



*Rick & Sue McCoy*

# *The Love Letter*

Abba's Arms International, Inc.  
2nd Quarter Volume 17

## Africa Praise Report!

We have just returned from six weeks of ministry in Uganda, Kenya, and Zambia and it was awesome! **We want to thank all of you who were praying for us during our mission trip** to share about Marriage God's Way in 7 different locations as well as ministering in two large youth gatherings, womens groups, and two Sunday schools. We witnessed one deliverance, numerous physical healings, and the healing of hundreds of wounded hearts everywhere we went. PTL! The testimonies at the end of each event were amazing!

We will share more details in our next Love Letter. We believe that all the areas where we ministered in these three nations will never be the same!

The trip was more expensive than we anticipated, so please believe with us for the continued flow of finances to completely cover all the costs for the trip. If you would like to help, please consider sending a gift to our ministry through the "Giving" tab on our website home page or sending a check made out to: Abba's Arms International, Inc.  
1406 Harris St.  
State College, PA 16803



## Trusting In God's Love

***One of our biggest stumbling blocks to fully walking in our true Christian character is our lack of trust in God's unconditional love for us.*** Dallas Willard said that true Christian character happens when our immediate response to every person, situation, or circumstance is love! I'm using the word "character" here as the way we respond to life's situations and circumstances. Your actions and reactions to life are a direct result of what is going on in your heart. Jesus said that loving God with all your heart, soul, and mind and loving your neighbor as yourself were central to everything we do in our lives. God's Love, or lack thereof, impacts everything in each of our lives and what happens in the world.

One definition of **Trust** is the belief or faith in someone's integrity, reliability, truth, or ability to do something. Trust is hard to achieve or build with someone but can easily be broken by a single action or deed. Once broken, however, it can be very difficult to ever rebuild again depending upon the severity of the offense. Trusting in God's Love can also be vulnerable to being damaged or broken for a variety of reasons. However, with God's Love, it is not God who damages or breaks the trust, but it is us or what we do that impacts our trust and willingness to believe in His Love.

**God is Love (1 John 4:19)** The only thing God knows to do is to love because that is who He is! Regardless of whatever we may do or not do, God will still love us. It is the "sticky" love that is like gum that is difficult or impossible to get off us. The Hebrew word for God's Love is "Hesed." It is a covenantal love that binds Him to us. He would have to break His covenant with us if He ever stopped loving us. The Bible also refers to God as Father. From the creation of Adam and Eve, He has always wanted to have a family full of sons and daughters that would call Him "Father." **2 Cor. 6:18** You experienced His Love even before you were in your mother's womb, and you carry the memory and experience of His "first" Love in your heart **Ps. 139:16** There is a deep yearning inside all of us to return to that first love!

### **What Causes People to Lose Trust in His Love?**

I believe that the biggest hinderance to trusting His Love are the wounds and orphan parts of our heart created by how we responded to the wounding from our

parents or primary caregivers growing up. Hurting people hurt other people and hurting people make bad choices. Wounding is passed on from one generation to the next. Hurting fathers, and now more mothers, hurt their children who then grow up with wounds in their hearts and they wound their own children.

Each time our basic love needs (unconditional love, a safe place, valued and appreciated, having a purpose, and seen, heard, and understood) were not met pain went into our hearts. When the pain gets too great, we pull away from our father and/or mother and we become orphans in our own home. Some become orphans because their natural father or mother left them or died at some point in their life. Orphans don't have a father which prevents us from receiving love from our Heavenly Father. Besides being hurt by our parents, there may be other people who hurt us as we are growing up and even as adults.

To the degree that we have forgiven our natural father and are able to receive their love is the degree to which we will be able to fully receive our Heavenly Father's Love. Heart forgiveness is a deeper level of forgiving that occurs when the little boys and girls inside us who are still carrying the pain from the wounds forgive and release the debt from those who hurt them. As you walk through these deeper levels of forgiveness and spend more time alone with Father, you will be able to experience even more of His Love for you! It wasn't until I was able to forgive my dad when I was 52 years old that I was able to begin receiving my Heavenly Father's Love. When I started receiving His Love, it became easier to trust in my Father's Love for me which helped me walk free from addictions to pornography and masturbation. I no longer needed the false lovers because I was comforted by His Love!

There are also many people who refuse to believe that Father loves them because of all the bad things that may have happened to them. The big "why" questions can destroy our faith and cause us to doubt that Father loves us too. I have heard this question many times, "If He loved me, then why did He let this happen to me?" Father loved us through the evil that happened to us, but He has given all of us a free will to choose what we do. God would have to break His own word to step in and try to stop someone's free will, even to do evil things. People also wonder why

God doesn't intervene and stop all the natural disasters that happen around the world. They call them "acts of God" when they are all acts of the devil who comes to steal, kill, and destroy. Father gave us the authority through Jesus to stop, or at least lessen, the magnitude of those natural disasters from happening.

