

"CHANGING 'YOU ARE' TO 'I AM' . . . SEEING YOURSELF AS THE FATHER SEES YOU"

CONFRONTING UNGODLY MESSAGES

One of the greatest challenges we often have in our Christian walk—and especially in a healing process—is to confront the ungodly messages or negative self-talk that comes our way. These messages—many of them rising up from within—start in the very early, formative years of our lives, and are often reinforced throughout the subsequent years by things said or done to us as well as by things that we, ourselves, have done. The enemy reinforces these lies, which keeps us disconnected from seeing Father God the way He truly sees us and knowing and feeling His affections towards us. These “shame-based” lies also keep us from identifying and embracing our true destiny and calling, and they hold us back from intimate relationships and the life that the Father intends for us.

A VERY SPECIAL LETTER WRITTEN BY A CLIENT AND PROMPTED BY THE FATHER

One of our clients shared a letter that the Father birthed in his heart, and with his permission, we are sharing it here. It spoke strongly to us and we thought it might be helpful to share it with you.

"YOU ARE"

"You are" . . . two of the most powerful words in the world. These two words have the power to either give life or kill and destroy life in a person. As I look back over my life, unfortunately my "you are's" destroyed my heart.

As a child, the message I received was, "You are too much." I do not remember the exact words but I feel like they were something like, "You are too emotional . . . You cry too much . . . You are too needy . . . You need too much love . . . Who you are is too much." These words went to the very heart of the child and caused him to close down his heart and build a wall around it because who he is was "too much."

As a young man he fell in love with a beautiful young woman, and she also told him, "You are." But this time it was, "You are too short . . . You are not man enough . . . You are too weak . . . You are a bad husband . . . You are a bad father . . . You are not good enough." It did not matter what he did, it never seemed to be enough.

The "you are's" of life had totally destroyed his self esteem to where people could pretty much do whatever they wanted to him and he thought that it was pretty much what he deserved. After all, "You are."

Today, as I was walking, I felt the Father come to me and say, "I want to take all of your 'you are's' and I want you to see yourself through My eyes and change the 'you are's' to 'I am's'." The Father told me that the way He feels about me is this . . . "I am enough and I am

not too much . . . I am special just as I am . . . I am incredible . . . I am love . . . I am a man and all that I am is good enough."

If someone tries to tell me "you are," I need to realize they are looking for me to be something they need me to be. I must remember that "I am." The I AM says "I am," therefore "I am!"

PRAYER

Please pray with us . . . Father, I want to know in the deepest place of my heart, soul and spirit who YOU say I am. I want to rest in that truth and live my life from that place. I want to run into Your lap of truth, comfort and rest rather than in the lap of the father of lies of shame, fear and striving. Please open my heart to see where the arrows have come and help me to trust and invite You in to heal those wounded places. And as a result, help me to know . . . and feel . . . Your love for me. All of this is only by Your grace. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

From the Father's Heart,

Jerry and Denise Basel