

FIVE EASY STEPS TO TALK WITH GOD AS DAD

DISCOVER THE GREATEST
CONNECTION OF YOUR LIFE IN THESE
FIVE EASY STEPS

by Papa Tom (*Tom Clark*)

THE FATHERS HEART MEDIA

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Five Easy Steps to Talk with God as Dad

There was a movie I watched with one of my sons in which a young prizefighter from New Jersey was paralyzed from a massive car accident. It was based on a true story. I like movies based on true stories; truth is stranger than fiction it seems. So, why not learn something unusual that is true? This paralyzed young man was told by his doctors he would never walk again. He was told this prognosis in his hospital bed when he could not move a limb. The only thing he could move was his lips. Fortunately, he said "I am not only going to walk again; I am going to fight again." No one believed he could do it. No matter, he believed. He had the desire. He set his mind on his goal and he focused on taking little baby steps every day. One year later he was back in the ring winning fights; better than before his accident. A TV show called him for an interview. They asked him what had he learned from his experience? He told the interviewer that he had learned that they lied to him. How so? Asked the interviewer. He replied: "They told me that it would not be easy". The truth is it is easy!

There are five preconditions to put our mind in the right place which we can learn from this true story that sets the stage for learning how to talk with God our Father. The first precondition is desire. The second is to believe. The third is to use our tongue to speak out our intentions. The fourth is to focus. The fifth is to understand that it is easy.

With these preconditions in mind let us explore the steps that we can take to talk with God our Father as Dad. Everything of value in life is found in the Word. Every aspect of truth begins and ends in the Word. So, let's start there. After all, in the beginning was the Word.

This is going to be easy. Think of it as a child learning to talk with his natural father. How would you begin? Scripture tells us everything we need to know.

STEP ONE:

This step starts with **knowing God our Father exists** and He is a rewarder of those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). This doesn't work if its just head knowledge, or, to say it another way "theoretical knowledge". You must obtain experiential knowledge that He exists.

STEP TWO:

Open your heart to **experience Him as your Father (Dad)**. It sounds simple and it is. In the book of John (John 14: 7-11) Philip asks Yeshua (Jesus) to show the disciples the Father. This request only makes sense, if what the disciples had been taught all their lives from the Rabbis and Pharisees about God somehow differed greatly from what Jesus was teaching them. It appears their previous teaching showed God as "Lord God" who was Judge, Lawgiver and Ruler. In other words, they understood God in the context of His Governmental authority, but not as their Father from a familial perspective. Everything Jesus said and did showed the disciples who God was as Father: their Father (John 17). Further, He introduced them to the Kingdom of Heaven. It was their Kingdom too as it was in the Father's Heart to give it to them (and us too). The Jewish culture uses the word "Mishpocha" to describe "family". This is the term which accurately describes how God our Father thinks of us: as family.

STEP THREE:

Do not be afraid. How many times does Scripture say "Fear Not" Furthermore, fear is sin (sin is "missing the mark") Fear/sin is an immediate and clear obstacle to communicating to God as our Father. Are you afraid to talk to your Dad? Are you afraid He is going to punish you for some wrongdoing? Are you afraid He is so High and Mighty that He would not entertain or welcome a conversation with you, because you as so lowly and puny? Those are not His thoughts, they never entered His Mind, because He has the Father's Heart toward you. He took care of everything

you would ever need before He created you! Even punishment for all your sins, taken care of beforehand. Poof! Gone as far as the east is from the west.

STEP FOUR:

Most religious people I know want to let everyone know how much they love God. That's not the point. That really doesn't matter when it comes to having a conversation with Dad. In this regard, all that matters is that you know **how much He loves you!** Recognize that He is madly in love with you! Receive that truth.

STEP FIVE:

Trust God to do what He says He will do, even when you don't understand. Abraham is known as the Father of Faith. Abraham was also known as a friend of God. Reading his life story, particularly the instances wherein he threw his wife Sarah under the bus twice to save his own skin, one could wonder how Abraham could be called a friend of God or be given the title "Father of Faith". Nonetheless, if you read closely the account at the end of his life of how he was willing to sacrifice his son Izaak, you come to an understanding that Abraham developed a complete trust in God as Father. Abraham had enough experiences with God as Father that he knew he could trust God the Father to do what He said He would do. Abraham had a covenant relationship with God, and we do too. We enjoy an even a better covenant relationship than Abraham did at the time.

