A GOLD MINER'S DAUGHTER

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Because my Lord asked me to.

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itting at a restaurant, overlooking the rocks and watching the waves break over them, I paused to consider how truly blessed I am. I am part of a close-knit family; all of us live within a 2 kilometre radius and see each other multiple times a week. We have a comfortable house where I have been allowed to exercise my amateur decorating skills with great enthusiasm. We eat regular tasty meals and sleep warm and dry every night. Our debt is zero and our work income is sometimes zero as well. However, during those months, we never go without, and our debt never increases.

Looking up at the side of the mountain, I saw huge mansions clinging to the side and I wondered about those families living there. How had God balanced, for want of a better word, their blessings? Did they have more cashflow and less family? Or did they perhaps have both but ill health? Life always seems to be a two-column affair with debits and credits somehow balancing out as the Lord has ordained. As I sat assessing my perceived view on these heavenly balance-sheets, I felt a nudge that my one column was heavier than it should be. I had a distinct feeling that there were resources available to me that I had never used and in fact did not even know about. Thoughts of my father, dead for 20 years, started to surface. I began to think of his successes

and failures, his victories and challenges and realised how some of those same situations were playing out in my life.

My father was a mining man who rose through the ranks to be General Manager of several mines during his career. Whenever a promotion to head office was offered, he always declined, using the idiom "rather a big fish in a small pond". Financially he was onto a winner as in those days the mines gave huge tax-free perks to their management. It was in fact rather like having one's own little kingdom, making decisions that affected hundreds of families that lived in those mining villages. Was it a fair system? No, but that was the way things were.

As I was thinking through a few past heated interactions with my parents, the Lord prompted me to question my responses, actions and judgements I had made over our privileged lifestyle. As a young person, I had loved the benefits but had rejected the system, more double-minded you could not possibly be. My judgement had been severe but my privileges I considered as my right. Hebrews 12:14-15 (NIV) speaks of judgement causing a bitter root:

14 Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

And this is exactly the button that the Lord was pressing very firmly and painfully. We all have our ideas of what the perfect family looks like and how we are supposed to interact with each other. The reality is far from perfect, and as a result of our own hurts and brokenness, we often fall into judging each other and being offended. What we forget is that God is the one to judge others, not us, and before very long we have an offence the size of a log in our own eye and we are pointing at the splinter in the other person's eye. Also what we don't realise is that as we judge others through our pain, we effectively tie ourselves to those situations and we begin to live out of that place. Initially we don't recognise those small little tell tale signs but before long we are doing exactly what we have judged others so strongly for.

I had forgiven myself and my parents many times over the years. I had been delivered of every possible demon, had every form of inner healing; in fact, I had used every methodology that was new in town. As far as I was concerned, I had done it, confessed it, repented of it, been delivered of it and wasn't even sure anymore what the "it" was. The question that God was asking me was "Have you embraced who you are? Who your family is, warts and all?" If we look at Matthew 1, we see the entire genealogy of Jesus with all the begats right back to Abraham. If it was important to know about Jesus' lineage, it is important to know about ours. God placed us in our families, not because they were perfect, but because He needed us to have that particular DNA for His design for us. That DNA is important for us to function in our callings and to fulfil our potential. It is in place, stored up in us waiting to be used. The Lord knows what we are going to need and has placed all resources within our reach. Look at Exodus 15:22-25 (ASV):

22 And Moses led Israel onward from the Red Sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water. 23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink? 25 An he cried unto Jehovah; And Jehovah showed him a tree, and he cast it into the waters, and the waters were made sweet.

Here we have a whole celebration of singing and dancing as they recall how the Egyptians were defeated. They move off into the desert and after three days are desperate for water. Some grumbling later - we never seem to change - Moses was shown a tree. A tree in the desert? Moses did not need to plant the tree. It was already there, someone else had already done the work. It was waiting for when Moses needed it. It was a resource that God had laid up for that moment. It was not even an obvious resource, but it was what was needed to accomplish the job.

