

Series: Knowing God by Name

“Abba, Father”

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Romans 8:14-17

1.31.16

- A. Names are important because they often do more than just _____ an individual. Names can actually reveal ____ a person is, and what he or she is ____.
- B. The many names for God help us in at least two ways:
1. First, They help us identify the one, _____.
 2. Second, God’s names describe His _____.
- C. These names are like miniature _____ filled with _____, given by God as a gift to us so we can actually know Him.
- D. Today we will explore one final name for God – _____.
- E. If we are going to understand the term “Father” in the Bible, we must be willing to explore a different _____ than our own.
- F. For most of history and in most cultures of the world, fathers have been the _____ in families.
- G. You might be surprised to discover that God is _____ referred to as Father in the Old Testament.
1. Twice God is referred to as Father in the _____ sense (Dt. 32:6; Isa. 64:8).
 2. Twice God describes himself as Father to the _____ who will be his son (1 Chronicles 17:13; 22:10).
 3. More often, God is referred to as Father in a defending, _____ context (Ps. 89:26; Isa. 63:16; Jer. 31:9).
 4. In a single _____ passage the Child is referred to as Father in terms suitable to only God himself (Isa. 9:6).
 5. Twice in Jeremiah, God puts “Father” into the _____ of His people in the form of address (Jer. 3:4; 3:19b)
- H. Jesus introduced us to God as _____ Father or Father in _____ (Mt.5:45; 6:9; 7:11; 10:32-33; 18:14, 19).
- I. _____ is one of the hallmarks of the use of Father by Jesus and the early church.
- J. _____ appears three times in the New Testament (Mk. 14:36; Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:6).
- K. In several places in the NT we see God as the universal Father in the context of a parent and his children (2 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 3:14; 1 Jn. 3:1; Eph.1:5).
- L. Although this idea of God being our Father is a _____ idea to many people, for others it is an _____ they struggle to overcome.
- M. If this metaphor could be rendered _____ by human sin, why would Jesus risk it?
1. First, theologically, the Father-Son metaphor, better than any other, describes the relationship of Jesus to God, and Jesus’ own divine nature.
 2. Secondly, I believe that Jesus was trying to heal and bring wholeness to both men and women who have been wounded by their human fathers.
- N. One of the most beautiful pictures that Jesus painted for us about what it means that God is our Father is found in the Parable of the _____.
1. We have a Father who gives us a _____.
 2. We have a Father who is _____ when we _____.
 3. We have a Father who gives us _____ when we deserve _____.
- O. One of the most _____ and _____ names God wants us to use for Him is Father.

Answer Key: A. identify, who, like. B.1. true, God. B.2. character. C. portraits, promises. D. Father. E. culture. F. primary, figure. G. seldom. G.1. creative. G.2. king. G.3. saving. G.4. Messianic. G.5. mouth. H. Heavenly, heaven. I. Intimacy. J. Abba. L. comforting, obstacle. M. useless. N. Prodigal, Son. N.1. free, will. N.2. compassion, repent. N.3. grace, judgment. O. powerful, meaningful.