So, relax, enjoy each day! Start with a conversation with God your Dad. Picture Him as your Dad. The best Dad ever! Unlike and better than any Dad you could ever imagine. If you can imagine Him that way, remind yourself He is much better than what you could imagine, but start there. He wants to hear from you. He wants to know your thoughts and your feelings. Hold nothing back (He knows everything anyway so why try to hide something from Him). The more you open up your heart to Him; the more He will share His Heart with you; the more you will come to know Him; the more you will trust Him, and it just gets better and better.

At the end of your journey on this earth, He may ask you a question: "Did you enjoy your life My child?" If you want to be able to say Yes to this

question, do not hesitate to start talking with Him every day, then He won't have to ask you that question at the end of your life; He will already know.

Your life will be full if you can take Jim Valvano's speech to heart with your Dad each day. Learn something new every day. Laugh at least once a day. Do one kind act for someone who cannot repay you the favor. All three things I just mentioned are intentional and they have to do with something outside yourself.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The name Papa Tom is a Nom De Plume, that is a pen name. However, it is the name my grandchildren call me: Papa Tom. You see I am a newly minted Grandfather! Yes, I am a father of 6 children and 15 grandchildren (11 on earth so far; 4 in heaven already). I started my transition later in life; in my late sixties writing children's books, wanting to share thoughts and ideas that would help my grandchildren understand life from a different perspective; the perspective of heaven. I realize that is a very bold statement to assert. Nonetheless, my journey in life brought me to a place where I came to realize no one succeeds in their journey through life without a proper understanding of who they are. The only source one can find that will divulge such wisdom is God Himself. Yes, you heard me correctly: the Big Guy, the One and Only, the Ancient of Days, the Father of Lights, the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last.....you get the idea. All these words I am using to describe images and aspects of a Being most of us have never known, no less shared an experience with. Unless you become like a child again you probably won't either. Hence, the writing of children's books was the first step. Each book is designed to help a child overcome a specific fear they are likely to encounter in their lives starting with the fear of not knowing who they are. Each book has a protagonist, Luke the Lightbearer, who takes a child on a journey to heaven to meet the Big Guy and learn how to overcome their specific fear. The Big Guy is presented as God the Father. Every book has at least 24 points of truth that the Father teaches Luke and his friends. God expresses His Heart to Luke and each new child in each book. The theme of the books and all TFHM (The Fathers Heart Media) is Malachi 4:6. "He will turn the hearts of

the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers.” Notice, it all starts with the “fathers”.

Since all of us have a little child in each one of our hearts, the addition of Podcasts was a step in the direction of introducing the children’s books, it developed into a juggernaut of its own making. The appeal of Podcasts on current event subjects underscores the craving in each person’s heart for the love of the father. Love can be expressed through a human being or ultimately through the love of God the Father Himself. If you want to truly understand who you are as a person, you can only find out who you are by finding out what God the Father says about you. Otherwise, you get misdirected by the opinions of others. Who do you say I am? I don’t want your opinion; I want to know from the Big Guy Himself. Jesus asked this question of his disciples: “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am? (Jesus was giving them a hint here)?” Their response was typically human; “some say you are John the Baptist, some say Elijah, some say Jeremiah.” To which Jesus redirected them and asked again “Who do you say I am?” Simon perks up and answers the question “You are the Christ (Anointed One) the Son of the Living God!” Jesus immediately compliments Simon Peter saying “Blessed are you Simon Bar Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you; but MY FATHER who is in heaven.”

All truth comes from the Father through the Son (Word) to us. You can spend your whole life and all your energy and money trying to find out who you are on your journey in this life; but there is only one place to go: GO TO THE FATHER. He knows everything. There is nothing that He does not know.

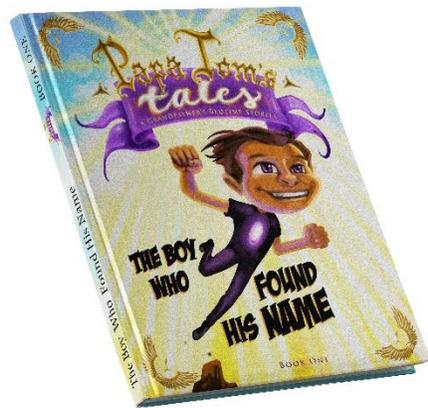
That is the Raison d’etre (purpose) of “The Father’s Heart Media” to help you connect to the Father, to help you get to know Him, to allow you to move toward trusting in His love for you and in doing so, learning to trust Him even when you don’t understand. Naturally, my understanding is limited as well. However, that is where my anointing begins. He imparted His Father’s Heart to me when I became a Grandfather; and I want to impart it to you and your children and your grandchildren. If I am successful in helping you to connect to our Father, then you become “mishpocha” or family (as the Jewish people would say). Welcome to the family of God!

The Fathers Heart Media

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