

Theme : **Experiencing God** (Part 1)

Embrace

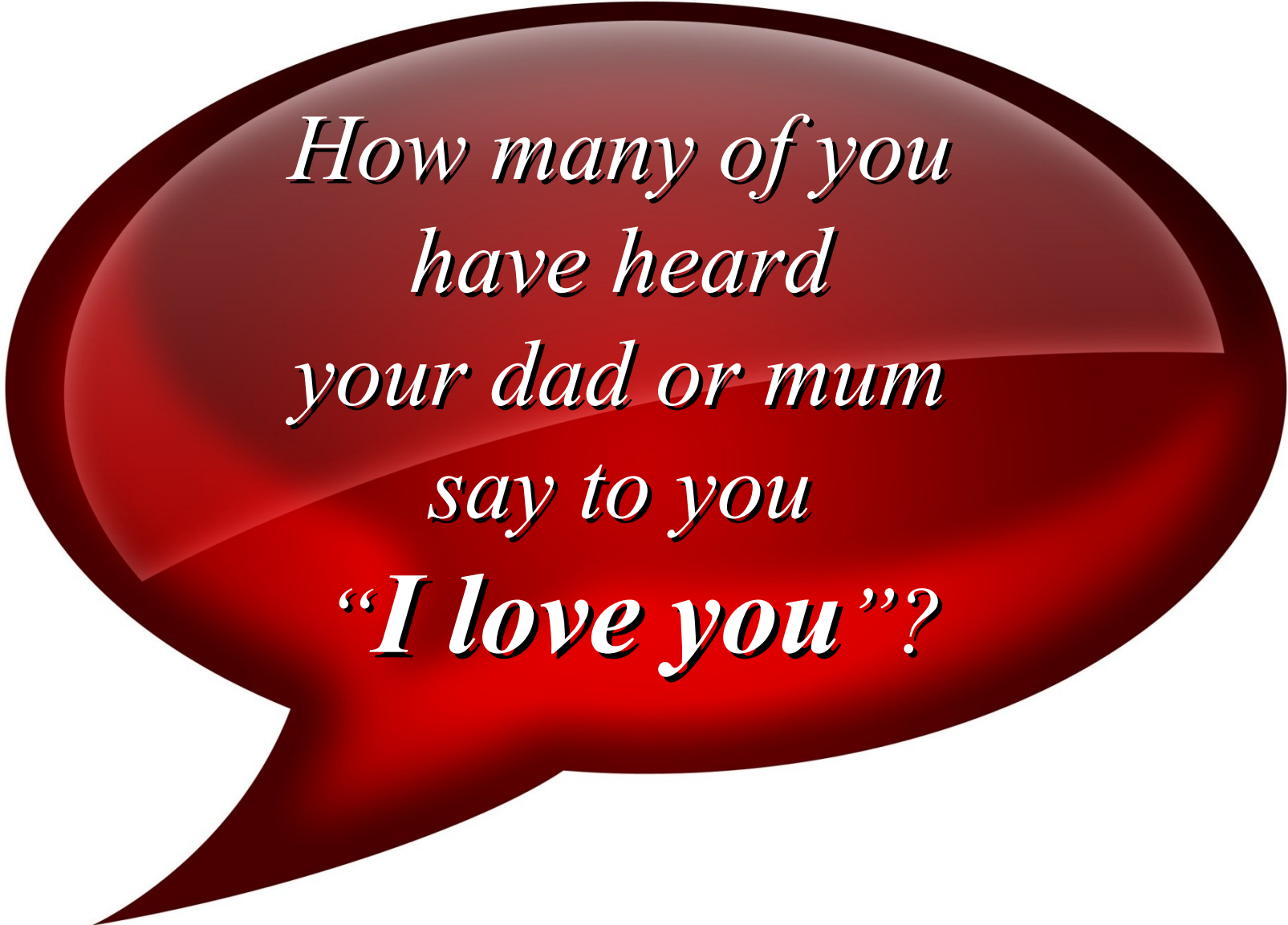
**the Love of Father-God**





**2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)**

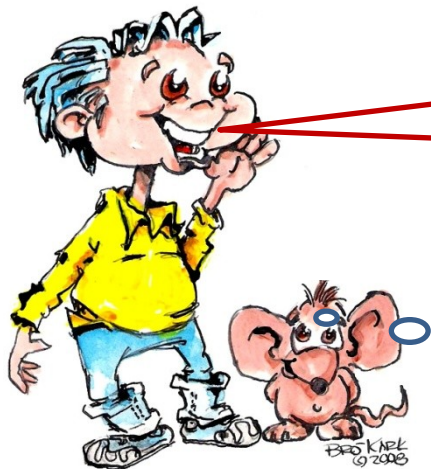
**The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**  
and **the Love of God** (The Father),  
and **the fellowship of the Holy Spirit**  
be with you all.