Like that unexpected tree in the desert, we have resources laid up in our DNA that we think could not possibly come from our dysfunctional families. It is

only as we embrace who we are in that lineage that those resources will be revealed. 2 Peter 1:3 (NIV):

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

When it says everything, it means everything. Some of us don't know anything about our lineage. Either we are adopted or the family cupboard has remained firmly shut with all the skeletons and secrets still inside. My second husband, Graham, chose to adopt my eldest daughter as her father had died when she was a baby. We went through the legal channels and, much paperwork later, we received her final official status. Graham was now her father, and legally it is as if there was no other father before Graham. She is a legal heir to his estate and carried his name until she got married. Graham's action bound her to him legally and she is entitled to claim from him as if she was his natural child. So it is in scripture; we are grafted into the family of God and we are co-heirs, entitled to our inheritance. Romans 8:17 (NIV):

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

If you have been adopted, then you have the right to claim the resources and blessings that make up the DNA of your adopted family. For those of us who have no access to information about our biological family, remember the Lord was there and He knows. I have often sat in counselling sessions absolutely stymied as to what to do or say next because of the lack of physical information. As we have asked God for our daily bread, the information that we require for today, someone in the room will be nudged in a particular direction. I remember one situation where all we had was a surname that dropped into my mind. It was German-sounding, and when we did an internet search, we found a story about the particular family, in no way related to my friend, but as we read she kept commenting, "That's exactly how I feel, that's what I'm scared of, that's what I would really love to do." We used this as our basis for her blessing session. We knew that this was not her ances-

tor's surname, but the family story contained situations that God knew she needed healing in.

I am often amused when I hear someone has made an appointment for deliverance. My next question is, "Have you made an appointment for your blessings as well?" Their response is usually an embarrassed and puzzled titter. Exodus 20:5-6 (NIV) says this about blessings and curses:

5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

God is in the blessing business. His blessings flow for a thousand generations, but we zero in on the third and fourth generations bearing the curses. We focus on what the enemy does rather than trusting in what the Lord has planned for us. Most people want to know what to fix about themselves rather than know what their potential is. It is time to realise that God is waiting to bless us.

In the earlier days of my Christianity, I was challenged by the scripture in James 2:17 (NIV):

17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

I was happily sitting in the proverbial pew every Sunday morning, thinking that I was doing my bit for the Kingdom, when the Lord slapped me between the eyes with that scripture. I went looking for the "action" required to make my faith "not dead" and all I could think to do was to wash the small individual communion glasses each Sunday. Very quickly, I had the whole family involved, each with their own role in the assembly line of glass-washing. After a long weekend of many activities at our church, I found the toilets in a less than sweet-smelling state. My next self appointed action was to clean and patrol the toilets on a regular basis. I love the Lord's sense of humour; He

got me going on cleaning physical objects and then showed me scriptures about demons. This was a red rag to a bull - I could sniff one out at a thousand paces. The technique was a little rough in the early days, I still cringe at some of those memories, but hopefully it has matured with time, through His love and His grace. My church nickname was Toilet Duck; need I explain the connection any further? So I am not against deliverance; it is often vital for the person to be set free as well as be healed both physically and emotionally. I do, however, believe that we stop too soon and that once the deliverance is over, it is time to bless that person. We are, after all, made in the image of God, not the devil.

Back to where we started. My dad had in his career created many jobs for people on the mines. If you were white and spoke Afrikaans and happened to play rugby, then you stood a very good chance of a job. The mine rugby team was a very important part of the village life and we were always looking to bolster our side for the next match against the surrounding villages or the other mines in the group. I know he even created jobs where there were no openings just to get a good forward or prop or hooker. Many families were rescued from destitution by these jobs. If you happened to be an entrepreneur with a good idea, very little capital, and looking for that first break into the market, he would give you a contract to get you going. Many very successful businesses were launched and millionaires made. There were no free lunches with him but you were given the chance to prove yourself. My offence was that these people were all white. It was only later in his life that he realised that it was in his power to start to make a difference in the lives of the other races in South Africa. I remember him having meetings with Cyril Ramaphosa, the Secretary of the National Union of Mine Workers, where they discussed fairer wages and the relaxing of the job classifications on the mines. My offence was that he did not go far enough and that his motivation was not equality but the need to create a black middle class as a buffer to the results of the political system.

