



Places In The Father's Heart

That reach out and touch, to bring times of refreshing...

Love Hunger – The Unseen Force

By Roger Taylor

What was God's purpose for creation? What is our purpose for being? "Where purpose is unknown abuse will certainly follow." Myles Monroe.

We believe mankind was created by Love (Father God) for the purpose of love and intimate relationship; unconditional love and intimate relationship between God and man and man and his neighbor. We believe that Father intended we should begin to receive His unconditional, expressed love through our parents. His love flowing to us through our parents would enable us to embrace life more fully,

allowing us to love and be loved more purely, and to be comfortable with intimacy in our relationships. His love flowing to us through our parents would enable us to know Father on an intimate basis where our love needs would be met continually throughout our lifetime here on earth. This would be wonderful preparation for eternity. However, Adam and Eve's spiritual rebellion to God brought sin to the equation. They became spiritual orphans. Spiritual orphans are people who rebel against authority figures in their lives usually beginning with their parents. This legacy continues today.

Have you noticed that Adam and Eve did not have children until after they sinned and were expelled from the Garden? Were Adam and Eve offended with God because of their punishment? Obviously they knew Father God in the Garden, but after their sin were they resentful, bitter and angry at Father, distant from Father, judgmental and critical of Father? Since neither of them would accept responsibility for their sin (they each blamed someone else when confronted by Father) then it seems reasonable to assume their pattern of irresponsibility would continue and they would blame Father for their punishment. Did that attitude get passed on to their first born son, Cain? Is that why Cain was so upset with God when his offering to God was rejected and his brother, Abel's was preferred? Did Cain kill his brother, Abel, because he was bitter toward God and jealous of Abel? Did Cain have a love hunger problem because his parents no longer walked in unconditional love with God and therefore they could not pass God's unconditional love on to their children? Because of sin, Adam and Eve were not able to express God's unconditional love to their children and lead each one



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of them to the loving arms of Father God; thus love hunger began in humanity and love hunger demands satisfaction. Our plight today remains the same.

To the degree we are not loved as God intended, to that same degree we can rebel against life and become spiritually rebellious toward God, our parents, and other authority figures in our lives. Love hunger usually results in spiritual rebellion and again love hunger demands satisfaction.

From the moment of conception our parents become essential in our personal growth and development. Since we were created by Love for love, it is essential that our parents love us to life so that we embrace life. It is also essential that they express unconditional love so we learn what love truly is as God intended. It is essential that we learn what true intimate relationship is and should be so that our heritage of unconditional love is passed on to the next generation. But our parents cannot give us what they do not have. To the degree that these essential elements were missing from the time of our conception; to the degree that our parents were unable to provide love, care and intimacy as God intended, to that degree we are not able to embrace life as we should. We see through a glass darkly. We do not know love and acceptance as we should. We do not know the essence of intimate relationship as we should. We live a perverted life even as Christians, always looking for what's missing, always striving, always experiencing a counterfeit to the life, love and intimacy that God intended for us to know. One morning, Father said to me, "Son, life is love and love is life." I knew immediately this was a profound statement.

Life is love, thus our continual pursuit of love. Love is the fuel we were designed to run on, however, we typically look in all the wrong places to find the love that will bring us life. We typically try and substitute many things to fill the void that only true love can fill. True love can only be found in Father God. (See page 12 – Love Needs vs. Counterfeit Affections.)

Love is life. The reward for finding God's unconditional, expressed love for us is LIFE; life as Father intended not life as we have experienced it.

Consider this analogy of life and relationship. When you are conceived and in the womb, your mother begins to tell you how much she loves you and how much your Daddy loves you, but you never hear it from him. After you are born your mother continues to tell you how much she loves you and how much your daddy loves you, but you still never see him or hear from him. You tell your mother to tell your daddy how much you love him and she assures you she will, but you still never see him, hear him, or experience his presence, his touch or his expressed love for you. What



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kind of relationship do you have with your daddy? His absence becomes apparent in the womb and the rejection and abandonment issues only deepen after birth if daddy's absence continues. What does this situation do to you in regards to intimate relationship with daddy? What does it teach you about relationship?

