



SERIES: Pursuing Spiritual Fitness

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Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3 / Psalm 68:5

TITLE: God Is Our Daddy

What images come to mind when I say the word “God”? What pictures or feelings begin to develop when you hear the word “God”? Maybe it’s the imagery of a Father Time who sits in a rocking chair in the heavens while stroking his long white beard. Maybe it’s Zeus hurling down lightning bolts from the clouds. I heard one person dispel the notion of God, replacing Him with a flying spaghetti monster.

Maybe it’s the feeling of a loving shepherd who is caring for and protecting His flock. But maybe it’s not any of those, but of your own earthly father, which can bring up inspiration or, on the other hand, a lot of baggage. According to James Spiegel’s book, *The Making of an Atheist*, your view of God is largely impacted by your relationship with your earthly father.

But we are called to know God as He really is, not how we feel or think he ought or ought not to be.

Ephesians 1:3 says,

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.

God is relationally the Father of Jesus Christ. Now, this can be confusing, but God sent Jesus as His son to earth to bring us back to Him. In fact, in Ephesians 1:5, Paul tells us that we become God’s children. God adopts us, so now we can call God “Father.”

I love what Jesus said in His lesson on prayer. He said to pray this way, “Our Father.” In other words, Daddy! Papa! That means loving intimacy and availability.

Psalm 68:5 describes God’s fatherhood as,

Father to the fatherless, defender of widows— this is God, whose dwelling is holy.

God is holy or perfect. He’s a father to the abandoned and a defender of the defenseless. God may or may not be like your earthly father in some ways, but no matter what, God is infinitely better than we could ever deserve.

God is our Spiritual Father through Christ. But God is also trinitarian. What does that mean? It means God has always existed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We find this in Matthew 3, Matthew 28, Acts 7, and so on. This shows us that God is deeply relational.

You may have no relationship with your earthly father. You may have a bad relationship with your father. You may have a good, but imperfect relationship with your dad. But God – He is always there for you. He loves you. He cares for you. Hebrews 4 says we can approach God with confidence or boldness...anytime and anywhere.

So here's my challenge for you today.

Ask yourself how do I view God and why do I view Him that way? Where do I get that picture? And then approach God with confidence and say, "Daddy, I love you. I want to know you as you really are. Thank you for loving me and choosing me." And then I'd like to hear from you. Share how these verses change your view of God and what you'll do differently because of it.

I'm excited to hear how God's love is changing you day by day. Now, go win the day!