

**Fathers Needed**

**Psalm 68:5**

Big Idea – Everyone needs a Father.

Intro: Depending on your own personal family of origin and memories of your own father, this day may or may not be an easy one for you. If you were blessed with a good family and loving father be grateful for that. If not, I'm here to give you good news today about the heavenly Father.

"A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy house." Psalm 68:5

"You are the father of the fatherless." Psalm 10:14

"The LORD protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows..." Psalm 146:9

God is not the Father of us all. God is the Creator of us all. He is desirous of having a relationship with each one of us and bring us into His Family. Unlike earthly fathers, He alone is a perfect Father.

"Come out...and be separate, says the Lord. and I will receive you."

"I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:17, 18

He sent His only Son Jesus Christ into the world to die on the Cross for our sins so that we might become members of His family. He wants to give each one of us everything that we need. God will fill that father role in the lives of any who accept Him and are willing to be in His family.

How do we get into God's family? Not by birth – birth makes us sinners and slaves of sin. Sin is the thing that messes up our earthly family relationships and gets them all skewed and complicated.

However, God as a loving Father will:

1. Adopt us

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God...you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." Romans 8:14,15

Adoption takes place when we put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

*"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" John 1:12*

*"You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus" Galatians 3:26*

God as a loving Father will also,

2. Accept us

At the baptism of Jesus, God the Father's voice is heard saying: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

"This is my beloved Son," shows recognition. A mother shows love, but when the father recognizes with satisfaction his son, that is very special.

Children need words of affirmation & gratitude from their father.

If a person has never gotten that recognition; the Lord wants you to know that He is pleased when you follow His plan.

*"...to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved."* Ephesians 1:6

God as a loving Father will also,

### 3. Love us

*"Because of his great love 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."* Ephesians 1:5

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God!" 1 John 3:1

"This hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." Romans 5:5

God as a loving Father will also,

### 4. Correct us

Just as an earthly father is there to instruct and correct, so is our heavenly Father.

*Psalms 94:12, "Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O LORD, and teach out of Your law."*

*Proverbs 3:11-12, "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor detest His correction; for whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights."*

*God is our spiritual Father who corrects us, His children, because He loves us (Hebrews 12:5-9).*

God as a loving Father will also,

### 5. Protect us

*"You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance."* Psalms 32:7

*"The righteous cry, and the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all."* Psalms 34:17-19

*“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:6 - 7*

God as a loving Father will also,

6. Offer to guide us

A father's role is to patiently guide their children in the right path.

The heavenly father wants us to look to Him for guidance.

Sometimes fathers think they should be detached from their children; but children need fathers engaged in their development

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and he will direct thy paths. Proverbs 3: 5, 6*

He's approachable and accessible

*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16*

We are invited to come boldly and that we will receive.

Do our children approach us cautiously or boldly? Are we busy or accessible?

The Lord wants you to know, you can come to Him boldly. He not only has time, but wants to meet your need.

There may be a misconception about God; that He is unapproachable. Perhaps because of our sin or lack of communication with Him.

*“For through Christ we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.” Ephesians 2:18*

God as a loving Father will also,

7. Provide for us

*Matthew 6:30 And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?*

*31 “So don't worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’*

*32 These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs.*

*“Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!” Matthew 7:11*

God as a loving Father will also,

8. Forgive us

*"If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins..." 1 John 1:9*

*"For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." Matthew 6:14*

Is there something you haven't forgiven your father for? You ask, "Yes, but what if he's already died?" You need to do it for your sake, not his.

*14 "Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.*

*15 Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many." Hebrews 12:14, 15*

God as a loving Father will also,

9. Give us a Home

*"You will guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory." Psalm 73:24*

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

*And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Now God's presence is with people, and he will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them and will be their God.*

*4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death, sadness, crying, or pain, because all the old things are gone." Revelation 21:1-4*

*"In my Father's house are many mansions...I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2*

Our father God has a place for us to stay in his house. The best way to honor your heavenly Father is to make plans to stay in his house. The best way to honor your earthly father is to thank him for his service raising you the best way he knew.

Don't Go to Heaven Alone, Take Someone With You!

The best thing you fathers can do is make sure you take as many of your family with you to Heaven as possible.