Consider when you are born again and you meet Jesus and He points you to His Father for an intimate encounter. **Jesus is the way, but Father is the destination.** John 14:6. What if we don't go or don't know to go to Him? Obviously the personal, intimate relationship is not established and Father is out there somewhere and we know about Him, but we have not experienced Him personally or intimately and our love hunger continues.

Our basic love needs are these:

- Unconditional, expressed love
- Affection/Affirmation
- Safety/Security
- Purpose for life

To the degree our parents were unable to meet these basic needs and to the degree they were unable to lead us to our Heavenly Father to receive His unconditional, expressed love, to that degree we are dysfunctional. To that same degree we do not know how to love unconditionally or have relationships intimately. We are too busy trying to find what is missing. Love hunger demands satisfaction. We repeat this to stress its importance. Love hunger is a driving force within us whether identified or not.

Love hunger can result because of an unwanted pregnancy, regardless of the reason, justified or not. Love hunger can result because of adoption. Love hunger can result because of an absent parent. The reason for the absence does not matter. The result in the child is love hunger. Love hunger can result if a parent does not express love by hugging, holding, touching, being affectionate, giving tender looks and tender tones of voice, encouraging and involved in the child's life. Even if the parent is present in the home, the absence of the above will result in love hunger. If both parents must work, babysitters and daycare can result in love hunger. We can be loved by someone other than our parents and be blessed by that love relationship, but it will not bring healing to our issues of love hunger with our parents.



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Some of the attributes or characteristics of a person who feels unloved or a person with love hunger can be:

- Frustration
- Anger
- Rebellion
- Resentment
- Bitterness
- Issues of self hatred
- Struggling with self criticism and self condemnation
- Fear
- Control
- Insecurity
- Loneliness
- Striving
- Anxious
- Worrier
- Giving/receiving sex for love
- Driven by a need to be needed
- Having no good sense of home
- Experiencing difficulty in being intimate with God and others
- Practicing withdrawal to prevent rejection
- Having a tendency toward isolation
- Constantly struggling with counterfeit affections (see page 12)
- Having a distorted view of God, self and others
- Feeling like there is something wrong with me
- Performance orientation
- Having no peace, no rest
- Having difficulty believing God loves me just like I am



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- Having difficulty hearing God's voice
- Having a struggle with unbelief
- Not sure God will be there for me
- Hopeless and suicidal
- Having a tendency toward depression/burnout
- Spiritual rebellion
- Living with doubt and discouragement that my love need will ever be met
- Always looking to the wrong source to get my love needs met

The severity of these and other characteristics vary in strength and intensity person to person, but they are common to the problem of love hunger. Love hunger can leave a person with an angry edge to life. The ones in closest relationship to the love hungered person are usually the ones who are victims of the angry edge.

Examples of groups that demonstrate love hunger might be: atheists, agnostics, Satanists, the religious, criminals, gang members, fornicators, adulterers, homosexuals, male and female prostitutes, the violent, the abusive, bullies, those who use extreme hair styles/color, extreme makeup, extreme clothing, extreme body piercing, extreme tattoos, drug addicts, alcoholics, foodaholics, workaholics, churchaholics, those with eating disorders. These are just some examples of love hungry people identified by group.

We all have belonged to this club at sometime in our lives to some degree. If we are parents, then our children and grandchildren also belong to the same club. Only a personal, intimate encounter with our Heavenly Father's unconditional love can change this situation. Head knowledge about Father's love will not change us. We must have, we must experience His expressed love for us personally. When we do, our love needs will be met, our love hunger satisfied and our lives will forever change.

Matthew 11:28-30... "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden and over burdened, and I will cause you to rest. (I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls) 29...Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest (relief and ease and refreshment and recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls. 30...For My yoke is



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wholesome (useful, good - not harsh, hard, sharp, or pressing, but comfortable, gracious, and pleasant), and My burden is light and easy to be born.”

I Corinthians 13:4-8...”Love endures long and is patient and kind: love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. 5...it is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God’s love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it (it pays no attention to a suffered wrong). 6...it does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. 7...Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything (without weakening). 8...Love never fails (never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end).

