

## **GETTING TO KNOW MY FATHER**

*SERIES: Living in the Presence of God #5*

Sunday, May 9, 2021

**REVIEW: Our Series So Far**

**INTRODUCTION: Five Elements of a Good Self-Concept.**

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE –

DISCIPLINE –

CONSISTENCY–

GOOD EXAMPLES –

A STRONG FATHER –

Reflecting on your own earthly father, select the statement that would best describe him:

- ☐ *My father was basically warm and loving.*
- ☐ *My father was emotionally distant.*
- ☐ *My father was a good dad but didn't know how to express himself.*
- ☐ *My father was never around.*
- ☐ *Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

### **WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT OUR HEAVENLY FATHER?**

We learn Trinitarianism by RELATING, understanding and RESPONDING to a well-defined picture of God the Father, a well-defined picture of God the Son, and a well-defined picture of God the Holy Spirit.

#### **1. God the Father is the ULTIMATE and INTENDED Father.**

Ephesians 3:14 (NASB) *For this reason [On account of this] I [continually] bow my knees [in worship] before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name [character, significance, reputation]...*

#### **2. God the Father is to be SET APART.**

Matthew 6:5 (NASB) *"When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full."*

Matthew 6:9 (NASB) *"Our Father who is [the one] in heaven, hallowed be Your name [Let Your character, works and reputation be set apart]."*

### 3. God the Father is the only one we should CALL Father.

Matthew 23:8 (NASB) *"But do not be called Rabbi; for One is your Teacher, and you are all brothers. <sup>9</sup> Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. <sup>10</sup> Do not be called leaders; for One is your Leader, that is, Christ."*

## WHAT DOES THIS FATHER DO?

### 1. God the Father DEFINES our acceptance.

Romans 5:8 (NASB) *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

### 2. God the Father DEMONSTRATES His love.

Romans 8:31 (NASB) *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us [on our behalf], who is against us? <sup>32</sup> He [indeed] who did not spare His own [unique] Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely [graciously] give us all things?*

### 3. God the Father JUSTIFIES us [Declares us in a right relationship with Him].

Romans 8:33 (NASB) *Who will bring a [legal or legitimate] charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies [continually makes us in a right relationship with Him]...*

## ACTION STEPS:

- ☐ As I pray this week, I commit myself to ask God for His help in setting Him apart in my thinking and my relationship to Him.
- ☐ I commit myself this week to list the ways in which I am trying to earn God's love and acceptance by my performance.
- ☐ I will commit myself to memorizing either Romans 5:8 or Romans 8:31-32.