

# Bite Size Bible Study

Conversations with Daddy #247

By Lee Logue

*The Spirit you received doesn't make you slaves. Otherwise, you would live in fear again. Instead, the Holy Spirit you received made you God's adopted child. By the Spirit's power we call God, Abba. Abba means Father.*  
Romans 8:15 New International Reader's Version

*You see, you have not received a spirit that returns you to slavery, so you have nothing to fear. The Spirit you have received adopts you and welcomes you into God's own family. That's why we call out to Him, "Abba! Father!" as we would address a loving daddy.*

Romans 8:15 The Voice

"Abba" is an Aramaic word for "father" (or in our current culture "daddy") that is used to express deep intimacy and reverence. It signifies a close, personal relationship with God. As God's children it signifies a relationship of close trust, confidence, and a loving, familial bond, replacing a spirit of fear with the assurance of being His children and heirs. Thus, believers can call on God with the same intimacy that Jesus did, knowing they are loved unconditionally and can approach Him with confidence.

## When was the last time you called God, daddy?

Do you feel like He is your daddy, always looking out for you; teaching and helping you how best to live the life He gave you?

The early Jewish communities did not want to call Him daddy, because they felt that it was being too familiar with Him. I personally feel that I want to be familiar with Him and with that familiarity comes a great deal of respect and admiration of Him.

I was fortunate to grow up in a family where both my mommy and daddy were always available and our relationship was close. That doesn't mean that we didn't have our differences from time to time, but I always felt cared for and cherished for who I was and am. Children often try to stretch their authority beyond their current level of maturity and that is when differences occur. It's at those points that parents need to exercise tough love.

Growing up and maturing doesn't come without some degree of stress and tension. This, I have found, is also true of our maturing with God. Time has a lot to do with the process as well as education in the ways to live successfully. It differs in each culture, and what brings success in one culture may not in another culture. Our parents are there to help us gain that education within the culture we are living.

In living within God's culture, we have certain things that are expected of us. The basics are what are called the 10

commandments. I like to call them the 10 basic expectations. Within God's culture these are the things that are expected of us. We may fail at some of them from time to time, but we are expected to generally follow these instructions.

I would like to relate something that happened that recently made a big impression on me.

Recently I bought a used DVD, called "Alaska", at one of the Friends of the Library stores that I often visit. At the time I thought I would learn a little more about the state of Alaska. However, when I played it, I found that it had no narrative – only music and some very beautiful video.

As I sat there watching the beautiful landscapes and rich life that this part of God's creation has, I began, again, to marvel at just how carefully He created everything.

As I sat there watching, it seemed that He was there with me, saying "This is some of what I have created for you". It was like I was sitting on daddy's knee and He was teaching me (I know this sounds a little mushy but that's the way I felt). If you have ever had this experience, you know that it creates both closeness and awe of daddy – both with our physical daddy as well as our spiritual daddy.

As some of you know, I like studying the physical sciences. I think that they can tell us a lot about our spiritual daddy.

- How smart He is.
- How He has created everything with the utmost care.
- How He is intimately involved with His creation.
- How He has created everything to be in relationship to everything else.
- How He has created us to learn to take care of His creations.
- (Add your own thoughts about daddy)

Our training doesn't stop with just the physical sciences either. He wants us to be in close relationship with each other as well. Not wrestling and struggling to be better than someone else, but to realize that they may have been given talents other than ours, and vice versa. If we work together and share our talents we become more than any single individual. That's called Synergy, when something is greater than the sum of its parts.

God, our daddy, is a trinity – lets follow His example.

If any of what I am saying "rings a bell", I invite you to find something that reminds you of our daddy and have a conversation with Him. Not just a quick prayer, but a "sit on His knee" type of conversation. I promise it will be a time you won't easily forget.