These scriptures can seem like impossible mountains to those who feel unloved. But as Father begins to meet our love needs we will begin to live the above scriptures. If we will make Father our destination and cry out to Him and pursue Him, He will run to us and receive us just as we are, not like we or others think we should be. In His embrace, our love hunger will be satisfied. We will then begin our transformation to a son/daughter of God who walks in expressed love, feels affirmed, legitimate, safe, secure and has purpose for life. **His love is a free gift, not a reward for service.** Spiritual rebellion stunts our emotional growth. We may mature physically and educationally, but emotionally we will remain stunted or stuck. This is bondage. This is darkness and a tremendous ball and chain hindering us from experiencing life as God intended.

We cannot obey the Great Commandment to love one another if we do not love ourselves. By survey, 80% of us do not like what we see in the mirror. To the degree we dislike ourselves we are in spiritual rebellion to God dishonoring what He has created, and to that same degree then we cannot love others.

In marriage we expect our spouse to meet our love need, but they can't. In doing so, we set them up for failure in our eyes and we set ourselves up for disappointment. When our spouse does not meet our expectation for love, the honeymoon is over. Even if our spouse was perfect, they would have a difficult time getting past the emotional walls of protection we have built. The walls we build to protect ourselves from being hurt again also hinder us from receiving love that is trying to get in. In



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order to remove the walls we must be healed from the woundedness that caused us to build the walls in the first place.

Love hunger will be satisfied and our lives changed when we enter our healing process and we invite Father to come and bring His unconditional love and acceptance to us. He is the only One Who can satisfy our love hunger completely.

The need to be needed or love hunger can drive us to become performance oriented. We can become workaholics, churchaholics, volunteeraholics, and so on. The result is giving only to get. We begin to walk in slavery instead of sonship. We become driven, have no peace, no rest, no satisfaction, no fulfillment, no reward that satisfies. We can't pray enough, study enough, give enough, or fast enough to satisfy our need. We may strive for position and power believing when we get there we will be satisfied. Not so. Love hunger remains.

One of the greatest contributions to darkness in our lives, one of the greatest hindrances to our relationship with our Heavenly Father, one of the greatest barriers to intimacy, one of the greatest barriers to living a successful Christian life is love hunger.

When our love needs are not fully met we love God and man with a hook on it. We have a need to be needed and continue asking what can you do for me that will make me feel better about myself and about my life? We treat Father the same way. I love you, Lord. Don't You see this need I have (the hook)? Father created mankind for relationship; relationship based on love, not needs. If our love needs are not met then our perspective on love and relationship is perverted from Father's design. Love or giving with a hook is an attempt at manipulation or control to get our love needs met at someone else's expense. Dr. Ed Cole says, "Love is giving to meet someone else's need at your own expense. Lust is giving to get your need met at someone else's expense."

OTHER ASPECTS OF LOVE HUNGER

Love hunger can hinder our ability to experience joy because joy is the result of love, not service. The joy of the Lord is our strength.

We have heard it said we must die to self.

2 Cor. 5:15 amp. *"And He (Jesus) died for all so that all those who live might live no longer to and for themselves, but to and for Him Who died and was raised again for their sake."*



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Also see as references: I Cor. 7:17; Col. 1:10-12, 2:6-7, 20; Luke 9:23-26; Luke 14:33; Rom 14:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:16; 1 Pet. 4:1-2; Eph. 2:10; Eph. 4; Eph. 5:10, 15; 1 John 2:3-6.

We have also heard it said we must die to ministry, vision, calling and so on. We tried for nearly 20 years to die. We purposed in our hearts to decrease so that He might increase. We did not make much headway. We now know that one of the major stumbling blocks to dying to self and ministry is love hunger. Conversely, when we began experiencing Father's unconditional love for us and our love hunger began to be satisfied, it became much easier to get ourselves and our needs out of the way. Our relationship with Him became more important than anything we can do for Him.

Intimacy with Father became our focus and number one priority, thus self, our ministry, vision, calling, etc. died by comparison. **It is in the 'being' not the 'doing' that really counts.** Dying doesn't happen because we 'do' it, 'work' at it, or 'strive' for it. Successfully dying to anything is a result of experiencing Father's unconditional, expressed love for us.

To the degree that our love needs were not met by our parents, to that same degree we can have a perverted sense of home. This is a stumbling block in our lives that usually does not surface until we get married and establish our own home. Our reaction then to home begins to surface and the honeymoon may end.

