

Go Deep Notes
June 18, 2017 - Father's Day
"Who's Your Daddy?"

There is a big difference in Father's Day and Mother's Day cards. Mom's cards are sentimental and emotional, while dad's cards are often humorous and less sentimental. Why is that?

Do you remember what types of gifts you've given your mom and/or dad over the years? Did they differ? How did your gifts reflect your relationship?

A Wake Forest University study found that kids say, "I love you" to their moms more than their dads. *Why do you think that is?*

How do you express love to your dad compared to your mom? If you have kids, how do your kids express love to you differently? What would it look like if you communicated love to your father the exact same way as you communicate to your mother?

Read Matthew 12:46-50

How does Jesus view his family compared to how we view our families today?

What would our communities, cities, world look like if we viewed family the way Jesus did? What would a family reunion in God's kingdom look like?

Jesus often refers to God as his, "Father in heaven." *How does seeing God as a Father impact your view of God?*

Read John 5:19

According to Jesus, we know who God is and what he does by seeing the things Jesus does. What does Jesus do? What actions can you think of that Jesus does for people?

Read Luke 4:18-19

We see God the Father when we see Christ. As followers of Christ, do our kids, parents, neighbors, and community see God the Father when they look at me? What kind of image of God the Father do I give people through my life, words, and actions?

Read Galatians 4:4-7

In the ancient world, and in much of the world today, one's social status is dependent on one's lineage and family wealth. Your success, worth, and value to society would be tied to what your dad did and how much wealth he had. Read the passage in Galatians again with this idea in mind.

What does it mean to be a child of God? Adopted as his children? What does it mean to be an heir to God's kingdom?

The kingdom of God is this world run with God's values. Matthew 5-7, The Sermon on the Mount, is Jesus' "Manifesto" of what the Kingdom of God looks like. That is what we will inherit as God's kingdom. How can we start being in charge of creating that kingdom now? **Read Luke 17:21**

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:9-12

How can we be like a 'father' to people around us? What would it look like to encourage, comfort, and remind people in our lives to live as heirs to the throne, as royalty, as God's children? What would it look like this week, in your home or workplace, to encourage the people around you in a way that shows them their worth and value as God sees them?

Think about the people in your life who have done that for you. Have you expressed love and gratitude to them?

Possible Prayer: God the Father, thank you for giving us Jesus to show us what you're like. Thank you for adopting us as your own, as royal heirs to your kingdom. Give us the strength to love courageously and to express gratitude and love to the people in our lives who have encouraged us and pushed us forward. Amen.