What God opened my eyes to was that in my offence and judgement, I was stopping blessings from flowing in my life. The good that my dad did was

there for me to reap blessings from. The bad were there for me to cleanse and turn into a blessing. He showed me that a curse is merely a defiled blessing. Interestingly, both my children already flow in the blessings laid up for them by their maternal grandfather. My eldest daughter is a born entrepreneur, successfully starting a new business every two years and adding them to her existing business portfolio. My youngest daughter was head-hunted in her final year at university and has never battled to find a job. This, during the worst financial climate since the Great Depression, and during the new political climate that favours the previously disadvantaged. Looking back, I realised that Dad created a truly significant amount of employment during the recessions of 1973 to 1975 and in the early 1980s. From their father and grandfather, they have inherited an awesome work ethic, and from my mother and me, they have the creativity.

A question often asked is, "What blessing could I possibly have that I don't know about? Where do I start?" As mentioned before, a curse is only a defiled blessing, and so we start with the things that don't flow in our lives, where the favour of God seems to be absent. Jesus sets us free from every curse because of what he did at the cross. Galatians 3:13-14 (NIV):

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole." 14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

We are heirs to every blessing, favour, abundance and grace as redeemed children of God, yet it seems that we do not live in that place.

Eph 1:3 says: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings:"

If I concentrate here on financial blessings, it is because they are so easy to measure. However, blessings can be any form of favour that we flow in. A generational blessing is God giving tangible blessings or favour to someone

as a result of a righteous act done by someone in a previous generation. The benefits they reap are disproportionate to the effort they themselves are putting in. It is almost as if we can do "no wrong" in that particular area of our lives. As in my dad's case, the righteous acts were not always totally righteous, but once we had repented and cleansed them, the favour could flow. It is still all my dad's work that we are benefitting from.

One particular family that we prayed with had an interesting dynamic. Michael's mother came from a prosperous Jewish family that had several businesses and properties in the immediate and wider family. Before Michael was born, his parents became Christians and were thrown out of the family home and disinherited. Michael's grandfather refused to see him or his twin sister after they were born, and treated them as if they did not exist.

God had placed Michael in that particular family for several reasons. One was to bring the rest of the family to salvation through love, not rejection. Another was to bless him with that particular DNA and the family gift of prospering. Michael qualified in his chosen field, went on to get married and had a family. Promotion came his way but not the financial remuneration that should have accompanied his new responsibilities. Michael's sister (who does not serve the Lord) started a business and flowed in the family blessings of financial success.

One day as we were enjoying coffee with Michael and his wife it became apparent that God's favour was all over Michael but it was not sticking. It kept bouncing off all he was involved with. Michael and his wife have spent many years actively pursuing God's will for their lives. As we worked through Michael's understanding of the blockage, it became clear that his grandfather's attitude had placed a cloak of invisibility over him in the area of financial success, perhaps because he was the eldest male grandchild. As we prayed, he repented and forgave himself, his parents and grandparents for the schism in the family relations. His next task was to physically go to the sites of the various businesses and residential properties that should have been part of his inheritance and forgive all concerned for all offence and dis-

cord. He also claimed all generational inheritance that was in his family line. He then went to visit an uncle, the last remaining family member who was part of the upheaval, and asked him for the family blessing. The perplexed uncle said "I bless you" and Michael received it. It was that simple. That same day, a contract for tens of thousands was released to him! He then received a large sum of money as commission for a sale that he wasn't even personally involved in. Now that's God's favour!

Terra4ming is a ministry started by Scott and Shari Norvell that we learned from, modified and repackaged as T4. T4 means transforming people, businesses, places and society. We are called to co-labour with Christ in Romans 8:19-21 (NIV):

19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

Celebrating our faith on a Sunday morning with our fellow believers and listening to the sermons preached is wonderful. We may leave happy and uplifted, ready for the new week, but when Monday morning dawns, do we still feel the same way? Do we slip out of "full of faith and expectation mode" into "week-grind" mode, basically living two separate lives? Our inheritance needs to work on a Monday as well as a Sunday. T4 has given us four easy basic steps to take hold of our physical and spiritual inheritance and make it work every day, whether we are in the boardroom, classroom, or any room. We have used these steps to deal with sickness, personal situations, city politics, demonic strongholds ... and the list goes on. The steps comprise our asking for our daily bread, shining His light, forgiving the sins of the perpetrators and dismantling the stronghold.