My (Roger's) birth father was in England during World War II when I was born here in the States. He died there when I was 10 months old, so I never knew him. My mother was a very wounded person, unable to express love and affection. When she went home to be with the Lord, she remained a very unhealed person. I have no positive memories of relationship with her. My perception of home was a place of loneliness, rejection, shame, pain, demeaning criticism, domination and control. I did not realize this would so adversely affect my future family. While my wife, Gerri, and I were dating we did not recognize the symptoms of potential problems. However, after we were married and established our home together, all our unresolved issues regarding home began to surface. With my above mentioned perception of home still firmly in place I continued my practice of looking outside home for love, happiness, and peace. Obviously this doesn't set well with a new bride and the honeymoon was soon over.



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We did not realize the impact of all this woundedness until after almost 40 years of marriage. Now as we have experienced Father's loving embrace, these issues continue to be healed even as we speak.

If while in our parents' home we were abused by a parent or parental figure we can have difficulty in future relationships with people of the same sex as our abuser. For example, I perceived my mother as abusive so I developed a bitter root expectation that all women would be abusive to me. I built a wall of protection. My relationships with women were typically distant, self serving and defensive. This makes intimacy and the ability to love unconditionally almost impossible unless Father intervenes and there is repentance, forgiveness and healing. The kind of women I have always been attracted to are those that have similar characteristics of my mother.

One way to recognize love hunger in a person's life is to compare how they treat their family at home with how they treat people outside their home, in their community or at work. Typically the person driven by love hunger will not find their love needs met at home. Therefore, their spouse and children usually do not receive a lot of attention and the attention they do receive usually has an angry edge. Many times this results in emotional and even physical abuse. The guilty party often uses manipulation and control and sometimes intimidation and domination to have their way. In some cases a fair description of this person at home would be a "tyrant". Webster's definition of 'tyrant' is a harsh, arbitrary ruler. The tyrant wounds those he is supposed to love the most assuring that love hunger is carried out by the next generation. At the same time, this person may be at work or out in the community building a completely different reputation working hard, helping, caring and doing for others. I (Roger) know. I was the tyrant in my home! This face wears a mask when away from home to attempt to hide the truth because if you knew what I was really like, you would not like me. As we walk in love hunger, we can believe we are unlovable and unlikable. If I don't like me, you won't like me either. Love hunger can result in our being independent and disengaged in relationships and the opposite can also be true. We can be codependent and enmeshed. As the independent, disengaged spiritual orphan we are trying to protect ourselves from being rejected any further, but driven to get our love hunger satisfied. As the co-dependent, enmeshed one, we are trying to get our love hunger satisfied by over stepping our boundaries and pressing ourselves into other people's lives eventually causing them to reject us. In both cases, love hunger goes unsatisfied and in either case we generally hurt the other people involved, usually our immediate family.



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Please review the following chart:

<u>Love needs</u>	Unmet can lead to.....	<u>Counterfeit affections</u>
Unconditional, expressed love		Passion
Affection/Attention		Position
Safety/Security		Possessions
Purpose for living		Power

To briefly explain the chart above:

If we did not receive adequate **expressed love** from our parents, we can turn to **passion** expressed in its many forms in our attempt to satisfy our need. It cannot satisfy. It only temporarily masks the pain. Love hunger can lead to promiscuity and fornication or giving sex to get what we think is love. It can also lead to adultery, pornography and homosexuality.

If we did not receive adequate **affection and attention** we can strive for **position** in the family, with friends, at school, at work, at church, etc. Ask yourself where were you in the pecking order of life? Where did you want to be? Sometimes we can see this starting in very young children. In any case, this like all counterfeit affections, is at best a temporary fix and will not satisfy. Striving will continue.

If our need for **safety and security** was not met by our parents, then we can attempt to secure **possessions** to meet the need. Have you ever seen anyone caught in this trap? They are always buying more, needing something different, and never satisfied with what they have? Obviously the need will not be satisfied and more possessions will always be required. Out of control spending is often the result of love hunger for safety and security.

If our first three love needs were not met, then we might struggle with a **purpose for living** and that may lead us to implement **power** over other people. Control and manipulation are powerful habit structures that must be broken. This is a major trap because it will usually lead the person into one or more of the other counterfeit affections.

