

One Woman's Journey
to Inner Healing and
Restoration to Father God
and Her Earthly Father

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Hello, my friend! My name is Angela. I want to share my journey of inner healing and restoration of my relationship to Father God, who I now call Papa.

NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU

But first, let me apologize for the perception that the world has given you of the Godhead (God, Jesus and Holy Spirit). We live in a world that tells us we must stand on our own two feet and depend on ourselves **or** depend on the government to solve our problems. But God, our Father in heaven, did not intend that for His children. It goes against His nature to create us, then leave us to our own devices.

Deuteronomy 31:8 (New International Version, NIV) says "The LORD Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you." HE knows our needs and is already "there" with the solution to whatever dilemma we may be facing.

Rest assured that also includes you! His desire is to have his children whole and free from anything that keeps them from truly knowing Him. When you know the truth of what God says about you, *then the truth will set you free*. John 8:32

SALVATION IS JUST THE BEGINNING

In addition, let me also tell you that no matter what your past holds, it is not too late for you to know your Father in Heaven. Let me reveal to you what is condemning you. I refer to him as the enemy, satan. God is a loving God and wants to have a relationship with you. So be aware, that when you hear whispers of 'God can't love you because you _____ (fill in the blank) or 'God will never forgive you because you _____ (fill in the blank)', know that God would NEVER say that.

Romans 10:9-10 tells us that "if you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved." The most famous scripture in the Bible, John 3:16, assures us that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that WHOEVER believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." That WHOEVER includes you!

If you have never accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, now is a good time to do that. There are no special words needed, no special formulas. Just talk to the Lord. Here is a sample if you have trouble getting started.

"God, I repent of my sins. Thank you for forgiving me. I thank You that You sent Jesus to die on the cross for me and that He rose from the dead. I confess Jesus Christ is Lord of my life. Amen."

The intent of this book is for you to encounter the Lord and know His saving grace and boundless love for you. YOU are enough. You ARE worthy enough to be loved by your Creator. He is for you, not against you. It is my prayer that through the sharing of my journey, you, TOO, can UNLOCK the freedom that is found in knowing WHO you are and WHOSE you are. God loves you so much and has so much in store for you! Salvation is just the beginning of a wonderful journey He has planned for you! And by the power and the authority that I have in Jesus Christ, I release that freedom in you to be the woman God created you to be. Amen

BOUND UP IN CHAINS

For most of my life, as a believer, I walked around feeling bound up, as in chains. There was a part of me that wanted to bust free from some unknown something that was choking the real me. I was surrounded by family and friends that loved me but felt totally isolated and alone. Mild depression, resentment and anger were my companions.

Is it even possible for a believer to experience such negative emotions on a daily basis? Yes. We are, after all, fragile human beings. And as I walked around, unhappy, it never occurred to me, that I carried the power of Jesus Christ within me.

Decades would pass before the Lord took mercy on me and took away the depression that haunted me. Decades would pass before the power of the Holy Spirit was stirred up in me. I had been lulled to sleep by the enemy and made to exist in complacency.

Unbridled liberty was found when I finally received, in my spirit, that I am a treasured child of God. It is a journey toward healing that I have been on for a very long time. This journey began with brokenness and a feeling of not being special enough to be loved by the King of Kings or worthy enough to be used as a walking, talking vessel of His. This journey of healing ends in EMPOWERMENT, TRIUMPH AND JOY!

I have flipped the page and started a new chapter in my life to discovering what a Good, Good Father He is! Get ready, because Abba Father has the same thing in store for you! He wants you to experience that same freedom that I found when I finally released that hurt and gave it to Him in exchange for a healed heart.

The secret to achieving this freedom is to 1) break and renounce any agreements you made with the enemy that color your perception as to who God is. 2) Allow God to heal your heart of any past wounds. 3) FORGIVE your transgressor and 4) Renew your mind.

THE ROOT

In order for me to fully understand the root of my problem and break any agreements I had made with the enemy, I, first, had to revisit my childhood because this is where the lies originated.

But first, let's start with talking about WORDS. Words are powerful! *Proverbs 18:21 says "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat it's fruit."* The Passion Translation version says it like this: *Your words are so powerful that they will kill or give life, and the talkative person will reap the consequences.*

I want to talk to you about the words that we use. The words that we hand down to our children. The words that we speak into and over other people and over OURSELVES. Today, I want to talk to you about the power we hold...in our tongue.

