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Malachi 4:6

THE FATHER'S HEART

# RESTORING VITAL RELATIONSHIPS

***And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.  
- Malachi 4:6 (ESV)***

## 1. Father God to Spiritual Children

***And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared. - Luke 1:16-17 (ESV)***

## 2. Spiritual Children to Father God

***“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’”  
<sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.”  
- Luke 15:17-24 (ESV)***

## 3. Earthly Fathers to Earthly Children

***And behold, the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, “Good news for my lord the king! For the Lord has delivered you this day from the hand of all who rose up against you.”  
<sup>32</sup>The king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” And the Cushite answered, “May the enemies of my lord the king and all who rise up against you for evil be like that young man.” <sup>33</sup>And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”  
- 2 Samuel 18:31-33 (ESV)***

## 4. Earthly Children to Earthly Fathers

***And Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, which the Philistines had stopped after the death of Abraham. And he gave them the names that his father had given them. - Genesis 25:18 (ESV)***

# KNOWING THE FATHER'S HEART

*The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart... - 1 Samuel 13:14 (ESV)*

*And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. - John 17:11 (ESV)*

## 1. He Doesn't Pick Favorites.

*But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. - Matthew 5:44-45 (ESV)*

## 2. He Knows Us Intimately.

*But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. - Matthew 6:6 (ESV)*

## 3. He Wants To Provide For Us.

*If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!  
- Matthew 7:11 (ESV)*

# THE HEART OF CHILDREN

## 1. Loving Obedience

*For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. - John 12:49 (ESV)*

## 2. Ardent Replication

*So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. - John 5:19 (ESV)*

## 3. Guided Initiation

*No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. - John 15:15 (ESV)*

# THE FATHER SEEKS WORSHIPERS

*But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.  
- John 4:23 (ESV)*

## I Will Live This Verse Out by...

- Memorizing **Malachi 4:6**.
- Giving Father God all that I am as a Child.
- Asking God to restore my earthly relationships.
- Giving my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.