

# MOBILISING KINGDOM LIVING

FAITH & RISK • PERSEVERANCE • DAILY



# “Knowing Our Heavenly Father”



“A father acts on behalf of his children by working, providing, intervening, struggling, and suffering for them. In so doing, he really stands in their place. He is not an isolated individual, but incorporates the selves of several people in his own self.”

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

# Christ Came to Reveal the Father...

Matt 11:27 NLT

<sup>27</sup> “My Father has entrusted everything to me. No one truly knows the Son except the Father, and no one truly knows the Father except the Son and **those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.**”

John 1:18 NLT

<sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father’s heart. **He has revealed God to us.**

# A Uniquely Intimate Relationship

John 17:5-6; 25-26<sub>NLT</sub>

<sup>5</sup> Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began. <sup>6</sup> “I have revealed you to **the ones you gave me from this world**. They were always yours. **You gave them to me**, and they have kept your word.

<sup>25</sup> “O righteous Father, the world doesn’t know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. <sup>26</sup> I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. **Then your love for me will be in them**, and I will be in them.”

# Included Fully As God's Children

Romans 8:15-16 NLT

<sup>15</sup> ...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."**  
<sup>16</sup> For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. <sup>17</sup> And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory.

# Who Is God Our Father?

Luke 15:20, 22-24 NLT

<sup>20</sup> ...he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.

<sup>22</sup> ...his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. <sup>23</sup> And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast... <sup>24</sup> ... So the party began.

# Our Father Wants Great Communication

Matt 6:6-9 NLT

<sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. <sup>7</sup> “When you pray, don’t babble on and on...

<sup>8</sup> Don’t be like them, for **your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!** <sup>9</sup> Pray like this:

Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy...

# Spiritual Fathers / Discipleship

1 Corinthians 4:14-16 NLT

<sup>14</sup> I am not writing these things to shame you, but to warn you as my beloved children. <sup>15</sup> For even if you had ten thousand others to teach you about Christ, you have only one spiritual father. For I became your father in Christ Jesus when I preached the Good News to you. <sup>16</sup> So I urge you to imitate me.

# God Our Father...

**Cares** Matt. 6:8

**Personal** Matt. 6:9

**Provider** Matt. 6:11

**Protector** Matt. 6:13

**Forgives** Matt. 6:14

**Gives Holy Spirit** Luke 11:13

**Compassionate** Luke 6:36

**Decides Times** Mark 13:32

**Always Working** John 5:17

**Discipline in Love** Heb. 12:9

## Questions to think about...

Q. How would my life change if I were closer relationally to God the Father?

Q. What would it take for me to become a spiritual father to someone else?

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