



LAST WEEK'S
MESSAGE

A FATHER

LIKE NO OTHER



In the Old Testament, God is described as “Father” only 15 times. But in the New Testament, Jesus used the term “Father” referring to God over 165 times. Jesus even used a term of endearment – ABBA – because He wants us to know that God is our Father. In the prayer taught by Jesus to His disciples we can learn about God as our Father:

HE IS PREEMINENT (MATTHEW 6:9-10)

“Our Father who is in Heaven, Hallowed by Your name”: God is uniquely superior – He has no equal. Because of His preeminence, we must sanctify, set apart, honor, and glorify His name. The opposite of hallowing God’s Name is *‘profane His Name’*. When we live our lives in a way that brings shame to the Name of the Lord, we are not treating Him with the respect He deserves. Is our relationship with the preeminent God the Father evident in our life? It’s never too late to change! It is one thing to know God’s will and another thing to obey His will and live it out. We can show that God is preeminent in our life through our choices and actions that glorify Him.

HE IS OUR PROVIDER (MATTHEW 6:11)

“Give us this day our daily bread”: The word daily bread comes from the Greek word *“epiousios”* which translates as *“whatever is the need TODAY”*. Matthew 6:25-26 tells us that God provides for the birds, how much more will He provide for us. Our Heavenly Father is amazing! Matthew 7:9-11 shows that God not only knows our needs and provides, but He also knows what is best and when to give it to us.

this week’s memory verse

It is He (God) who changes the times and the epochs;
He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom
to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding.

DANIEL 2:21

A FATHER

LIKE NO OTHER

HE PARDONS US (MATTHEW 6:12)

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors”: Jesus wants us to know that our Heavenly Father is forgiving, and He expects us to forgive others as He has forgiven us. It is not an option – it is a command. Psalm 103:8, 10-12 paints a perfect picture of God’s lovingkindness and willingness to forgive us of our great iniquities. His forgiveness is based on His compassion, grace, and abounding love!

HE PROTECTS (MATTHEW 6:13)

“Do not lead us to temptation but deliver us from evil”: God protects, but He also allows trials to purify our faith. 1 Corinthians 10:13 gives us great comfort, because whatever trial that God allows, it is to build us up. It is calibrated in such a way that it is not beyond His ability to help us endure. God also protects through DISCIPLINE. Hebrews 12:6-7 is a reminder that the consequences of our bad choices are allowed so we can learn what is right and wrong. Hebrews 12:10-11 tells us that the purpose of trials is not to punish, but to train.

HE IS PASSIONATE

Our Heavenly Father loves us so much. 1 John 3:1 tells us that God loves us so much that He is calling us to be His children. John 1:12 tells us not everyone is a child of God. For God to be our Heavenly Father, we must receive and believe in His Son — Jesus Christ! Galatians 4:4 tells us God sent Jesus Christ for our redemption so we can become His children. To become a child of God, who is a Father Like No Other, is an amazing privilege!

discussion questions

How can you trust and understand God as your Heavenly Father?


How can you honor your earthly father?


If you are a father, how can you be a better father?


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