Step 1. We ask the Lord for our "daily bread", the information required to accomplish the day's task. Sometimes it's a crumb and sometime's it may be a

slice or the whole loaf. He will give whatever and how much revelation we are ready for and require. This may include us feeling the need to go somewhere or we may meet up with someone unexpectedly, read or see an article that becomes relevant or have a scripture highlighted to us. Often team members may feel that we stop before the whole task is done. We have to be sensitive to how much God has asked us to do for that particular day. We may be dealing with an area rife with crime and all the Lord has shown us in our "daily bread" is a fatherless generation. In the natural we know that there is probably rebellion and idolatry and witchcraft and a whole bunch of other creepy crawlies but God, in His wisdom, is asking us to deal with only one aspect for that day. The other stuff will probably be dealt with at a later stage, all in His timing. There are many ways God gets our attention if we ask as in Matt 6:10-11 (NIV):

10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread.

Step 2. Ask the Lord to shine His light and expose the sin that is causing the blessing not to flow. We encourage people not to look only at the fruit of the sin but to dig deeper and ask the Lord what the root cause is. If we were to look at our country today, we could complain bitterly about the crime. We could also have long prayer meetings that pleaded with God for His intervention. He is sovereign and gracious and does answer prayer, but crime is not a root but the fruit of other sin, among them being a fatherless society and rebellion, to name only two of many. John 8:12 (NIV):

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

We ask the Lord to reveal the sin that is causing the blessings not to flow. Psalm 90:8 (NIV):

8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

These sins gives satan power over the world. Acts 26:18 (NIV):

18 to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

These sins lead to death and decay; no favour of God flows. Romans 6:23 (NIV):

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

If we look at Michael's story, the fruit was the cloak of invisibility and the root was the rejection by the grandfather. If we don't find the root, we can spend many hours repeatedly clipping away at the fruit.

Roots tend to fall into four basic categories: broken covenants, sexual iniquity, idolatry and witchcraft.

Step 3. As Royal Priests, we have the authority to declare. 1 Peter 2:9 (NIV): 9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

We liberate people, situations and conditions from curses by forgiving the people that sinned. John 20:23 (NIV):

23 If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.

We forgive with the blood of Jesus those that have sinned against us. Hebrews 9:22 (NIV):

22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and

without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.

Many people are bothered by this step in the process, so let me explain further. We are not able to forgive people their sins for them to be saved; only Jesus can do that. We are, however, able to forgive people for sinning against us or for creating situations, by their sin, that impact on us. We are purified, redeemed and restored back to God. Eph 2:13 (NIV):

13 But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Step 4. We dismantle strongholds and remove all evil with the authority of Jesus. Luke 10:19 (NIV):

19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

Tear down the strongholds and cleanse the curse. 2 Cor 10:4 (NIV):

4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

As a fruit of forgiveness, all evil schemes are revealed. 2 Cor 2:10-11 (NIV):

10 Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, 11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

Forgiveness releases us from our sin, sickness and bondage so that we may become whole and healthy. Forgive yourselves, others and God for a situation or condition. In our places of desperation, we often blame God for our problem, so we need to make sure that we deal with our feeling of being ignored, betrayed or abandoned by God. Once we have done forgiveness, then repentance can be done from the "high clean" ground. Layers of sin are

built up over long periods of time, each layer being a welcome mat for the next layer. We need to get down to the first layer of sin and since it is usually centuries ago, we are dependent on the leading of the Holy Spirit to give us the necessary information to pray. Dismantle the stronghold with the blood of Jesus and the word of your testimony.

Let us demonstrate some of these concepts with more glory stories. Mark asked us to pray with him and his wife concerning the business that he was presently involved in. Mark has tried his hand at many businesses and occupations, some more successful than others. Mark is also a mature son in the Kingdom, very comfortable with the understanding of God being his Dad and wanting to bless him with all his needs and more, to the point of abundance. So when we were asked to pray and find out why his latest business venture was not prospering, I knew that it was not due to lack of expectation. As we probed, we discovered that the lack of favour seemed to have stopped at the same time as he purchased and moved onto his present property. As we waited on God, it became clear that although there were some issues in the business that needed addressing, the real problem seemed to be the land.

