

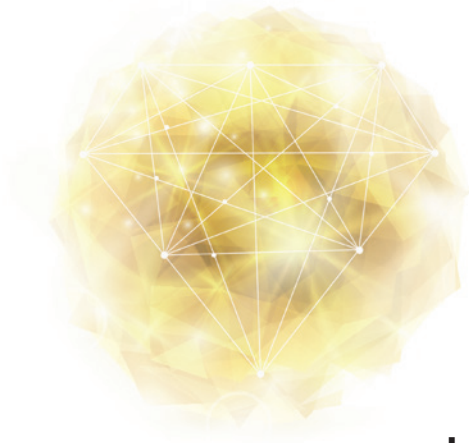
LOVE SPEAKS:
HEARING
THE VOICE
OF OUR FATHER

PART 1

A FREE E-BOOK FROM THE AUTHOR OF
*Love Speaks: 21 Ways to
Recognize God's Multi-Faceted Voice*



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LOVE SPEAKS: HEARING THE VOICE OF OUR FATHER

Introduction

Jesus said, *‘Pray then, in this way: Our Father...’*
(Matthew 6:9).

What wonderful words these are!

Jesus Christ Himself, our Lord and Savior, personally taught us to pray and begin each day with these words, “Our Father.”

Only followers of Jesus can dare to address the Lord in this manner, to pray that way, as only followers of Jesus are given the revelation of the One True God as expressed in those words.

The concept of the Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, (the “Three who are One”) remains a mystery, and mysterious it should remain. We will never put the Creator in a box.

And yet, He allows Himself to be known as Father. And He longs for His children to speak and listen.

For about 1,900 of the past 2,000 years, the emphasis in most of salvation-history has been, first, upon Jesus. As it should have been. To know Christ and make Him known was the first (and continues to be) The Great Commission.

He is at the center of all history and is worshiped freely among the three great branches of Christianity: Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant churches.

Then around the turn of the 20th Century, the emphasis shifted to the expression of the Holy Spirit, and through various movements marked in history with terms such as “Pentecostals” or “Charismatics” the Holy Spirit seemed to be on center stage. His power spread to hundreds of millions of hungry and thirsty souls who sought Him.

Today (and this concept may seem just a little revolutionary) the emphasis is shifting again.

Back to the Father.

He is Father of all Creation.

John the Revelator introduces the whole Trinity in Revelation, Chapter 1. Notice carefully the name he chooses for the Father,

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“John, to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth” (Revelation 1:4-5).

“Him who is and who was and who is to come” with grace and peace flowing from His Throne, through the Holy Spirit and through Jesus His Son, to all who believe! How amazing!

And He has His own voice.

What’s that? His own voice?

His own unique way of communicating with His Creation?

That's right. And His voice is calling out in fresh ways today.

It's not as though the proclamation of Jesus Christ or the companionship of the Holy Spirit are also not being highlighted. They are. Yet the Father is now drawing us into a deeper relationship with Him.

What if you could hear His voice above the storms of life? *You can, and you will find calm, in the midst of the storm.*

What if you could you hear His voice distinguished from the voice of Jesus and the voice of the Holy Spirit? *You can, and you will discover a deep love and acceptance that only He can bring.*

The Apostle Paul's word for Father brings us back to the original intention of man and woman: sons and daughters who heed the voice of, "Abba" (see Romans 8: 15-17).

And it's all in His perfect timing, too. This generation of youth now arising in the 21st Century is, for the most part, a fatherless generation. And so, the Father is appearing!

I speak and write this, not to the lost, but to the found, who although already in relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit, have never quite discovered the simplicity of calling out to the Father and expecting to hear His voice of love in response.

Why did I write this ebook?

I wrote it for 2 main reasons.

Firstly, I was raised in a religious upbringing that left no room for God to speak in times of prayer.

We simply were never taught that God as Father wanted to respond and actually, "talk back" when we prayed!

I prayed, "Our Father" in the Lord's prayer every week, yet never knew Him as MY Father.

And I had the further problem of experiencing deep rejection as a kid from those around me. I was picked on and ridiculed by the older kids around me, partly because my flaming red hair made a perfect target, and partly because I was very small in stature.

I often felt alone, unworthy, and disconnected from God.

And sitting in the hard, cold, wooden church pews, Sunday after Sunday, I was never encouraged to seek the Father and pray to the Father directly.

It seemed that the guy at the front, with the microphone and the long robe and Title, was the only one who could hear from God directly. He did all the work. We were just supposed to follow his lead.

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All of us in the pews were just underlings; we had no right to call on God. The guy at the front seemed to be the only earthly representative that did all the direct communicating with God.

Then, in a dramatic moment on my knees, all alone at the age of 20, I surrendered my life to Jesus Christ. Both He and the Holy Spirit came into my heart and filled me with wonder.

Amazing grace, (how sweet the sound) that evening!

The very next day, the Father Himself appeared. How did He appear? Riding in a chariot of fire upon the wind, in a long flowing robe, with a stern look upon His face?

No. Just the opposite.

As I set out from my little apartment to walk to my first class on my college campus that day, I suddenly “NOTICED” the sunshine, warm upon my face.

Then I noticed the brilliant colors of the leaves, for it was Fall in Minnesota, when the green and brown leaves are transformed by God into the most beautiful shades of red, orange, yellow, and a multitude of other colors.

Then I heard, (and it seemed for the very first time I had ever really heard) the birds singing their songs of glory to God as I walked. I felt the breeze, like a gentle kiss from my Heavenly Father. Every step I seemed to be walking, almost dancing, into my day and the love of the Father wrapped around me like a warm cloak of grace and acceptance.

His love was so tangible.

It was like a grey film had lifted from my eyes and suddenly my eyes were beholding Creation as God had intended it to be beheld: every small detail somehow bringing Him glory and reflecting His love. I suddenly had “eyes to see and ears to hear” His great voice booming from the tiniest detail of His Creation.

And so the “NOTICING” began to turn more and more into, “EXPECTING.”

And that is what lies at the heart of this ebook. EXPECTATION.

EXPECT that God, as your Father, will speak to you DIRECTLY. I discovered that “the guy at the front with the long robe” was NOT a real go-between. Jesus was the ONLY real go-between, and His blood personally shed was more than enough to secure a real hearing with the Father at the Throne of the Universe.

From that moment I learned I could pray myself, directly to “Our Father” through the wonderful name of Jesus, and He would take initiative to speak directly to me.

His Love is in the Sunshine and the Shadow

Secondly, apart from my personal testimony of coming to living faith in Jesus Christ, I also wrote this ebook as a blessing to all of you who may be going through some kind of personal trial at the moment.

Maybe you are in a valley, instead of on the mountaintop.

Maybe you are experiencing shadows instead of sunshine.

Or maybe you seem to be doing fine, but for some reason there is no expectation that

- 1) **you are worthy enough as a person to approach the God of the universe** as a son or daughter would approach their father, or
- 2) **you simply have never studied from Scripture** and experienced that He has his own voice and desires to grow in His relationship with you through speaking and responding to you.

Either way, you are in for a surprise as you read this ebook!



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