

# God is Our Father and We are His Children

Aug 27, 2017

## God is Father

### In the Old Testament

Isa 63:16 For You are our Father, though Abraham does not know us And Israel does not recognize us. You, O LORD, are our Father, Our Redeemer from of old is Your name.

Isa 64:8 But now, O LORD, You are our Father, We are the clay, and You our potter; And all of us are the work of Your hand. (Ps 89:26; Jer. 31:9)

### In the New Testament

**God's title "Father"** is used 265 times in the New Testament

Jesus uses this title as a name for God more than anyone else - 178 times.

73 times in the epistles God is entitled "Father". 44 times this title is used in context with Jesus.

There are 29 references (In the epistles), where God is called Father to believers.

There is no revelation of God as Father in the OT comparable to that of (Mt 6:9-13).

Mt 6:9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

Jesus, in speaking with His disciples, calls God:

"your Father" (Mt 6:4, 6, 8, 15, 18; 10:20, 29; Lk 6:36; 12:30, 32; Jn 20:17).

"your Father who is in heaven" (Mt 5:16, 45, 48; 6:1; 7:11; Mk 11:25, 26; Lk 11:2)];

The Apostles, speaking of themselves and other Christians, called God

"our Father" in salutation (Rom 1:7; 1Cor 1:3; 2Cor 1:2; Gal 1:4; Eph 1:2; Phil 1:2; 4:20).

## 7 responsibilities of a father (Mt 6:6, 9-15)

Mt 6:6 "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

Mt 6:9-15 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. 11 'Give us this day our daily bread. 12 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.' 14 "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

### 1. Availability - A great dad is present (Mt 6:6).

The first duty is to be available or at least to be usually present. A lot of studies show that the presence of a dad helps in his children's education especially in Math, Science and Reading subjects. His presence helps in the stability of his children.

Mt 6:6 "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

Rom 8:15-16 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,

Gal 4:6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

Eph 2:18 for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

1Jn 1:3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed, our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

1Jn 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

## **2. Godliness - A great dad lives righteously (Mt 6:9).**

We are to be a good example to our children. It doesn't matter what we do at work or who we are in life. What matters is that we live and leave a righteous legacy to our children.

Mt 6:9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

1Jn 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

1Jn 2:15-16 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

1Jn 2:23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.

## **3. Leadership – A great dad leads his Family (Mt 6:9-10).**

Most have heard of Samuel and his mother, Hannah. His father's name is Elkanah. He brought his family with Him to worship as required by God's Law. (1Sam 1:3-4, 21)

Mt 6:9-10 ... 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Jn 4:23 ... the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people, the Father seeks to be His worshipers. (Jn 4:21-23)

Jas 1:17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

## **4. Provision – A great dad provides (Mt 6:11)**

It is the father who is responsible in giving or providing the needs (sometimes even the "wants") of the family.

Mt 6:11 'Give us this day our daily bread.

Eph 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

Col 1:12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

## **5. Love – A great dad loves unconditionally (Mt 6:8, 12)**

The story of the prodigal son beautifully illustrates this truth (Lk 15:11-24).

Mt 6:8 "So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

Mt 6:12 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

2Cor 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction ...

1Pt 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Ps 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

## **6. Protection – A great dad protects regularly (Mt 6:13)**

all fathers protect because it is one of our duties.

Mt 6:13 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

2Thes 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

Heb 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

## **7. Discipline – A great dad disciplines consistently (Mt 6:14-15)**

Discipline is another expression of our love. Discipline is a God-given responsibility to parents, specifically to fathers.

Mt 6:14-15 "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

Heb 12:9 Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live?

Heb 12:11 "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."  
(Heb 12:7, 9-11)

Prov 13:24 He who withholds his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.

Jn 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. (Jn 6:44)

## **Summary:**

He has always been available to us at all time.

He is holy and enables us to be the same.

He leads and guides us to safety.

He is providing for all our needs and sometimes even our wants.

He loves us unconditionally, removing our sin as far as the east is from the west.

He is protecting us from all strategies of evil against us.

He protects us under His wings and lovingly and patiently disciplines us when we are wrong.

## **We are sons (daughters) and children of God**

Jn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

2Cor 6:18 "And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.

Rom 8:14-17 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you have

not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

Rom 9:26 "AND IT SHALL BE THAT IN THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS SAID TO THEM, "YOU ARE NOT MY PEOPLE,' THERE THEY SHALL BE CALLED SONS OF THE LIVING GOD." (Hos 1:10)

Gal 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gal 4:5-7 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

Heb 2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason, He is not ashamed to call them brethren,

Heb 12:6-8 FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES." 7 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8 But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

1Jn 3:1-2 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

Rev 21:7 "He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.

### **We are children of God**

Jn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name

Rom 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.  
(Rom 8:21; 9:8; Phil 2:15; 1Jn 3:1-2, 10; 5:2)

### **We are children of Promise**

Rom 4:13 For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith. (Gal 4:28; Rom 9:7)