Historically, their land had been a source of water for the surrounding indigenous people and, during the years, the sequential owners had cut off access to that water. Water is life giving and a resource that should be freely available, but by having it cut off, the blessing could no longer flow. Even the vegetation and animals on this smallholding were not thriving and the business that had been started on that property was not thriving either. We went through the process of dismantling the sin and strongholds over the land, and when I wanted to start on the business side, the Lord stopped me. That was all the "daily bread" for that occasion. We had come to bless the business but the Lord was working with the land and we had to be obedient and stop. Within a few weeks the land had responded to the T4 process and double-yolk eggs were being laid, plants were self-seeding and the livestock was thriving. The business had not changed; it had worsened. We tried to fix the business a few times after that, but each time the Lord showed us that He

had put up blockades around it. It was not a bad business, Mark had not been in disobedience, there was no avoiding of taxes or the usual bad business practises that indicate an unfavoured company. Mark had been given that business idea by God, initial funding had come when needed but suddenly it went dormant.

Over the next year, there was the opportunity to start three new businesses with three separate sets of partners but nothing changed with the original business. As the other three were developing, it seemed as if the original one would be merged into one of the new ones, not at all what Mark had wanted when we first prayed. The problem seemed to be resolving itself until capital was required for product development and manufacture. Where does one find cash with six zeros lying around waiting to be invested? Having learnt from the past year, Mark and his partner had a board meeting with their Heavenly Dad and asked if there were any blockages that would stop new investment. They dealt with what God showed them so that when Mark phoned, it was an easy task to declare doors open and provision to flow. This time the forgiveness and repentance was up to date, the land was clean and all we had to do was call in the investor. Within an hour of praying, the cash was promised, and within three days, it was signed and sealed. That's God's abundance.

Alex is a very clever and highly qualified businessman who, together with his wife, has spent the last few years searching their life for blind spots towards God. They, as a family, have an enormous desire to walk in the correct season with their Lord. Alex is from a dysfunctional family that would make an ideal case study in the psychology textbooks. If anyone did not want to acknowledge their biological father and his actions, it would be Alex, but he has purposely sought the Lord for his family life and his new business. His business history is a patchwork quilt of starts and stops and a few bankruptcies in between. This last venture was flowing in God's favour with contracts and cash being there for the picking until it suddenly stopped without any logical explanation. We had already previously done the DNA embracing your heritage with Alex, where we worked through his judgement of his fam-

ily. We had gone back a few generations and highlighted the blessings that needed to flow in his life, so the tool-bag appeared empty. We met in his boardroom to discuss this conundrum. Following the T4 model, I had asked a few people dotted around the city to send through text messages as they felt they heard the Lord give them clues. These are words of knowledge, pictures or anything that they feel is a clue from the Lord. As usual, these ground crew individuals did not know where we were or who we were T4ing. Within about half an hour, we had three different clues from three totally independent sources referring to an elephant. Our one team member is good at understanding clues as idioms and her take was that there was an "elephant in the room" and the room was the business. As we discussed it further, it appeared that one area of the administration was not functioning correctly and no one wanted to correct it as they felt it would cause upheaval in the interaction of the staff. Psalm 133 talks of the blessing the Lord commands where there is unity, which is what Alex was trying to foster, but at the expense of not using the authority God have given him in his business. He also had a great fear of another bankruptcy. He proceeded to forgive the people concerned, and himself, and embrace the authority that the Lord was wanting him to walk in.

The last clue that came through was that there was a government building that Alex was going to have access to. The next week, he did his housekeeping concerning his staff and admin systems, and directly afterwards he received a phone call from a very large client asking if they could pay tens of thousands up-front for consulting they may require during the year. The next phone call was from another client wanting to use some staff and offering to pay their salaries, great for cash-flow problems. The last phone call was from the City Council. Alex had been actively pursuing them for years and they asked to see him regarding a contract. As we discussed Alex's glory story at a T4 team meeting, he stopped us and corrected our take on the proceedings. The night after the T4, Alex went to God and asked Him to shine His light on his reluctance to pick up his authority and deal with the issues that were revealed during the T4 session. God showed him that his fear of bankruptcy was like a huge rock in his life. Alex was able to get God's healing for that; he did not need anyone to pray for him but applied the principles himself as a

mature son in the Kingdom. All in one week: that is God's favour.

