

Happy Father's Day!

June 17, 2018

Thank you so much for choosing to worship with us today! We are thrilled you are here!

What's a father supposed to be like anyhow? There are many kinds of fathers: the rough gruff tough guys who love their kids, but maybe aren't as tender with them. The quiet, thoughtful, nice guys who love their kids and say it often. No matter your temperament, life perspective, or your own family background, there are some qualities that every father should have. God is our Father. Psalm 68:5 "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." Jesus taught to pray, "Our Father". 15 times in the Sermon on the Mount Jesus taught us about our Father. If I wanted to know what a real father was like, I could learn how from God! What is a Godly father?

1. A GODLY FATHER IS A COMPASSIONATE FATHER.

Psalm 103:13-14 "As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust."

Aren't you glad that God remembers that we are dust? Compassion is care and concern for the other person, in regard to their situation in life. God is a compassionate God. (2 Cor 1:1-4). One of the roles of fatherhood for us is to be compassionate fathers. We remember what our children are - young, immature, learning, in need of our nurture. We give attention to their training. Comfort them in times of trouble.

2. A GODLY FATHER INSPIRES LOVE, NOT FEAR.

Although we are to fear God, we should not fear him so as to be afraid. Romans 8:15-17 -read. This is the "Abba" relationship - God is our close / loving Father. We share everything that Christ does in terms of inheritance. That should make us feel loved and accepted by God.

Galatians 4:6-7 "Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir."

James 1:17 "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

In the same way, Fathers, we need to be men who inspire love in our children, and not fear.

Conclusion:

The model of Fatherhood is our own spiritual Father, God. He shows us in at least two ways how to be a godly father: By compassion, and by inspiring love in our children. God has always wanted to be your Father - though many of his children have turned away from Him.

Article from John Dobbs in Monroe, LA

All Things for Christ,
Michael