Remember, **love hunger must be satisfied**. These hidden often unidentified basic needs of life are powerful and will drive us unmercifully for satisfaction. If you find yourself or someone you love in this context, please take our advice and seek qualified prayer ministry for resolution. It will change your life and free you to walk more intimately in all relationships.



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Also, please remember that your healing is a **process**. Very often the Lord will deal with our problems layer by layer many times returning to the same issue over and over until all is dealt with. There is no 'quick fix' method. It should be understood that all prayer ministry must be Holy Spirit led or the outcome could be much less than desired.

DEATH WISH OR REBELLION TO LIFE

A death wish or rebellion to life, can be based on a lie we live by. For example, life is not worth living; life is too painful; life is too hard; I'm not wanted; my parents wanted the opposite sex, and so on.

Ask Father to identify the lie, repent of it, ask forgiveness and then replace it with truth. Please note the lies we live by can have physical consequences. For example, a death wish will usually result in physical consequences. The body will begin to shut down or self destruct in response to the person's desire to die, therefore when praying repentance for the death wish, also pray for physical healing. Other lies we live by can also have physical consequences. As Father reveals those lies, ask Him to reveal any physical problems associated with the lie.

DYSLEXIA, ADD, ADHA, AND INCURRABLE MUSCLE DISEASES

Another common result from rebellion to life is Dyslexia. Dyslexics usually have trouble in school. They can see and write letters and/or numbers backwards. They may have difficulty tracking or staying on task. They can also have difficulty with time, space, volume and direction. For example, they may have difficulty estimating the time to get somewhere or how long it will take to accomplish a task, and so on.

They can also have difficulty estimating volume or space. For example, the estimation can be in how much food to prepare for dinner or how much furniture to use in a room. They can also have difficulty with coordination. They may have difficulty with left and right and/or north or south, east or west.

Love hunger and spiritual rebellion can also be suspected in those people diagnosed with ADD, ADHD, incurable muscle diseases, auto immune diseases, and eating disorders.



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CONCLUSION

Andrew Murray writes in The True Vine the following: *“The love of the Father to the Son is not a sentiment - it is a divine life, an infinite energy, an irresistible power. It carried Christ through life and death and the grave. The Father loved Him, dwelt in Him, and did all for Him. So the love of Christ to us too is an infinite living power that will work in us all He delights to give us. The feebleness of our Christian life is that we do not take time to believe that His divine love does really delight in us and will possess and work all in us.*

How then do we secure this Love? Again Murray writes, *“Turn away from the visible if you would see and possess the invisible. Take more time with Jesus, gazing on Him as the heavenly Vine, living in the love of the Father, who wants you to live in His love. Turn away from yourself and your efforts and your faith, if you would have the heart filled with Him and the certainty of His love. Abiding means going out from everything else to occupy one place and stay there. Come away from all else, set your heart on Father and His love, and that love will waken your faith and strengthen it. Occupy yourself with the Love, worship it, wait for it. You may be sure it will reach out to you, and by its power take you up into itself as your abode and your home.”*

We were created by Love for love. As we are healed of our issues of love hunger and we experience Father's unconditional love, we can be assured that we will be able to effectively receive and give away His love to the next person we meet and our world will be changed by this Love one life at a time.

IN CLOSING we share this prayer of blessing over you. May your spirit receive it now.

We bless you with knowing profoundly that God is love. We bless you with being known as a person who is loved by the Lord and who loves the Lord. We bless you with knowing deep in your spirit that your Father's favor is upon you; He likes you; He enjoys you; He takes pleasure in who you are today, regardless of what you are doing or have done. We bless you with profoundly knowing that He finds pleasure in you. We bless you with being secure in your Father's love, having the peace of Jesus in your relationship with your Father. We bless you with receiving the communication of His love to you in a thousand ways. We bless you with creative and unique reminders of your Father's love for you. We bless you with recalling countless times that your Father has been with you, has



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*loved you, has taken care of you, has blessed you. You can do nothing to make Him love you more and nothing to make Him love you less. We bless you with release to love and be loved, to enjoy life and enjoy your Father and be enjoyed by Him. Now abide faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love. In Jesus' name, Amen. ***

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