You see, as a child, I had some things spoken over me that I carried into adulthood and it's only until recently that those lies were revealed to me and I was able to let go of those lies that I was believing about myself and about Father God. What was said to me in a moment of carelessness or anger, helped to shape who I thought I was as an adult.

I grew up in a home that was domineered by the father; a father that was angry at the world and would often-times take his frustrations out on his wife and his children.

As a child there were some in my family that just didn't see the value in me....a girl. The boys, on the other hand, were revered. After all, they were the ones that were responsible to birth the next generation. The girls were just a vessel that had to be married off.

I was one of those children that followed the rule of "You can be seen but not heard." 'You're just a girl.', they said. "You can't do that, you're just a girl". I grew up believing that, because I was a girl, there was no worth in me. And as a young lady, I believed those lies and RECEIVED those lies. In other words, I came into agreement with the enemy's lies.

As a pre-teen, I didn't have the intellectual or spiritual ability to process those words and weigh those words as either truth or lie. I just accepted it as truth. As a teenager, I looked the part on the outside: athlete and cheerleader. But on the inside, often-times, I was a MESS! There were many moments when my self-esteem was dragging on the floor and I was never able to identify myself as a cherished daughter of God.

And the enemy used my "mess" to make me believe I wasn't special enough to be noticed by God. For years, those words hung out in the back of my mind.

As an adult with 2 children that were almost grown, I thought I had finally put it all behind me. But I still projected symptoms of a wounded heart: anger, resentment and a mild case of depression. I was still pretty young in my walk with Jesus Christ. I thought I had forgiven. But, you see, I was trying to forgive through my own flesh. I was trying to heal my own wounds. Without help from the Godhead, I was still carrying unforgiveness in my heart.

Psalm 147:3 (The Passion Translation version, TPT) tells us that "He heals the wounds of every shattered heart." If you let Him, He will heal your heart, as well. No fancy words are needed. The Lord knows your every thought. When I talk to the Lord, I speak to Him in my own words and it may look something like this: "Lord, I just want to thank you that your promise to me is that You heal the wounds of every heart. What he/she said really hurt me and I'm just going to give that to You. I receive that healing that you have for me. Help me to forgive him/her."

"WHO'S YOUR DADDY?"

I recently read a book (*SOZO by Dawna De Silva and Teresa Liebscher*) that shed some light on my personal relationship with God the Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit. Father God is the provider, protector and giver of our identity. Jesus is our companion and friend and Holy Spirit gives comfort and instruction. This book makes a connection from each member of the Godhead to our earthly family: Father God to our earthly father, Jesus to our siblings/friends and Holy Spirit to our Mother.

Right away, I was able to identify why my personal relationship with God the Father felt distant and strained. Because I grew up with a distant and angry earthly father, who saw no value in me, I viewed Father God in the same way. Some would say this mindset that I had were symptoms of what is called the orphan mentality.

Further research on my end found that a person who has an orphan mentality often experiences loneliness and isolation; they see God as harsh or cruel; they are very defensive and cannot take criticism; they are depressed and often feel like they are on the outside looking in...like they don't belong; they feel that what they have is not enough or that they, themselves, are not enough.

In my journey to inner healing, I once asked Holy Spirit, why my earthly father was the way he was and His answer was "Because that was how he was raised." That revelation broke my heart and gave me a new understanding of my father and how I needed to respond to his ways...with grace and love and lots of prayer! Before too long, I found myself sincerely loving my earthly father and being concerned for his well-being. When you truly seek revelation from God, he will give it to you!

SEEK HIM AND YOU WILL FIND HIM

Sometimes revelation from God can come quickly; other times it takes a stubborn determination to sit still and seek His face. I am sure you would agree that in today's world, sitting still is hard to do. We have so many distractions. Often times, I have to put my cell phone in another room and turn the television off.

And as I would sit still, I would often catch my mind bouncing from one thought to another.

When I shared with a good friend of mine, that I was having trouble sitting still and seeking

God's face, she gave me some advice that has helped me tremendously.

This is where journaling comes into play. As you begin to seek the Lord, write down every thought that crosses your mind. EVERY THOUGHT. No matter how small it is. As you write down each thought, it is as if you are putting it away into a drawer. You are clearing the desk of you mind and filing it away.

Soon, your mind and your spirit will be stilled and you will be able to focus on the Lord. It takes practice to still your mind and your spirit but *Jeremiah 29:12-13* tells us "Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart."

He will meet you if you seek Him with all your heart.

OKAY, NOW WHAT?

