

Encouragement  
By Gerri Taylor

Romans 8:15-17 from The Message

*This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It is adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Daddy?" God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who He is, and we know who we are: Father and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us – an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with Him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with Him!*

Hard times? Yes we all have them, but we can be encouraged by His promise to us here...that we are certainly going to go through the good times with Him as well! I look around me today and I see so many who are walking in discouragement, but I want to share with you that the primary language of the Holy Spirit is encouragement. I love what this scripture says...that life should be an adventure of expectancy and we should always be walking in the heart attitude of "What's next, Daddy?"

Encouragement has at its very root the heart of our Father and because of that, it releases a powerful anointing into the atmosphere around us and brings life to the hearer. That same anointing contains within itself the power to break the hold of a toxic world on individuals who are trapped in a cycle of pessimism and negativity. Encouragement comes in the opposite spirit and challenges the enemy's favorite weapon – discouragement – giving us permission to hope.

In the name of Jesus, I pray for you today, Dear One, if you find yourself discouraged and without hope. I ask the Holy Spirit to deeply connect with your spirit right now and bring you into an attitude of expectancy. May His Spirit touch your spirit and confirm in you who you really are...a son or daughter of the Most High God with all its rights and privileges. To those who of you who are walking encouraged, I pray that you will go into your world today changing the very atmosphere around you by giving others permission to hope. I bless you all now in the name of Jesus.