storge* Love?**

1. We may **experience feelings of abandonment**. We were created for fellowship with God and others. **When children are disconnected from the mother, their emotions shut down**. If we are not connected there is a hole in us. A child may feel disconnected, rejected, abandoned, and the ability to trust is gone. The child's heart closes. They may have an inability to open their heart to their spouse or children. It takes the supernatural power of love to heal these issues.

2. *Storge* love is foundational to a healthy *eros* love. *Eros* is the Greek word for physical and sexual attraction. Those who do not receive healthy amounts of *storge* as a child often find that *eros* goes haywire at puberty.

3. We were created for love, but if we did not receive it in our early years, we may begin to look for it in the adolescent years in unhealthy ways. Unhealthy sexual drives, urges, compulsions, addictions and uncontrollable fantasies are developing and consuming our society.

4. Children may focus their unmet love need for *storge* on their lovers or fantasy lovers. This leads to emotional dependency with a boyfriend, girlfriend, or spouse as their source of life and comfort. Often they attempt to get their unhealed need met through *eros* and sex which explains the increased sexual activity at younger ages.

5. **Pain seeks pleasure and comfort.** Pornography and masturbation addiction are often the results of people searching for intimacy, nurture, and comfort. A survey of Promise Keeper men in 1998 found 62 % of them were involved weekly in pornography. Other surveys say two out of three men are involved with pornography.

6. Sexual bondages can make us uncomfortable with ourselves. **We may also carry unconscious shame and feelings of uncleanness.** We may stop liking ourselves and begin to believe we have no value. Until our storge love need is met we will be vulnerable to sexual temptation. Then we also lack the ability to care about other's needs. There is no ability to be intimate and caring. There is also a lack of empathy and compassion. We only value other people for what they can do for them. This attitude can carry over into our relationship with God as we value Him for what He can do for us. There is no concept of intimacy and love.

7. If we do not know how to drink nurture and comfort from Father God, we will find it in the flesh. Some people move into "**numb-numbville**" with a part of their heart shutting down. Others bond to service in ministry, education, or their job. Some people strive toward perfectionism or performance.

8. Many times people perceive the lack of *storge* love as death. They fear living, fear the future, fear relationships and intimacy. They do not know how to rest. They may even feel it would have been better if they had never been born. They may wish Jesus would come back and take them home. Life is too painful!

**Healing for the Lack of *Storge* Love**

We do not have to live life struggling with the hurts and affects of not receiving *storge* love in our youth. God's Word and His loving nature can meet every need that you have in your spirit, soul and body!

**1. Realize that no human being can fully meet your need for *storge* love.**

- ✓ It is difficult to teach someone to love until they have experienced it.
- ✓ Love and intimacy have been programmed into your genetic code. "In Christ" you have God's DNA.
- ✓ As you allow God to meet your deepest need for love, nurture and comfort, it will become more and more natural for you to receive His love and express His love to others.

**2. Realize that you were not a victim of the lack of *storge* love.**

- ✓ Do not take on a victim mentality and believe you have never been loved. <u>You have never been alone or without love.</u>
- ✓ God has constantly pursued you with love and comfort. The question is – did you choose to receive His love in your time of need or harden your heart to love?
- ✓ Read the following verses and let the Lord reveal His care and love for you: **Jer. 1:5, 31:3, Ps. 27:10, Ps. 68:5-6, John 14:18, Ps. 139:13, 17-18, 71:6 Ps. 22:9-10.**

**3. Be willing to let go of counterfeit affections and false loves.**

- ✓ If you did not receive the ***storge*** love that you needed, your heart may have been influenced to seek wrong answers for right needs.
- ✓ You will no longer need false lovers when you allow God to meet your need for nurture and comfort.
- ✓ Your mother may have been too wounded to be there for you, <u>but God has never abandoned nor forsaken you.</u> He will pour *storge* love into the barren areas of your soul. Read **Isaiah 49:15-16.**

**4. Realize that Father God's mother heart wants to bond to you and meet your deepest needs for storge love.**

- ✓ In God's nature there is a mother's heart – the storge love that comforts us in tenderness, compassion, and nurture. He wants to take you to His breast and awaken *storge* love and intimacy within you. (**Ps. 131:2**)
- ✓ You can rebel against that kind of love because of the pain in your youth. However, **He wants to quiet us with His love.** (**Zeph. 3:17**)
- ✓ He wants us to trust Him and let the walls come down between men and women, parents and children. We can destroy any death wishes and a fear of the future. There is a day and an hour of release for the uncomforted areas.
- ✓ We either receive love through our humility or we may be humiliated if there is pride in us.