Okay, so now what? I had identified the root of my problem. What am I supposed to do now? I kept talking to the Lord about it.

Earlier I gave you the steps of how to achieve freedom:

1) Break any agreements you have made with the enemy that color your perception as to who God is to you. 2) Allow God to heal your heart of any past wounds. 3) FORGIVE your transgressor and 4) Renew your mind.

STEP 1: BREAK AGREEMENT

I identified my problem and now it was time for me to break, or renounce, any agreements I had unknowingly made with the enemy. I found some scriptures that uplifted me, empowered me and confirmed to me that I was loved by God and I personalized for myself. Within the scripture, wherever I saw the word *you* or *us*, I inserted the word *me* or *I.* I, then, found a quiet spot in my house and began to pray out loud and read the scriptures out loud. 'I renounce the lies I have believed about me and God and I break all agreements between me and the enemy.'

There is just something so very powerful about quoting God's Holy Word out loud; there's just something about speaking His Word INTO the atmosphere that empowers you and makes the enemy quake in fear! There were moments when I got quite loud and, THEN, there came that moment when I knew Holy Spirit was speaking through me! Hallelujah! There is no more powerful feeling than when Holy Spirit takes over your prayers and prays THROUGH you.

STEP 2: ALLOW GOD TO HEAL YOUR HEART

Father God loves you so much! And He wants you to know that you can trust Him to take those things that broke your heart and cause you to be healed. I encourage you to go to your quiet spot and I want you to close your eyes. Cup your hands together and visualize laying your broken heart down at His feet. Lift your cupped hands in the air and visualize His mighty hand giving it back to you whole and renewed.

"My beloved, my daughter. You are so precious to Me. The battle is not yours. It belongs to me. Lay your burden down at my feet and JUST TRUST. When the enemy raises it head in the form of doubt or fear, just lay it down at my feet. Lay it down. Lay it back down. Trust in Me with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" ~ Father God

I trust You with my heart, Pappa.

STEP 3: FORGIVE YOUR TRANSGRESSOR

This is an ongoing thing for me. When I broke agreement with the enemy's lies, I also chose to forgive my earthly father and other members of my family that had spoken negatively over me. You cannot gain peace if you do not forgive others. Holding on to that hurt and resentment is like a cancer that spreads throughout the body.

As I said before, total forgiveness cannot be achieved on your own, in the flesh. You need to partner with the Lord to forgive others. God's word also tells us to forgive: *Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ forgave you. (Ephesians 4:31-32, NIV).*

In the beginning, forgiveness was hard for me. I had to do it over and over. There were moments when interacting with someone who had hurt me, that my flesh would want to rise up, get angry and respond with anger. Those were the moments when I had to "die" to myself and respond with grace. Take heart! The Lord is generous; the more grace you extend to others, the more He will replace it and then some.

In my mind and my spirit, I would visualize my bitterness and anger as a seed falling off me, dying and then growing back as a luscious beautiful plant called forgiveness and grace.

By allowing the seed of bitterness and anger to fall off me and die, the Lord was able to grow the *peace of God, that transcends all understanding, that guards my heart and mind in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)*

Before going into any conversation that I know could turn bad, I always pray "Set a guard over my mouth, Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips." Psalm 141:3, NIV. There have been numerous times when I would attempt to open my mouth and respond in an ungodly way only to find that my lips would be glued shut. Countless times, I could hear the Holy Spirit gently tell me "No". Just let it fall off.

But don't let the passion of your emotions lead you to sin! Don't let anger control you or be fuel for revenge, not even a day. Ephesians 4:26, TPT

STEP 4: RENEW YOUR MIND

Renewing my mind is a daily thing. You **have** to renew your mind on a daily basis. Papa wants to communicate with you ALL THE TIME. Jesus does too! And Holy Spirit is always ready to guide you. In order to grow in intimacy with the Godhead, you need to know what the Bible has to say.

One of the ways God communicates with us is through His Word, the Holy Bible. There will be times, when the enemy will try to whisper a lie to you in the hope that you will receive it. You need to know what God has to say about you in order to call him out as the liar he is.

Let me use my own testimony as an example. I am a 10-year breast cancer survivor and in the beginning of that journey back to health, the enemy would constantly tell me that I was going to die. For the first few weeks of this journey, I didn't know that I needed to respond to those lies to shut the enemy up. I had deep faith in my Savior but had not been trained in how to wield the power that resided within me.

