

The Orphan Spirit

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.””

Malachi 4:5-6 NKJV

“I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

John 14:18 NKJV

“A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation.”

Psalms 68:5 NKJV

“For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.”

I Corinthians 4:15 NKJV

I. Characteristics of an Orphan Spirit

A. Hyper-sensitive / Offend very easily

1. This is because they carry a spirit of rejection, fear of rejection and rejection of self.

B. Competitive Spirit

1. They are always competing to prove themselves and comparing themselves to others, what they have or want versus what they view others have.

C. Jealousy

1. Saul was jealous of David because He viewed David as a threat to his throne! [1 Samuel 18:6-12 ESV](#)

a. “But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.” [James 3:14-16 ESV](#)

D. Always Performing For Approval and Recognition

1. They want to be seen and recognized for what they are doing for the Lord.

E. Rebellious

1. One who has an orphan spirit will have a very difficult time receiving correction and submitting to authority because they don't trust leadership or others to truly have their best interest at hand! They believe they are simply there to hold them back from success or take what they have already achieved.

a. “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.”

I Samuel 15:23 NKJV

F. Spiritually Blind

1. One with an orphan spirit will always view life through the lens of abandonment, rejection and offense. They believe everyone is out to get them and / or use them for their own gain.

G. They Don't Bond With God As Their Father

1. They view God as a harsh taskmaster or distant God who is just waiting for them to mess up to punish them.

2. This distortion of God many times comes from their own wounded relationship with their earthly Dad.

3. The negative characteristics of their dad is subconsciously transposed onto the Father.

H. Spirit of Abandonment

1. Deep down inside they believe they are all alone that no one truly cares about them.

2. If anything is going to get done they will have to do it themselves.

3. They feel safest alone and isolated, this is the lone ranger syndrome.

II. Created For Love

A. Four keys to intimacy

1. Self - image helps determine our depth of intimacy

a. We were created in God's image (Genesis 1:27), and God is Love (I John 4:8), if you are uncomfortable with God, you are uncomfortable with love. If you are uncomfortable with love, you are uncomfortable with yourself. If you are uncomfortable with yourself then you will be uncomfortable with others.

2. Recognize your need for intimacy

a. Although we may think we need to be independent and self-sufficient to survive, you were not created to live apart from God or others.

b. Pride is the source behind being self-sufficient and independent. Orphans have come to the place of belief that not only can they not depend on others but they won't! It is that liquid love of God that brings their hearts back into a place where they can trust again!

3. Embrace your responsibility for intimacy

a. Many relationship problems are a direct result of our unwillingness to take down our walls and know others and be known by others. These walls of Jericho go up to fortify our hearts from further rejection of others but end up keeping the Lord out of that place as well! We then become bound to our soul's strength to live life and maintain self-protection.

b. Taking responsibility for relationships is the first step to true intimacy and healing.

c. The victim spirit will always tell you that you are helpless to change anything and it is always everyone else's fault and not your own, thus alleviating any personal responsibility.

4. Being who God created you to be

a. Many times we base our self-worth on what we do and what we have accomplished in life, rather than who we are and who's we are!

b. If you are in ministry you may struggle with finding yourself in your gift rather than being a son or daughter of God.

c. Many times the orphan spirit is exposed in prayer time with our inability to Be Still and Know That He is God.