

Father's Day Lessons

I. God's Relationship to Humanity

A. Father describes the role God chose for himself in creation

Ephesians 3:14-15 (NASB)

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name

B. Jesus' Revelation ---God as Father

John 17:6 (NKJV)

⁶ "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world.

John 14:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Matthew 11:27 (NKJV)

²⁷ All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and **the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.**

II. A God-given Assignment

Ephesians 6:2-4 (NIV)

² "Honor your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise-- ³ "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." ⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Forgiveness . . . for our fathers

God I need your help, there is a pain I cannot outrun. In obedience to your Word, I forgive my father. I thank you for his life. I choose to bless him today. Thank you for your freedom in my life. in Jesus' name, amen.

Forgiveness . . . as fathers

God you have given me an assignment and I have not valued it. Please forgive me. I need your wisdom and courage as a man, a husband and father. I believe that what you called me to, you can enable me to fulfill. I am not a failure, in Christ Jesus I am victorious. Amen.

III. Life Lessons

A. Finish the job

Proverbs 12:24 (NIV)

²⁴ Diligent hands will rule, but laziness ends in slave labor.

1 Corinthians 9:24 (NIV)

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

B. Do your best

Proverbs 22:29 (NIV)

²⁹ Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.

C. God is real

Psalm 14:1-2 (NIV)

¹ The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.

² The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

Psalm 63:1 (NASB)

¹ O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and weary land where there is no water.

D. _____

Proverbs 6:6-11 (NIV)

⁶ Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! ⁷ It has no commander, no overseer or ruler,

⁸ yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. ⁹ How long will you lie there, you sluggard?

When will you get up from your sleep? ¹⁰ A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-- ¹¹ and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.

E. Tell the _____

Proverbs 6:16-17 (NASB)

¹⁶ There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: ¹⁷ Haughty eyes, **a lying tongue** . . .

F. _____ counts

Romans 5:2-4 (NASB)

² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. ³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, **proven character**; and proven character, hope;

G. People suffer, Be _____

Hebrews 12:7 (NIV)

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)

³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Almighty God,

Thank you for being my father. We stand in your presence today to acknowledge your authority, to submit to your discipline and to cooperate with your instruction. Holy Spirit help us to understand more fully God as our father. We pause now to thank you for our earthly fathers. We bless them in your name. Lord we rest in your great care for us, we rejoice in your strength and we find comfort in your truth. Thank you Lord Jesus for revealing to us the Father. Amen.

KEY: work matters; truth; character; compassionate