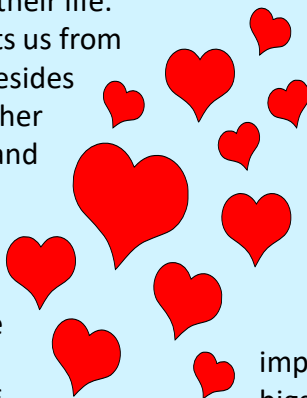
Then there are many people who think that He is an angry mean God who destroys people with floods, fires, opening the earth, sending pests to destroy crops, orders the Israelites to kill the inhabitants of a land, etc. I do not have a complete understanding about all that, but I am not going to let my lack of knowledge stop me from believing that He is a Father who unconditionally loves me! I have heard one possibility offered that

Father loved those people who were destroyed so much that He did not want them to continue sinning and have even worse consequences in Hell! He also did not want those evil people to draw even more people away from going to heaven.

### **Consequences of Not Trusting in God's Love**

Not trusting in God's Love will negatively impact every area of your life! One of the biggest areas is our physical and financial needs. When we put all our trust in doctors and the medical system, we are limited to what the world can do and miss out on most of what Father can do when we put our trust (faith) in Him and His Love. Even if we rely only on doctors and medicine, it is still our body which Father made that does the healing and restoration of our health. We have a Father who wishes above everything else that we prosper and be in health! **3 John 2** Father loves us so much that He made a way through Jesus for us to live in divine life and health. Just like any loving father, He does not want us to suffer and struggle through life burdened down by poverty and poor health. Even in our rebellion against His perfect love for us, He still can heal us and meet our needs through His grace and mercy. However, there is so much more available when we fully trust in His Love!

Sometimes we miss out on Father's best through ignorance. We can get into error when we do not know the scriptures or the power of God. I have been on both sides, either trusting in His Love or the negative consequences of not knowing or trusting in Father's Love. I was not born again until I was 21 years old and basically ignorant of most of the scriptures on healing, finances, or His unconditional love for another 10+ years. Sue and I struggled with health issues and barely



got by financially during the early years of our marriage. But once we started studying the Word and receiving more of Father's Love, our health has continued to get better, and we are experiencing more prosperity in our lives than ever before!

The other thing that happens when we refuse to walk in the light of Father's Love is that we walk in darkness and every evil work of the enemy can freely come upon us. **John 3:19** We rely on self and become masters of our own world. We must control everything to survive. We look to the world for all our answers and begin to fall for all the lies of the enemy. We put pressure on ourselves to perform and struggle with failures and setbacks. When you don't know Father's Love, you seek love and comfort from the world and the false lovers - the BEEPS (Behavior, Environment, Entertainment, People, or Substances). There is an absence of everything good in our lives. We become full of anxiety, fear, anger, lust, unbelief, and have a negative perspective on life. It becomes hard to believe that we are loved by God. We become powerless to change anything in our lives. We experience low levels of joy, hope, faith, peace, goodness, and love. Life is a constant struggle!

#### **The Positive Benefits from Trusting In God's Love**

However, when you make a quality decision (one

that we never turn back from!) things will begin to change in our lives. It may not occur instantly, but over time you will see and experience the difference God's Love will make in your life. Every good, beautiful, and perfect gift comes down from above from our Heavenly Father. **James 1:17** The world will become a better place to live, and the love of the Father will become more real to you. You will know that you are loved and that will produce the fruit of the Spirit of love in your life (joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control!) Knowing that you are loved builds faith and trust in God and others. You have the confidence to take risks knowing that your Heavenly Father is right there to back you up. His perfect love begins to eliminate all the fears, anxiety, worry, and doubt. His Love will cause your prayer life to become more powerful and build your confidence to pray boldly with great expectations in the results.

Father is asking you right now, "Will you trust Me and My love for you?" Say, "YES!" and step out into the adventure of a lifetime walking in more and more revelation and a greater capacity to experience more of His Love in your life!



### **A Father's Blessing for More of His Love**

**I bless you to experience more of Father's Love for you every day. That Father would overwhelm you with an awareness of how much He loves you just the way you are. I bless you to walk in the spirit of love and see all the gifts of His Love grow in your life, gifts of joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. I bless you to put all your confidence and hope in His Love for you and see the manifestation of that love as you reach out and touch other people with that love. I bless you to trust in His Love for you and that everything in your life would be a reflection of that love. I bless you that your immediate response in every situation will be love!**