My world was spiraling out of control and I was experiencing a lot of "valley of the shadow of death" moments. I was hearing the lies but knew enough not to receive them. Then, one day I received an email from Jesus! Actually, it was from a Verse of the Day subscription that I was a part of. That email contained what I call my LIFE VERSE. That verse saved my physical life and I have no doubt in my mind that the Lord sent it to me. *Jeremiah 29:11. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* HOPE AND A FUTURE!

KABOOM! Now, I had the weapon I could use to respond to the enemy's lies about my future! Now, I could respond "NO! That is not what the Lord says! His word says that He knows the plans He has for ME, plans to prosper ME and not to harm ME, plans to give ME hope and a future." "No! That's a lie! Isaiah 53:5 says by His wounds, I am healed." "No! That's a lie! Psalm 30:2 says O Lord my God, I cried out to You, and You healed me!" Every verse that I could find about being healed, I took for myself, personalized it and declared it out loud.

His words are powerful and NEVER come back empty-handed. And when you speak HIS word, the enemy better LOOK OUT! When you declare and decree the Holy Word, you are prophesying over yourself and calling His Word to do the work it is intended to do. Whoop! Isn't that exciting!

"...God's Decree. "For as the sky soars high above earth, so the way I work surpasses the way you work, and the way I think is beyond the way you think.

Just as rain and snow descend from the skies and don't go back until they've watered the earth, Doing their work of making things grow and blossom,

producing seed for farmers and food for the hungry,

So will the words that come out of my mouth not come back empty-handed. They'll do the work I sent them to do, they'll complete the assignment I gave them."

(Isaiah 55:10-11, The Message Translation, MSG)

ROYAL DAUGHTER

Although I knew I was saved and on fire for the things of Christ, I still struggled with knowing, in my heart and in my spirit, that I was a daughter of the King of Kings. There is a big difference between knowing something in your head verses knowing something in your spirit. I knew the Bible verses and could quote them but there was a disconnect happening between my head and my spirit.

Major breakthrough began to happen when my mentor shared a vision of what she was seeing, in her spirit, regarding me. "I see that the Lord is pleased with you. I see you as His little girl climbing into His lap. There is nothing that He will deny you." I bawled like a baby because I was actually able to visualize that in my own spirit.

A few weeks later I attended a ladies' retreat and was blown away by a picture that I saw there. I couldn't take my eyes off of it; it had captured my spirit and my imagination! It was a picture of a little girl and she was either crowning herself or adjusting her crown and the look on her face was one of confidence in knowing who she was.

When I saw it, I thought to myself: that's me! WHAT???!! How is it that a grown woman is seeing herself as a little girl? I promise you...this is NOT something that I ever think of. I don't have a princess complex. I am not a diva...I am about as low maintenance as you can get. It was weeks later, as I gazed at this picture, that the Lord gave me revelation about this picture.

The Lord knows me. He knows I'm a visual kind of girl. He was showing me that **THIS** is how He saw me when I was a little girl. His daughter. As a little girl, I was not able to identify with a picture like that. I grew up around a bunch of boys. I didn't play with paper dolls or tea sets; I was a rough and tumble kind of girl!

The words of my mentor immediately came back to me and SNAP! everything just fell into place for me. It was at that moment when I received, in my spirit, that I truly am a daughter of the King of Kings.

MY QUESTION TO YOU

Why am I sharing this story with you? Could it be, like me, you have that same disconnect between your head and your spirit? Could it be that the Lord wants you to see yourself as He sees you? A daughter of the King of Kings. And if you are a daughter of the King of Kings, that makes you ROYALTY! And as the King's daughter, there are no limits to who you can be! This royal legacy can continue through your generation line.

It's time, my sister; time for you take back what the enemy has stolen from you! Take that royal crown that Father God has just for you. He has chosen you. You are His treasured possession. Take your sword and wield it like the warrior you are!

Now my beloved ones, I have saved these most important truths for last: Be supernaturally infused with strength through your life-union with the Lord Jesus. Stand victorious with the force of his explosive power flowing in and through you.

Put on God's complete set of armor provided for us, so that you will be protected as you fight against the evil strategies of the accuser! Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of demon-gods and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage.

Because of this, you must wear all the armor that God provides so you're protected as you confront the slanderer, for you are destined for all things and will rise victorious. Put on truth as a belt to strengthen you to stand in triumph. Put on holiness as the protective armor that covers your heart. Stand on your feet alert, then you'll always be ready to share the blessings of peace.