From Jack Frost *Experiencing the Father's Embrace* and Denise Jordan DVD "Mother Heart of God the Father
Written and compiled by Rick and Sue McCoy, Abba's Arms International, Inc., PO Box 1396 State College PA 16804-1396 2009

# Lesson 9B – Basic Trust

**The Importance of Basic Trust**

- A foundation of basic trust is built or established in the first few years of our lives, especially the **first two years of life**. The other stages of development are built on trust. The majority of us have some cracks in our foundation of basic trust.

- Thus if we did not learn basic trust, it is difficult to become a mature adult.

- We **grow roots** in our lives from an early age (the **first 6 years**) yet these are **usually hidden and largely forgotten.**

- **A root is a practiced hidden way of drinking nurture from God, others, yourself, and nature.** Do you have the capacity to drink nurture from God and others or are you crippled and not able to?

- Too often we develop bitter roots which are the incapacity to drink nurture from God, others, self and nature. Instead we stop God from bringing the good to us and we drink harm from all of those.

- Adam and Eve were tempted to mistrust the best, most perfect Father and see His love as not enough. The serpent got them to question God. (**Gen. 3:1)**

- **Basic trust** allows us to **separate from our parents and rely directly on God.**

**How Do We Develop the Capacity for Basic Trust?**

1. Warm, tender affection from both mothers and fathers creates basic trust. Being held, rocked and comforted in the first six years, especially the first year of life, create a foundation of trusting life. The lack of affection destroys trust.

2. The world and everything in the baby's life is new. Noises or a brother or sister shaking the baby may be alarming but if the parents can hold and comfort the baby trust is regained.
   - Affection builds safety and trust so the baby can relax.
   - **Psalm 131:2** speaks of a weaned child as one that has sucked at his mother's breast until full and then leans back relaxed and trusting.

3. Fathers also need to nurture the baby, not just mothers.
   - Fathers are told to bring their children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. (**Eph. 6:4**)
   - Often our cultures hinder fathers from doing this. Did your dad pick you up to pat, hug and hold you? Did he read stories to you on his lap?

**What is Basic Trust?**

1. It is the capacity to hold your heart open to others even if they wound you.
2. It is the ability to bounce back and recover quickly when wounded.
3. It is basic security. It is the sense that "I'm okay even when things aren't going the way I want."
4. It is the root of true self-confidence and freedom from tyranny of what others think.



From Jack Frost *Experiencing the Father's Embrace* and Denise Jordan DVD "Mother Heart of God the Father
Written and compiled by Rick and Sue McCoy, Abba's Arms International, Inc., PO Box 1396 State College PA 16804-1396 2009

5. It is the courage needed to enter freely into the give and take of human relationships.
6. It is the ability to have a center of decision in oneself and not to be controlled or manipulated by others.
7. It is the capacity to have a true conscience at its root and not just compliance.
8. It is the ability to entrust your heart to God and be able to make wise boundaries with others.
9. It is the capacity to become a human being and relate to others. We are meant to relate to others with respect, honor and cherishing each individual, not manipulating, controlling, or treating others like an object to be used.

**If You do not get Basic Trust:**

- You cannot feel God's Presence.
- You cannot meet other people spirit to spirit.
- There is generalized anxiety about life.
- You become performance oriented, feeling you have to perform to win love.
- You either comply or domineer aggressively as an adult. It is not easy to just give and take.

**Jesus – Our Example**

- **Mark 10:13-16** gives us a great picture of how Jesus and Father God want to be the safe place or the place of security and comfort for each of us.
- While all rabbis blessed the children, Jesus did not give them a little touch on the head; He took more time.
- The Greek word there means Jesus enfolded them in His arms and pulled them to His chest. He took His time, held them and placed His hands on them for a while.
- When Jesus blessed them, He even got a little wordy. He was not in a hurry.
- This is all a picture of how Father God desires that we live our lives and thus receive His kingdom. The Holy Spirit is known as the Comforter. We must receive the Comforter's comfort.
- He wants us to live a lifestyle of being a child, being held and rocked in Father's arms – held to His chest and soaked in love.
- When you are hurting and feel all alone is a good time to jump into Father God's lap and look to Him. You can trust Him for He will never stop loving you and never leave you!



From Jack Frost *Experiencing the Father's Embrace* and Denise Jordan DVD "Mother Heart of God the Father
Written and compiled by Rick and Sue McCoy, Abba's Arms International, Inc., PO Box 1396 State College PA 16804-1396 2009