



**ABBA** *Father*

*The*

*Family* Needs

**U!**

*And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said  
unto him, where art thou? Gen 3:9*

**Pastor Gary L Pleasant**

ABBA Father the Family Needs U!

©2014 Pastor Gary L. Pleasant

ISBN-13: 978-1-63110-085-7

All Rights Reserved Under  
International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. No part of this book may  
be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission  
except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles or reviews.

Printed in the United States by  
Mira Digital Publishing  
Chesterfield, Missouri 63005

# Table of Contents

Foreword

Roderick E. Walker

Introduction

Chapter 1

Why ABBA?

Chapter 2

Just like your Daddy!

Chapter 3

Order in the Court!

Chapter 4

Nobody told Me!

Chapter 5

Where are the Men?

Chapter 6

Scar or Mark?

Chapter 7

Model Planes, Cars & Fathers

Chapter 8

Men...its Halftime!

Chapter 9

Reversing the Challenge

# Chapter 1

## Why ABBA?

No doubt that at first glance of the cover of this book, you (the reader) assumed that the author was referring to God the Father. It is true that our families need God the Father, but it is just as important to recognize that our families need the natural or human fathers in our lives. This statement is hard to accept if a husband, or one that is responsible for bringing a child into this world, has walked out of your life.

When you study the Old Testament (OT), you will discover that Abba is not mentioned or used when it came to addressing God the Father. The people of the OT did not sense nor did they have a close relationship with God the Father, so whenever they had a need or request, they would go to the priest and address him as Abba Father.

In the New Testament (NT) we witness Jesus, the Son of God, addressing God the Father as Abba. The Scribes or Pharisees did not appreciate Jesus using this language when addressing God the Father. But one of Jesus's main purposes for coming to earth was to give mankind greater access/or connection with the Father.

Jesus did not want God's people to feel alienated from Him; He wanted us to sense The Father's closeness.

Below, I have included four expressions of the meaning of Abba. You will discover that this translated Aramaic word to English reveals the endearing love that a family had for their earthly father. Let's read and see.

1. **Abba is a family word** which indicates a close, personal, intimate relationship with God as one's Father. This "family term" was used by Jesus in His prayer in Gethsemane (Mk 14:36). Abba is used two other times in the NT (Ro 8:15, Gal 4:6). In Romans the Spirit is crying out and in Galatians, the believers are crying out "Abba" to God because the Spirit of God has made it clear that they are God's children.

2. **Abba** expresses the intimacy of the family relationship as one would expect from an unhesitating trust and dependence from a child who is wholly secure in the loving arms of their father, thus prompting a crying out of "Dearest Father." **Abba meant something like Daddy**—but with a more reverent touch than when we use it. The best rendering is "Dearest Father."

3. The Aramaic **Abba** stems from what might be called "baby talk." According to the Jewish Talmud, when a child is weaned, "it learns to say *abba* [**daddy**] and *imma* [mommy]" (Berakoth 40a; Sanhedrin 70b). In time, the meaning of the word was broadened so that it was no longer a form of address **used by little children, and by adult sons and daughters as well**. The childish character of the word diminished and **abba** acquired the warm, familiar ring which we may feel in such an expression as "**dear father.**"

4. **Abba** is transliterated as Abba into English from the corresponding Aramaic word which was used in the **everyday language of families as a term addressing one's father.**

Children, as well as adult sons and daughters, used Abba when speaking to their fathers. And so **Abba** conveys a warm, intimate sense just as with our expression “**Dear father.**” **Abba** emphasizes the warm, intimate and very personal relationship which exists between the believer and God. In Abba filial tenderness, trust and love find their combined expression.

Take the words; close, personal, intimate, tenderness, trust, love and warm, combine them with the terms;

Family relationship, wholly secure, very personal and finally, loving arms of their Fathers. Put these ingredients in every man that has a child and no doubt, this world would be a much better place.

As I shared the question God had for Adam in my introduction, you can now clearly see that God was aware of Adam’s whereabouts, but the purpose was to make Adam aware of his being out of place. If God were to personally call you by your name and ask you: “Where are you?” How would you answer All-Knowing God the Father?

## Chapter 2

### Just like your Daddy!

The quote, “The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree,” is sometimes expressed when an old friend of the family is visiting after a long absence. The friend takes note of the now grown children and shares the above quote. What they are referring to is the likeness a child has to the parent. We are referring to the Father in this book.

In the previous chapter, I left you with a challenging question. How did you do? Well, in Adam’s case, he did exactly what many of us do with a loaded question like that! He made excuses and introduced us to the blame game. Take a look!

