

Who's your Daddy?
Pastor Micah Agnew and Gabriel Agnew
June 19th, 2022 Father's Day

What defines a father? A male parent, the first person of the Trinity, founder or originator.

Genesis says we are made male and female and together, two genders make up the image of God.

Our experience with our earthly fathers will color how we read the Bible and our understanding of God as Father.

READ John 8:12 - 59

All of this passage is focused on the identity of Jesus and His relationship to the Father.

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

Not all are "children of God". Only those who have received Jesus!

Romans 8:15-18 NLT 15 So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." 16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. 17 And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering. 18 Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

You have been made a child of God by adoption when you accepted Jesus as Lord.

Romans 10:9 9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

1 John 3:1 "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

1 John 5:1. Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

1 John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

1 John 5:11-13 And this is the testimony; that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.¹² He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

1John 5:18-20 “We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.”

Ephesians 5:1 “Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.”

Why does this matter on Father’s Day?

1. We are experiencing the effects of the cultural demise of Fatherhood.
2. We have a generation of men who do not know God and therefore cannot know themselves
3. Since the majority of men do not know God, they cannot be an example of God to a world in desperate need of the Heavenly Father. God designed the world to need fathers, because the world needs the Heavenly Father.
4. God desires to give the Spirit to those He’s adopted. [Ephesians 1:5-8, 13-14 NLT](#)
 - a. **Eph. 1:5** God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

- b. 13 And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. 14 The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.
5. Galatians 4:3-9 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. 4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 and because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.
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Going deeper Care Group Discussion Guide

1. Define "Father".

Question: What is a father? What makes a father and what is contrary to the concept of fatherhood?

2. "The only Father we have is God himself." John 8:41

Question: Would you say that God is your Father? How might your experience with your earthly father have had an effect on your relationship with God?

3. These Jews claim God as their Father, but Jesus refutes them with the following:

Jn. 8:42 ... "If God were your Father, you would love me, ... 44 You belong to your father, the devil, ... 47 Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

Jesus is asserting that if you belong to God you will love Jesus himself. You will live in and live out the words of Jesus.

Question: All of us have encountered people who claim to be “Christians” and don’t act like it. How have your interactions with such people made you feel?

4. **John. 8:31** Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. **32** Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Simply claiming you belong to God doesn’t make it so. How we live matters. The choices we make, the lifestyle choices and the decisions we make every day, provide evidence of whom we belong to.

We can assume that much of the lifestyle of Jesus’ audience was “good.” Yet they did not believe Jesus was who he claimed to be. They didn’t accept and put into practice what they heard from Jesus, and therefore were in bondage to sin.

Question: In your life, what is something you’ve had to change in order to put into practice Jesus’ teachings? Past or present.