In every battle, take faith as your wrap-around shield, for it is able to extinguish the blazing arrows coming at you from the Evil One! Embrace the power of salvation's full deliverance, like a helmet to protect your thoughts from lies. And take the mighty razor-sharp Spirit-sword of the spoken Word of God. Ephesians 6:10-18

CAN I PRAY OVER YOU?

I thank you Lord for this precious daughter. You are such a good, good Father. Your desire is for each of us to walk in wholeness, confidence, love, peace and joy. Father, as you did for me, I pray that if there is a lie that has been spoken over your precious daughter, whether it was today, yesterday or 30 years ago....I pray that you reveal it to her so that she can reject that lie and give that hurt to You to heal. Father, help her to walk out that plan that you have for her. Reveal Yourself to her as the loving Father that You are. Embolden her to approach Your throne of grace with confidence, so that she may receive mercy and find grace to help her in her time of need. Stir up her spirit and refresh her with your Living Water. We give you thanks, Lord, for the work you are doing in her. It is in the name of Jesus, that we pray. Amen

SOME FINAL WORDS

This journey to discovering the truth about who God is has taken me well over 3 years to complete. I encourage you to read the book I mentioned earlier, SOZO. It goes into great detail about each member of the Godhead. If you believe you need additional assistance in inner healing, I would encourage you to find a church that provides SOZO sessions. Some churches call them Healing Rooms. I have personally taken part of a SOZO session and have witnessed the Lord speak and work in miraculous ways.

It is my sincere hope that you find inner healing. God has so much in store for you. And I join my faith to yours as you walk out your inner healing.

Another book that I recommend is called *"The Tongue, A Creative Force"* by Charles Capp. Given to me by a mentor of mine, this book really opened my eyes to the POWER that we hold in our tongue.

And lastly, "The Bible Promise Book KJV, One Thousand Promises from God's Word". This little book is broken down by different emotions you may be experiencing. I bought this book while still young in my walk with Christ. I carried in my purse every day and pulled it out when I need to apply God's Word to whatever emotion I was feeling at the time.

As I write these final words, my mind is flooded with wonderful memories of my dad. Things that I had forgotten. So many moments of laughter and fun. What the enemy meant for harm, God has used for the good. Total forgiveness has happened. Thank you Pappa, Jesus, Holy Spirit!

I have been set FREE!

I pray this book has been a blessing to you. This book has been prayed over by some mighty women of God and YOU have been prayed for, as well. I would love to hear from you! If you would like to make contact or request prayer, please email me at

seekhisgoodness@gmail.com

You are Loved!

Angela

...entries from my journal

One morning during my devotional time, I was thinking of the old nursery rhyme, What Are Little Girls Made Of? Yes, we girls are nice, but don't take that for granted. :) Nice girls can be warriors too!

Sugar and spice
and everything nice
that's what little girls are made of...
but MAKE NO MISTAKE
she knows how to fight!
She wields a sword
that's backed by God's Might!
And when she is done,
she will straighten her crown
and give thanks to the Lord
who NEVER lets her down!

For the daughter who has never known the love of their earthly father. For the daughter who has known the pain of rejection and the pain of not being good enough. I know that hurt! I know that pain of not being loved as a little princess by their earthly daddy. I know those symptoms that linger after all these years. You mourn for that little girl.

You are held back in life by sorrow, depression, a broken heart, inner hurts and a torn spirit.

These symptoms have a name. And its name is spirit of heaviness.

By the authority and the power of Jesus Christ, we drag it out into the Light of Truth! We bind you, spirit of heaviness, in the name of Jesus.

And in its place, we LOOSE the Comforter, the Holy Spirit; we LOOSE the Garment of Praise and the Oil of Joy. In its place, we release the LIBERTY that is found in knowing that your Father in heaven loves you.

You are HIS princess and that kind of love CANNOT be duplicated, here on earth, by mortal man. Abba Father loves his little girl! YOU are the daughter of the King of Kings! Liberty is released in you to be the woman that you were created to be.

Jeremiah 1:5 (NIV) Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.

The enemy's lies about who Father God is have been EXPOSED & RENOUNCED

Our Father God is our healer, our peace, our provider, our protector and giver of our identity.

At some point in Angela's life, as a young girl, the words that were spoken over her caused her to have a skewed idea of who Father God is.

Follow her journey to receiving the truth about who she is and who God is. Follow along as she discovers that how she viewed her earthly father was connected to how she viewed Father God. Under the guidance of Holy Spirit, spiritual mentors and hours of seeking the face of God, Angela takes you through the steps she took to discovering who Father God really is.