



Grace Snap Shot

"Viewing life through the lens of God's grace!"



Papa

Written by Art Henkel

This past week my two year old grandson Judah and I (Papa) spent the morning together just hanging out. There really wasn't any agenda or objectives in mind other than just being together. As we drove towards the city park near the ocean I found myself smiling as Judah sat in his car seat singing away. Throughout the morning we shared many adventures at the playground, duck pond, petting zoo and ocean beach. We played hide and seek under big trees, watched fishermen and scuba drivers and kite flyers. Oh, we also danced to some music coming from the band stage. What a great morning.

Did you ever pause to think that your heavenly Father loves to just hang out with you? The fact that God is love tells us that life in Christ is not agenda driven but relationship based. I'm so glad that in Jesus I have entered into a timeless relational union with God Himself. Knowing this has changed the way I wake up in the morning. I don't see God as one who is impatiently tapping his foot waiting to hand out my daily assignment of doing. No, he's my Papa who simply wants to share life with me. A life that is full of activity, but always birthed out of and experienced through loving relationship.

Jesus once said, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." Everything that Jesus did here on earth was an expression of God love. Often we see Jesus pausing to relate to people who seemed over-looked by so many others. He chose to talk to the woman at the well, Zacchaeus in the tree, a sick man on the roadside, and children who were brought to him. None of these did anything to deserve such attention. It was simply God's unearned, unwarranted grace being expressed to them.

God's heart is the same towards you. He is crazy in love with you and you didn't do a thing to deserve such attention. In Jesus you are no longer a servant but a friend of God. A servant is required to do things while a friend's activities are simply an expression of relationship. This week, I pray that through the Holy Spirit you'll experience sweet moments with Papa as you rest in Jesus.