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## Father

I took off the old and put on the new, but sometimes life leaves residue.

I'm a new creation, no more to see here, which is true but how that looks can be very unclear.

I spoke out to You with my mouth and I believed with my heart, and I could never have known the journey that from that moment would start.

I took a step into faith and I disappeared into the unfamiliar, just as I'd feared, because if you take away everything you thought to be true, you're left vulnerable and scared and then what to do?.

You build .... you build on your faith and you turn to Him, you get deep in his word which exposes your sin.

And the more that you pray and the deeper you go, you see He's already paid for your sins, long ago.

Because the person I was isn't who I am now; the things that I did and that I would allow
I wore guilt like handcuffs and shame like skin, trapped inside my own mind and just empty within.
You see, you can't fear death if you're already dead; the real fear was living and what lies ahead.

And you people would tell me that God has a plan...

and inside I was screaming but you don't know who I am.

I've robbed from my grandma, I've lied to my mother, I broke into homes with no thought of another And the damage I did, no words could explain and the reason I do it again

and again and again and again and again and then you want to tell me that God could be my friend That for me He has bled, that for me He would fight

that I am His joy and that I'm His delight!

That He has millions and billions of thoughts about me and if I just allow Him that He would set me free.

Did I believe that He could? The answer was 'No,' but the truth is .. I had nowhere else left to go. What the world had to offer I had tasted and tried and it just left me more starving and unsatisfied.

'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be thy name',

but my father on earth played with my family like we were a game, using the pieces to suit himself the game was always rigged, as I spectated from the side, as my piece was rarely picked.

Crying out for that man's love but getting nothing in return.

So: men hold the power and will reject you ... is the lesson that I would learn.

Precious in my mother's sight, but not important to my dad,
so when you mentioned the word 'father', that's the memories I had.

I could give you many reasons why I should not believe but when you invite the truth in, you can no more be deceived.

I'd reached the end of myself and I was broken and weak and I had no fight left and that's when I began to seek

See ... I haven't been to prison since 2010 and I haven't touched a drink or a drug since then.

So let me cut to the chase ... right now I am free
I do not feel alone no more and I do not feel empty!
I know my heavenly father loves me and he also is my friend
and daily He continues to teach me that on Him I can depend.
It's been a messy, and beautiful, journey that I would not choose to repeat
and He is not finished with me yet, but I am complete!