SONSHIP: 7-Part Anniversary Podcast Series
AUGUST 10

The Scandal of Sonship
by Nancy McCready

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called sons of God." — 1 John 3:1

The gospel does not merely rescue us from sin—it confronts and overturns every false identity we've ever carried. It does not stop at forgiveness. It goes further. It calls us sons.

This is no metaphor. It is not symbolic. It is blood-bought, Spirit-breathed, and relationally real. We are not servants who have been promoted—we are sons who have been born. Not of the will of man, but of the Spirit. This is the scandal of grace: not only that God forgives us, but that He actually desires us—calls us by His name, seats us in His house, and gives us His Spirit who cries from within, Abba, Father.

Still, many shrink back—not because they doubt God's power, but because they doubt He could want them in this way. So they strive, perform, and manage their image—hoping to stay "good enough" to remain in the house. But hear this clearly: the Father does not adopt you and then expect you to keep yourself. He doesn't call you son and then treat you like a hired hand. Holy Spirit makes you a living witness and your Spirit-born cry of 'Abba, Father' is the true mark of your sonship.

You are not becoming a son—you already are one. And to walk as a son is not to take center stage, but to take up the cross. Jesus didn't seek platforms; He sought obedience. He didn't strive to earn love—He received it, lived in it, and was matured by it. His yieldedness was not weakness; it was the fullness of sonship in motion.

So ask yourself today: what lie are you believing about your place in the Father's house? What mask are you still wearing? What identity are you trying to create apart from Him? Let the cross break the shell of self and allow the new man—your true sonship—to emerge in full agreement with the Father.

Let the scandal of sonship silence your striving, dismantle your performance and call you by your truest name: son.

Scripture Reading:
1 John 3:1
Romans 8:14–17
Galatians 4:6–7

Wisdom to Remember
"The spirit of sonship is not simply an idea or doctrine—it is the living reality of being indwelt by the Spirit of God, whereby we cry, 'Abba, Father.'" — A.W. Tozer