

THE CATALYST OF LOVE

"Love is the divine *catalyst* for birthing, sustaining and multiplying of all things in the Kingdom of God."

Model life of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11)

"I believe that at some point in his *human journey* Jesus was seized by the power of a great affection and experienced the love of his Father in a way that burst all previous boundaries of understanding. Then it happens! Whatever the external manifestations were, the baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan was an *awesome personal experience* ... what an *earthquake* in the human soul of Jesus! (Brennan Manning)

Jesus' baptismal experience of the empowered love of his Father catalyzes his kingdom building ministry and becomes the prototypical experience for all seeking to follow in his footsteps.

Multiplication on Pentecost (Romans 5:5)

"On Pentecost the fullness of Jesus' ministry becomes fully visible. When the Holy Spirit descends upon the disciples and dwells with them, their lives are transformed into Christ-like lives, lives shaped by the same love that exists between the Father and the Son." (Henri Nouwen)

The Church is now birthed and catalyzed into action by the power of the Spirit and the Father's Love. Every revival in church history, from the First Great Awakening to the Toronto Blessing, was catalyzed by people having experienced the Love of God.

Making the Connection (John 14:6)

Life brings us to places of need to experience this catalytic Love of the Father in order to heal historic hurts, fill the core need of our heart, and give us hope for a purposeful life. From that place we prayerfully place our faith in Jesus, lift our hearts to be filled by the Spirit, and receive the embrace of the Father's Love.

On a corporate level, we live in a unique time when the human condition is in crisis, our national culture is in fierce division, and declining church attendance signals the need for a more relevant message. Perhaps the Spirit empowered message of the Father's Love is the message for a time such as this.

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