

INTERVIEW WITH SYLVIA

You have a new book. That's exciting. What's it about?

Safe In The Father's Heart is my story of discovering and experiencing the Father heart of God. I didn't have a good representation of a father's heart in my earthly father, so it was a struggle to learn and receive how God wanted to father me. This book is truth about who God is as Father mixed with personal stories from my own life and others.

You've been writing books on prayer and who God is for over 20 years, but this book sounds different than anything you have written before.

Yes, and there are two main reasons for that. First, my daughter Elizabeth knows my story and has heard me share it with a few others one-on-one over the years. When I have shared it, she saw the impact it had on them. So she has been nudging me for a while to write my story because she knew it would speak to others. Then a friend told me, "If you give a man a

fact, he will learn; if you give him a truth, he will believe; if you give him a story, it will live in his heart forever." That resonated deeply within me as I remembered how other people's stories have left lasting imprints on me.

But it's not easy putting your own life out there for everyone to see. My hope is by revealing parts of my story, God may speak to the hearts of many, even if their life experiences are not exactly like mine. I really believe this book is my legacy. It is my life message boiled down to its essential foundation—who God is and who I am in Him. He is first of all Father.



How has understanding God as Father changed your life?

It has changed everything. Growing up, I experienced emotional and physical abandonment from my earthly father.

I didn't realize at the time the damage that was done because it was the only life I knew, and it felt normal. As I got older, I began to see that I was living with an orphaned heart. When you live with an orphaned heart, it impacts every area of your life. So much healing comes when you allow God to Father you in ways your earthly father did not or could not. Knowing God as Father is so foundational to understanding your true identity and legitimacy in Him. If you understand that God is a loving Father, then you can also receive that you are His beloved child.

What has the response been so far?

It has been amazing and humbling at the same time. Everyone involved in the editing and pre-press work for this book has commented on its impact. As they read Safe In The Father's Heart, they were invited to revisit their own story and allow God to speak to their wounded places. That's my greatest desire. I want this book to be an invitation deeper into God's Father heart.

Safe In The Father's Heart is available online at www.thefathersbusiness.com



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