*How many of you  
have heard  
your dad or mum  
say to you  
“I love you”?*

Story #1 -

# Wrong Image of God



*Hey! Jesus  
LOVES you!*

*A Whole  
Lot!*



Story #2 -

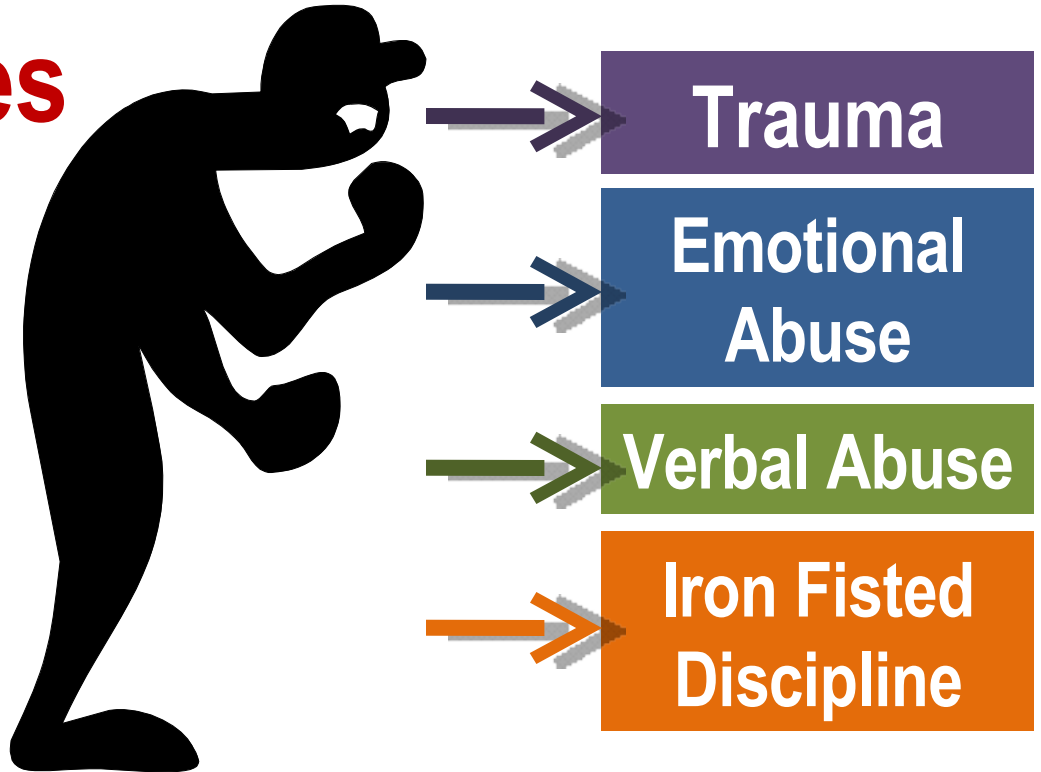
## Performance Treadmill



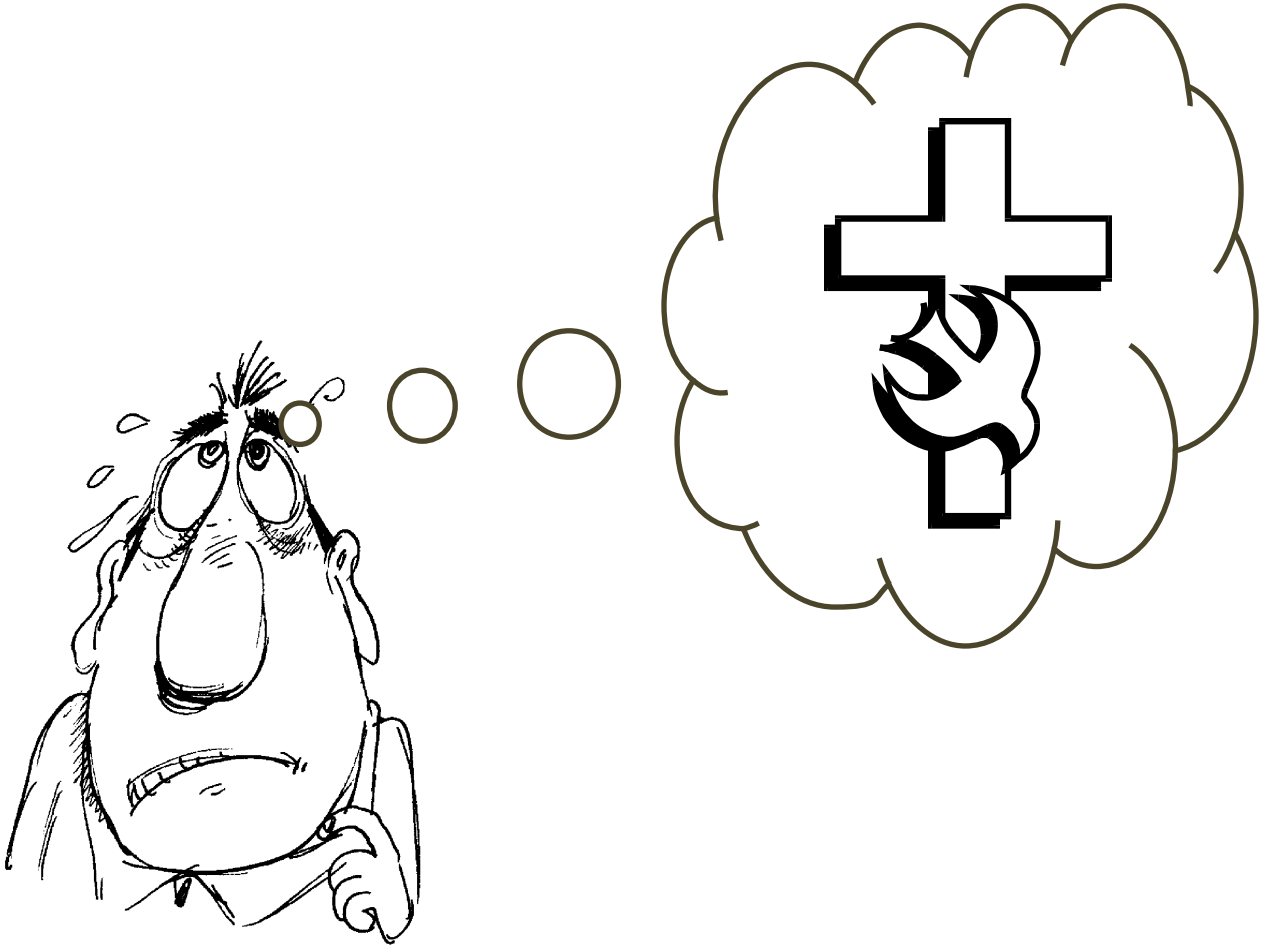
**Guilt re TAWG - Attendance - Sins - Quarrels, etc.**

Story #3 -

# Bad Experiences



Story #4 -







Bad and Negative  
Earthly Experiences  
leading to Wrong ideas and  
Wrong beliefs about God



These are **Strongholds**

***Obstacles - Hindrances - Mindsets***  
that stifle Spiritual Life and Growth

## 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

**Strongholds** =

Human arguments [logizomi] and  
every High thing [hypsoma]  
that exalts itself against  
the true knowledge of God.



# Two Fundamental Truths

I. Father-God is Love.

1 John 4:16

And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.



**Abide - Relationship - Experience**

# 1. Love is His Nature.

## Exodus 34:6

..the LORD proclaimed, “The LORD,  
the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering,  
[slow to anger] and abounding in goodness and truth

## Psalm 103:8

The Lord is slow to anger

The Lord is merciful and gracious ...



2. His Love is **Consistent** with all His other attributes.

**Psalm 97:2**

... **righteousness** and **justice** are the foundation of His throne.

e.g. 1: **Matthew 6:15**

... if you do not **forgive** ... neither will your Heavenly Father **forgive** your trespasses ...



e.g. 2: **Romans 6:23** - the wages of sin is death ...

## **Wages = Consequences of:-**

Not Obeying The Lord	Habitually Sinning	Grieving The Holy Spirit
Foolish Decisions	Not Applying The Word	
Bad Company	Not Heeding Godly Counsel	Not Wanting To Study
Merely Spectator	Quenching The Holy Spirit	
Blaspheming The Holy Spirit	Merely Hearer	

3. The mercy and the love of God make Him Unwilling to judge.

## Judgment

- **John 5:22, 27**

The Father does not judge but has committed all judgment to His Son.



3. The mercy and the love of God make Him **Unwilling** to judge.

**John 3:17**

For God did **not** send His Son into the world to **condemn** the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.





3. The mercy and the love of God make Him Unwilling to judge.

## Judgment

- **John 12:47-48**

The Lord Jesus Himself does not judge.