In verse 10 (Genesis) Adam tells the Lord that he heard His voice and was afraid so he went and hid himself. This was not the first time Adam ever heard the voice of God. He had heard it before. So why would he now be afraid? Whenever we are involved with something we have no business being involved in, this short circuits man’s courage. (Secret affairs will make you lie!)

Let’s look at the culprit that leads to many of our men’s downfalls. There are so many men that have not grown up with their fathers. This has had a domino effect on our families and our society; especially Black American families. Adam declared that he went and hid. So many men, because of fear of not knowing how to be a father, they have actually run and hidden from the responsibility of fatherhood.

Fear has such a dominating effect on individuals that they would run and hide. Just like Adam did! I am completely aware that Adam was not running from fatherhood. But fear is fear! And when so many men have had fathers that abandoned them, they are sometimes gripped by fear when it’s time for them to step up to the plate.

If your father abandoned you, this is not an excuse to fail at learning. We can learn anything we put our minds to. Now, figuring out how to play John Madden football escapes me, but many of our men have mastered how to play that game! What I’m trying my best to say is-ditch the excuse that your dad wasn’t in your life, learn what it means to be a man, and accept the challenge of being there for your family! They need you.

If any man thinks THIS hurts? Talk to men that are living with the fact that they missed out on their children’s life! I remember reading an article on the humiliation that Shaquille O’Neal’s father went through when he tried to get back into his son’s life after his son reached what this world calls stardom. As many of the men we see out of their places, there are just that many more that are living with pain and regret because they ran. Don’t run! Stand firm!

The All-Knowing Father then asked Adam, “***Who told you that you were naked? And hast thou eaten of the tree that I commanded you not to eat?***” Adam responded to the All-Knowing with these words: “The woman you gave me.” Surely this situation could not be Adam’s fault. No way!

Adam tells God that this problem is His (God’s) fault and the fault of the woman that was

given to him. Now, I'm not one to gossip, but how many times have we heard this same accusation in our day? Let me backtrack for a moment. Whenever someone is in hiding, they want to stay hidden. They have a tendency to do or say whatever is necessary to not be found.

With that said, for those that are declaring that this book is about male bashing, I believe you are in denial of something. I am sure this book is hitting home and I hope it helps some to return home... or just stay home. I've witnessed people that were dead-on with the truth, only to be shaken off (ignored) because someone hiding something declares foul.

When I witness the devastation of:

- Children left unprotected.
- Sons that don't know how to treat a lady.
- Daughters that have no example of how to keep themselves pure and knowing the right kind of man to date and marry.
- Young boys that abuse females because of their own fears.
- Multiple sex partners leaving our youths feeling dissipated.
- Young men in prison and dying at an alarming rate.
- Mothers that are pulling the load and feeling it!
- Foster Children that are molested.
- Suicide from hopelessness.
- Cyber bullying with no one to protect them.

You can't help but wonder how different these circumstances would be if fathers stayed with their families.

I could truly go on and on with this list, but I think you get the picture and I hope you get the message.

When God dealt with Adam, He was not concerned with whether He was hurting Adam's feelings. The long term effects of Adam being out of his place were far more important than Adam's feelings. By the way, these very behaviors we see today are directly related to Adam. ***For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Romans 5:9***

Truthfully speaking, when we are out of place or in hiding, not only do we hurt our families, but we ourselves are hindered. Please listen closely to this truth. Heeding it can turn your life around. ***People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy. (Proverbs 28:13 NLT)*** The definition of mercy is not getting what we deserve.

God the Father says, **"If you come out of hiding, I will bless you!"** So you've blown it; who hasn't? Take the emotions you may experience from reading this book and use it as

fuel to be the man God designed you to be. Your family needs you!

Whenever we live our lives blaming others for our mistakes and downfalls, we stunt our ability to grow and become well rounded individuals. Don't look for someone to blame, (especially the woman). Take responsibility, confess; "It's me, Lord!" And watch God turn your life around.

What do I do if the children are grown and are now on their own? Apologies from the heart, without shifting any blame, is a great place to start. Once you've done your part, allow God and time to do the rest. Going into damage repair mode with no expectations will keep you from feeling defeated. What I mean is, don't approach your children with a timeline for them to come to terms with accepting or forgiving you.

Adam blamed God and the woman. Fill in the blank. Who do you blame?

---



**You've Just Finished your Free Sample**

**Enjoyed the preview?**

**Buy: <http://www.ebooks2go.com>**