

## The Fathers House Part 1: Nine Places of Intimacy By Todd Bentley

The following stirring vision and revelation of the Father's house released a new sense of adventure and pilgrimage in me, which actually transformed my life! I received this revelation in three different visions over the period of one month. Each vision became an instantaneous revelation about prayer, intimacy, and the deep things of God-revelations that I treasure and desire to share with you. As we explore the Father's house together, probing the deep things of God, I believe your eyes will be opened to the fullness of the revelation of Him. I want to stir in you a new passion to run after God and to taste everything that He has reserved just for you at His banqueting table. One of my goals is to help you climb out of any spiritual ruts. It's time to eat, drink, and be merry with God because He wants to take you from glory to glory and free you from religious bondage and obligation. He wants you to draw near to Him. He wants to free you from feelings of duty. Instead of praying because it's something you should do, God wants you to pray because you know that it's in those prayer times that you reach new levels of intimacy and friendship with Him. Please understand that just as Jesus taught spiritual truths in parables to help people grasp the truths of His teachings, God gave me this revelatory vision as a metaphoric parable of sorts so that you could better understand, partake, and digest it. God wants to challenge and awaken you to see that He has a whole lot more to reveal to you about the realities of the kingdom of heaven than, perhaps, you've ever known before. So let's accept His challenge and boldly ask, knock, and seek for the treasures of His glory!

### The Valley of Decision

The first time I saw the Father's house was while I ministered at a home meeting in Mission, British Columbia. The Lord gave me a prophetic word for someone, and as I shared the word I received a vision of the Father's house. In the vision I saw someone wandering up a long road toward it, but they hesitated in the valley of decision, pulled between the Father's house and the things of the world. Then I saw an open door and I heard the voice of the Father speaking, just as a father would speak to his son: "Come in here, come in here." So the son headed to the Father's house. When he arrived he poked his head through the door, but then he immediately withdrew it, looking back down the path behind him. A battle raged between the flesh and the spirit. Should I enter? Should I go into the Father's house and allow myself to experience the things God has for me in His presence?

### All Are Welcome-Day or Night

Then my vision of the Father's house began to take on the characteristics and atmosphere of a fun place like a circus or carnival. I felt like a child again, filled with the thrill and excitement of the sights and sounds of a big party. I recalled the taste of cotton candy, the smell of hotdogs, and the exhilaration of the rides. Confetti and party streamers exploded through the rooftop. It was as though the house were alive-moving to the sounds of music. I felt so drawn to it, as the prodigal son was to his home (Luke 15:11-31). I just wanted to be there; it was exciting! At the entrance where a front door should have been, there was no door. Instead I saw a welcome mat and I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "All are welcome, day and night, to come and partake of the things of My presence." Some time later I received another vision of the Father's house. This time I found myself inside the house and I saw a long hallway with doors on either side. The hallway went farther than my eyes could see. This was the end of the second vision. It was in the third prophetic experience that the Holy Spirit began to reveal to me rooms of intimacy and prayer within the Father's house.

### The Fullness and Goodness of the Father's House

Within the Father's house I saw nine distinct rooms; each room represented a different way to pray and commune with God, different levels of prayer and intimacy. I also realized that besides these nine, there were other rooms that Christians could discover and explore. But before I share about each of the nine rooms, I want to lay a scriptural foundation for the Father's house from God's Word. Jesus entered into the Father's house and prepared rooms (dwelling places) for us.

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:1-3)

I don't believe Jesus meant that the Father's house was only for us to enjoy when we die. Jesus can come to us and through the Holy Spirit take us to where He is now, in the Father's house. This is exactly what He did for me. He brought me into His house and into the rooms that He had prepared. I saw that it's a place where we can experience great adventure. It's like a giant mansion, a place of exploring, searching out, and seeking God. In fact, when we as God's children search for Him with all of our hearts, we become spiritual adventurers in His house, pioneers exploring a new frontier or searching for treasure.

King David was aware of God's welcome mat! He had obviously tasted of the goodness of God's house. He said:

How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light." (Psalm 36:7-9 author's emphasis)

Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your holy temple. (Psalm 65:4 author's emphasis)

We shall be satisfied with the fullness and satisfied with the goodness of the Father's house! Examine Jeremiah's revelation of God's abundance:

Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, streaming to the goodness of the LORD- for wheat and new wine and oil, for the young of the flock and the herd; their souls shall be like a well-watered garden, and they shall sorrow no more at all. Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old, together; for I will turn their mourning to joy, will comfort them, and make them rejoice rather than sorrow. I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance, and My people shall be satisfied with My goodness, says the LORD. (Jeremiah 31:12-14)

In the Father's house, God wants to satisfy us with the everlasting taste of His great goodness! He wants us to experience the overflow of the fullness of His presence as we seek Him in the safety of His house. So, let's explore the Father's house together.

In Him,

Todd Bentley

Part 2 will be coming next week, so while you're waiting please download The Secret Place MP3 set which includes the full Fathers House teaching.

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