Carol's story is similar. She also has walked a long road with her Dad in heaven. Her understanding of her Daddy is that at any time she can go into the throne room and hop onto His lap for a cuddle. In her life of feeling abandoned by people, she has needed to do this many times. Due to changes at work, cutting down of overtime and the increased price of petrol, Carol felt she needed to move from her apartment into accommodation that was more cost-effective. Having worked out her budget, it became apparent that if she could rent out her flat at a reasonable rental, she could cover her bond repayments. She found a house to share, very close to her work, at a fraction of what she was paying, but it required a huge mind-shift to go from living in her own apartment to sharing a house at her stage in her life. As she had little option, she made the transition, not realising that this was a blessing and not a curse. The first rental was not easy to find with her having to financially carry both the house and the apartment. Eventually a tenant was found but only for six months, and then she started again looking for the next tenant, all the while not getting her full asking price. Near the end of the second lease, her flat was flooded, with the tenant having to move out and insurance needing to replace the wooden floors. She felt as if she was labouring under a curse instead of flowing in a blessing.

As we sought the Lord with her, we felt that she needed to understand that if she embraced her situation for the next two years or so, she could build up a nest egg. Her monthly expenditure was greatly reduced and if she could get a fair rental for her apartment, the difference would be a great starting point for her financial recovery. So she needed to see her circumstance in a different light. As we prayed, we asked her what she would love to be able to do should she have the freedom. Her response was that she wanted to have a huge table laden with food and feed people, probably in a bed-and-breakfast setup. She loves serving and caring for people. As we started to pray about her DNA, we did some research on her maternal grandmother's surname and where she came from - the internet has truly made us part of a global village. We discovered, unknown to Carol, that her family back in England had been

running bakeries and pastry shops for decades. The desire to feed people was in her DNA and needed to be embraced so that she could move into her next season with renewed vision. As we dealt with the apartment rental coming up for renewal, we recommended that she go and T4 the land, her apartment and the estate agent that she was going to use. Having done all the forgiveness, she needed to release blessings and pray for the prosperity of the agent. Within a week, the flat was rented, without the new tenants seeing it as it was as it still had water damage. They paid six months in advance and signed a twelve-month lease. Her turning point came when she realised that the shared house was not a punishment but a blessing for her to bring her finances into order. God's flow of favour was apparent.

John left home at the age of 16 with less than enough education. He joined the navy and proceeded to sail the seas in quest for many tattoos and life experiences. He had had the usual exposure to church of being dragged along when necessary but the family were not actively serving God. At around 21 he encountered God and had a life changing experience, so much so that within a few years he was at seminary studying to be an Anglican priest, later becoming a pastor of a charismatic church. As his relationship with his Lord grew so his desire for more of the Holy Spirit and the Presence of God increased. The interesting thing about John's story is that his cousin began to research their family history and what emerged was that back in the 1600s a female ancestor was a writer of hymns. John is the fifth in his lineage that have become pastors. He has a King Harald Bluetooth that was the first Christian Danish king. This is a perfect example of God placing someone in a dysfunctional family and the blessings of their DNA being replayed in their life, without them even being aware of it. In his original family situation, a pastor was so out of character but looking at his lineage there are no surprises. God was there and He knew.

There have been many scriptures that my Heavenly Dad has highlighted to me over the years; however there are two that have been the most influential in defining what He has asked me to do. Revelation 22:2 (NIV):

And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

It was out of that scripture that Healing Rooms Africa was born. It has been our privilege to work with teams of people throughout Africa and see the divine healing of God made real in their midst. As we worked with people, it became apparent to us that more than just bodies needed healing. Land, businesses and society (the spiritual environment) were also sick and on life support; by life support I mean our own striving endeavours. Wherever God's favour is, there is a flow. It may not always be easy, but situations and events flow. As soon as we think we have to do it all ourselves, it becomes an uphill battle with one unresolved crisis after another, with a blockage and little flow.

