

The Blessing of the Beloved in Christ

John 17:23 NLT. "I in them and you in me, all being perfected into one. Then the world will know... and will understand that you love them as much as you love me."

At His baptism and transfiguration, your Father said to Jesus, "You are the Son I love. I am well pleased with you" (Mat.3:17; 17:5). It was a great affirmation of His love and pleasure in His Son. Because you are in Him, the Father loves you with the same love (John 17:23,26). You are God's beloved; that is the most intimate truth about you. It has to be true, because Jesus said it to His Father.

Let these words reverberate in you. Be blessed to live from the blessing of belovedness, not trying to earn it.

The soft voice of your Father speaks in the core of your being: you are the beloved. On you His favor rests. He sees you as a precious being.. God celebrates your existence.

Be blessed to know how you were infinitely loved before you were born. That's the truth of your life. There is no burden on you to prove you are worthy of being loved, of being heard, of being respected and honored and given dignity. Your life is an unceasing "yes" to the truth that you are beloved because of God's great love. In Him, you are deeply valued.

True legitimacy comes from the One who chose you with everlasting love. Your Father says, "I called you by name from the very beginning. You belong to me, and I know you as my own, and I am yours. You know me as your own true Father. I molded you in your mother's womb. I carved you in the palms of my Son.

I have counted every hair on your head, and wherever you go, I go with you. Wherever you rest, I keep watch. I will never hide my face from you. Nothing will ever separate us. Wherever you are, I am. Live your life as my redeemed child.

Say "Yes" to your belovedness. His "Yes" is engraved on your heart. Rise up and discover who you are,--beloved in God your Father and kept in His Son. You are accepted in the Beloved (Eph 1:6 NKJV).

(Adapted from Sylvia Gunter's weekly email, The Father's Blessing)