

FATHER HEART OF GOD

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God is the best Father.

God is the first instance of fatherhood. All other fathers flow from there. The idea of fatherhood was in His heart before creation. His real name is Father. He is a good Father.

Sometimes we don't take time to thank God before the next prayer request. We should have gratitude to say thank you to God every day.

Personal testimony: Absent biological father. Bitterness in my heart for a long time, because my father was not there when I needed him most, only my uncle. Longing for biological father to be with me. When I got born again I came back home to be to be a responsible, present father to model fatherhood to my own children. I now had to live a Kingdom lifestyle. I went to my biological father to forgive him of the pain he inflicted on me and made me bitter. On that day I received my freedom and a new relationship was established between the father and the son. Only then did I have peace. We made friends after that.

In the books of Psalms 23 and 34, we find King David coming closer to God, his heavenly Father after he received rejection both from his biological father and King Saul.

David said his trust is in Him and no other man.

Jesus said we must cast our eyes on him, the author and perfecter of our faith.

In **John 14:26** Jesus says, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through me". In other words **Jesus is the way and the destination is the Father**. This means **our true life is in God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ**.

According to South African Statistics over 60 % of children live in fatherless homes. Consequently, this contributes to the violent nature of our society, GBV and other serious crimes are mostly the product of the absent fathers in the homes. Most fathers are physically absent and some are emotional absent. Many don't have fathers on the weekend. There is only one message they need, the message of love, the love of the Father.

Fathers should be giving love, affirming and giving identity. This is what our Father showed us when He affirmed His Son, Jesus publicly at His baptism:

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
Matthew 3:17 NIV

John 1:12-13 NKJV

12But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

These are the two verses that changed my own life.

We receive our identity from our Father God. You belong to a Father and a family.

Titus 2:6-8 NKJV

6Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, 7in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, 8sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.

(NIV) v7 *In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness.*

Be an example. You bring calm in situations etc, not trouble.

Ephesians 3:14-21 AMP

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

We have a loving Father who will never leave or forsake us. No matter what happens, our Father is in control.