Being a gold miner's daughter, the second scripture, Isaiah 45:3 (NIV) appealed to my heritage and sense of humour and explained why I don't always go for the obvious route:

I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD.

This basically sums up T4 for me, and out of this, we combined T4 with Healing Rooms Africa and formed Healing Africa.

Each of us has an "embarrassment of riches" (my collective noun for the abundance, over-supply, untapped potential) of gifting, talents and blessings waiting to overtake us, wrestle us to the ground and force themselves on us. Does that sound extreme? We have an extreme Dad!

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his edition was first written in May 2012 and as time has passed so we have matured and accepted more invitations from Pappa to get to know Him and His ways as He would have us. We don't all have the same individual revelation as each one has their own walk and path to follow in Him. In August 2012 we attended a BlueFlame conference in Tulsa Oklahoma.

The focus of the conference was about "Birthing Royalty". Us being royalty and priests in Christ

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9 NIV)

A question that was asked was why do many Christians seem to be in lack? This is not about the "prosperity gospel" that caused so much hurt and harm to the Church back in the 1980s and 1990s. It is a valid question that needs to be asked so that we are able to appropriate the inheritance that has been laid up for us, as discussed in the first section of this book. Inheritance is not just about finances but flow and favour as well as good relationships.

This is no name it and claim it doctrine but rather an assessment of lifestyle and understanding the flow of Pappa's goodness and favour. Over the years I have learned to seek His goodness and favour because we know it never leaves us. If I am not seeing or experiencing this favour then I am out of place and not Pappa.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. (Psalm 23:6 NIV)

In fact the word "follow" means to pursue, hunt down, chase and run after in the original text. How many of us feel as if we are hunted down by His favour, goodness and provision? The blockage is on our side. I am not going to go into the situation when we are in obvious sin and are in denial. Rather, I am going to highlight those seasons when we seem OK, comfortable and yet there seems to be no flow. I am not specifically referring to finances alone but also to relationships and resources in general. One thing I have learned not to do is to pray for money. The money never seems to arrive! What I do pray for is resources or solutions and invite Pappa to solve or resolve the situation. We have travelled globally to conferences or to connect with people Pappa has highlighted and seldom has a monetary deposit been made into our bank account. It happens, but more commonly it arrives as a resource instead. Plane tickets, loyalty vouchers that are cashed in, accommodation that is gifted, meals that are paid for by total strangers. We have wanted a building to house our ministry. Much prayer went into this and the result is that we have access to many buildings, in various places, for the hours we require them for, free of charge, without owning them. The up side to this is no maintenance, cleaning, bills to pay, staff to manage. The down side is, well there is no down side! Even if we did own a building, and one day we may, it would be Pappa's anyway.

At the moment Pappa wants our focus on people and not buildings and so we need to see where He is flowing to be able to ride His thermals. If we kept praying for money for a building we would be frustrated, disappointed and disillusioned with Him. Being able to flow with Pappa and ride His thermals

is dependent on choices we make. Considering the following three points could be the difference between flowing and not flowing.

CALIBRATION

This is more of a geographical decision that He invites us to make. If He wants us to go to China for Him and we are reluctant because of whatever reasons we offer Him, we need to understand that the resources for us have been laid up for us in China. In our reluctance we may try to renegotiate another country and prefer India. On arriving in India we should not be surprised that there are no resources and flow waiting to launch us into His purposes. They are waiting for us in China. The people we need to connect with are Chinese. Having realised that we have made an incorrect choice don't rush off to China, He has already sent someone else there in your place. Rather, stop, repent and ask for forgiveness. Then ask for the next step in your walk with Him. Please don't assume you can fix things by trying to retrace your steps. We need to check our calibration and recalibrate where necessary.

