

Everyone longs for a father, someone who will show favor, approval and give provision so that we may walk in our destiny. The revelation of Abba touches the deepest need in the human spirit. It answers why God created us.

Rom 8:15-16 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

I. JESUS REVEALS THE FATHER TO US

Only Jesus, the Son, has the right to call God, Abba (Papa). The Spirit reveals the Father in us so that we become confident in Abba's embrace. We are created to relate to God like Jesus does (Matt 6:9).

II. WE KNOW THE FATHER BY LOOKING AT JESUS

John 14:8-11 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?¹⁰ "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.¹¹ "Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

John 17:26

John 3:16

Luke 15:11-32 The extravagant love of the Father.

III. UNDERSTANDING THE FATHER'S HEART

The Father embraces us in affection. He enjoys us even in our weakness.

The Father plans and provides for our good (James 1:17)

The Father trains us without shaming us (Heb. 12:5; Col. 3:21; Eph. 6:4)