He has committed all judgment to His Word - Laws -

Principles of Life which are perfect and complete in and of themselves. [reap what we sow]



3. The mercy and the love of God make Him **Unwilling** to judge.

**Hebrews 12:5-11**

The Discipline of the Father's Love

**Rebuke - Chasten - Scourge**

Through the **laws of life** / **His Word** - 2 Timothy 3:16





Sickness and Diseases

Financial Tsunami

Earthquakes and Natural Catastrophe

Environmental Disasters

Conflicts between men, nations, etc.

Are **ALL** due to the Fallen-ness of Man!

# Two Fundamental Truths

II. The Love of Father-God reaches out and is **Abounding** to Man, for him to respond during the days of his life on earth **[before 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming as Judge]**

**Psalm 103:8 (NIV)**

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, **abounding in love.**



1. His Love abounds to the point of **Sacrifice**.

**John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that **He gave His only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.



1. His Love abounds to the point  
of **Sacrifice**.

**Romans 8:32**

He who **did not spare His own Son**, but delivered Him  
up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us  
all things?



1. His Love abounds to the point  
of Sacrifice.

**1 John 3:1a**

How great is the love the Father has lavished  
on us ... (NIV)

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed  
on us ... (NKJV)





2. His Love Reaches out and awaits our Response.

**Jesus died to reconcile and save us even when:**

Romans 5:6 - We were powerless and ungodly

Romans 5:8 - We were sinners

Romans 5:10 - We were His enemies

Romans 2:4

... the goodness of God leads you to repentance





## **Example #1 - King Manasseh**

### **2 Chronicles 33 (NIV)**

**2**He did evil in the eyes of the Lord, following the detestable practices of the nations ...

**3**He rebuilt the high places ... erected altars to the Baals and made Asherah poles. He bowed down to all the starry hosts and worshiped them.

## **Example #1 - King Manasseh**

### **2 Chronicles 33 (NIV)**

**5..He built altars to all the starry hosts**

**6He sacrificed his sons in the fire**

- ✓ practiced sorcery divination and witchcraft
- ✓ consulted mediums and spiritists did much evil

**9he did more evil than the nations ...**



## Example #1 - King Manasseh

### 2 Chronicles 33 (NIV)

12 In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.



## Example #1 - King Manasseh –

### 2 Chronicles 33 (NIV)

13 And when he prayed to Him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord is God.





## Example #2

**Luke 15** (NIV)

- **Parable of the Prodigal Son**

17 When he came to his senses ...

- That is the **DEFINING POINT** -

## Example #2 - Prodigal Son

20...while he was still a long way off.

- ✓ his father saw him ...
- ✓ filled with compassion ... **HE ran** to his son ...
- ✓ embraced and kissed him
- ✓ clothe him with the best robe - righteousness
- ✓ put a ring on his finger - authority
- ✓ put sandals on his feet - son, not servant



# Summary - Two Fundamental Truths

I. Father-God is **LOVE**.

1. Love is His **Nature**.

2. His Love is **Consistent** with all His other attributes.

3. The mercy and the love of God make Him **Unwilling** to judge.



## Summary - Two Fundamental Truths

- II. The Love of Father-God reaches out and is Abounding to Man, for him to respond during the days of his life on earth.
1. His Love abounds to the point of Sacrifice.
  2. His Love Reaches out and awaits our Response.





# Conclusion

The Story of **2 Men** in the Bible:

## **King David**

- father left him out in the selection process for a king;
- no father's love;
- man after God's heart yet he killed Uriah, one of his mighty man.



# Conclusion

The Story of **2 Men** in the Bible:

**Joseph**

- very loved by own father
- coat of many colours
- felt secure and significant in his father's love



# Conclusion

The Story of **2 Men** in the Bible:

## **Joseph**

- from the pit to Potiphar's house to prison to Pharaoh's palace to being Prime minister of the world's empire
- re Potiphar's wife - will not sin against God



# Conclusion

When we are rooted in the Father's love,  
We have Everything !  
We will enjoy our inheritance in Christ!

We will not covet what the world does:

**the lusts of the eyes** and **the lust of the flesh**  
and **the pride of life** - 1 John 2:15-16

# Conclusion

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love;  
but perfect love casts out fear,  
because fear involves torment.

But he who fears has not been made  
perfect in love.



# Conclusion

## Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint,  
because the love of God has been poured out  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.



[My Story](#)

# Conclusion

Luke 11:11-13 (NIV)

**11**“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead?

**12**Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?

**13**... how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Matthew 24:12

Revelation 2:4

1 John 4:19