ALIGNMENT

This is a spiritual decision that He invites us to make. Who we are aligned to is important to Pappa. He asks us to check that we are working with and relating to the correct people for us. This is not to say that the church, pastor or ministry that you are working under are bad or in sin. It is just a question of are we flowing where He wants us to flow? We may be serving in a ministry that serves the poor and operates soup kitchens. This is an outstanding and good place to be serving Him. However, if Pappa has given us favour to flow in government and requires us to be drafting new laws, then our alignment is incorrect. Rather than being in a mercy serving ministry we should perhaps be in an apostolic ministry that focuses on justice and government. The ministry that you are aligned to will have a natural flow of a specific anointing and favour. So if you are in the soup kitchen there may be an endless supply of bread and soup ingredients, but very little contact with government officials where you will have the opportunity to speak of the latest law waiting to be passed. Neither ministry is bad. Check that your vision, God given desires

and personal anointing lines up with that of the ministry or church you are serving.

It was at this point that I realised in August 2012 that our alignment needed readjusting. Graham and I had been in a Vineyard church and serving on the leadership team for twelve years. We had also been National Directors for South Africa for the International Association of Healing Rooms (IAHR) for 8 years and Regional IAHR Directors for Africa. Pappa invited us to step down from all commitments and let Him birth something new. Leaving all that behind was scary and required us to trust Him for the next thing. We had no idea what the "next thing" was. What we did know was that our "next thing" was not in what we had been doing.

WHOLE TITHE (KOL MA'ASER)

Once you have checked your calibration and alignment and the flow is still not pursuing you, it is time to look at tithing. This is a hugely contentious and manipulative subject that has caused much damage in the church. We have a simplistic view on this. If Pappa says so then do it. Scriptures are taken in and out of context, they are massaged to give us our desired outcome or are consigned to the Old or New Testament. Theological wars have been won and lost on this subject. Simplistically, we subject our resources to the calibration and alignment test to ask Pappa if we are supposed to be involved with the giving or receiving in a particular institution, ministry, person or situation. Furthermore we follow the Kol Ma'aser in our monthly financial setup.

"Will a men rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' 'In tithes [Ma'aser] and offerings [Terumah]. You are under a curse-the whole nation of you-because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe [Kol Ma'aser] into the storehouse [owtsar], that there may be food in my house. Trust me in this,' says the Lord Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit,' says the Lord Almighty. 'Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,' says the Lord Almighty. "Malachi 3:8-12

Understanding the Whole Tithe is the key to having the freedom to say to Pappa "How do You want to take care of this expenditure?" rather than "I need money". This subject will be dealt with in great detail in another chapter of this book.

Having submitted ourselves and our ministry, Healing Africa, to a recalibration, realignment and the Kol Ma'aser, it became clear that we had been following Pappa as He had lead us but that there was a new season with new choices to be made. The ensuing decisions were not taken lightly, nor speedily, but as Pappa invited us to make one choice that lead to the next.

THE NEXT

As we sought Pappa for the next step, He slowly began to add people of like heart vision to our small group.

Rosh Hashanah September 6 2013 was a pivotal point in time for us. Being a gentile of the gentiles, the Old Testament feasts pass me by with no blips on my radar. However, Pappa sent a few blog posts across my social media and I became aware of the Hebrew year 5774. It was the year of the open door. This paragraph caught my eye from an article by Melissa Flores on the celebrating of Rosh Hashanah 5774,

Doors will open this year as you are willing to walk through them. What has evaded you will come into your field of view beckoning your involvement. Responsibility is shifting into your hands, forcing you to decide, "How bad do I want it?" "Is my potential future worth the cost of my comfort?" "Can I survive outside of my tent of limitation?"

As a group we decided to celebrate Rosh Hashana that year. Pappa met with us in an amazing way and spoke about the doors of opportunity that He was opening for us. Especially the door in Revelation 4:1

After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and

I will show you what must take place after this."

He made it so clear to us that we have access to Him and He wants to show and share with us so much more than we have ever imagined. Out of this celebration Access41 was birthed.

Access41 is a ministry group that seeks to impact individuals and society with the love of our Heavenly Father, Revelation 4:1 is about accessing heaven. And what our Lord has laid up for us in Eph 1:17-21

17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

This is our true and just inheritance. By facilitating that others also receive His unconditional love and grace through salvation and deliverance, all are able to make choices to experience their inheritance in Christ. This should be manifest in all areas of our lives, community, society and business.

From here forward with Pappa onto the next step......

Thank you to the Access41 people who are on this journey of discovering Pappa and His covenant with us.





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