

Deep love for Yeshua is the foundation for everything we need



*4Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.*

*5“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” John 15:4-5*

## **A Return to Our First Love**

I've been encouraged in the last couple of months by what seems like a small stirring in my heart and the hearts of a number of those around me. This stirring is not primarily focused on more effective ministry or greater power or anointing but a longing to have the love that we initially had as new Believers. In a zoom meeting with our house church leaders this week, one person stated that he wanted to love God like he did when he was first saved and that he was pursuing that more diligently. As he shared I found a warm resonance in my own heart which was also affirmed by a number of others on the Zoom call. I've also been on prayer calls with a couple dozen pastors and ministry leaders in Colorado over the last two days which had as a theme a

desire for greater intimacy with God. I've also found that my own personal prayer times have had a greater longing for Him--to feel His love and to love Him in response. I'm praying that these fledgling desires are fanned into an even greater flame.

There's a story from the Welsh revival of 1904-05 of a young teenage girl named Florrie Evans (pictured above). She's credited with starting the revival at a morning pastor's meeting in February 1904 by openly declaring in that meeting, "I love Jesus with all my heart!" That simple heart-felt statement went off like a bomb as great conviction spread tangibly throughout the room. The subsequent revival brought 100,000-150,000 new Believers into the Welsh churches over an 8 month period!

I believe that the revival that many of us are longing for has its foundation a love for and intimacy with Yeshua. I'm praying for this desire to grow in our hearts. As it does, I believe that Yeshua will most assuredly bring the fruit that He has promised (John 15:4-5).

One final thing: The interview link below with Heidi Baker is primarily about her love for Jesus as a foundation for everything that she's done in ministry. I think you will be stirred and encouraged if you are able to listen to it.