

**WHO'S YOUR DADDY?
MATT. 6:9 / 10-13-19 / A.M.**

I. FOR ONE THING, THIS PHRASE DECLARES THAT GOD IS.

- A. Dr. E. V. Hill, until his death in 2003, was the pastor of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Los Angeles. It became one of the largest African-American churches in the U.S.
1. Dr. Hill was a popular speaker at Promise Keepers rallies.
 2. In one such rally in Chicago his sermon focused on only two words, "**God Is**".
 - a. Sometimes he shouted these words and at other times he uttered them in a whisper, but it was effective both ways.
 - b. His point was that everything in the world and universe hinges on the truth of these two words—"God is!"
 - c. In fact, this is the way the first verse of the Bible starts, "In the beginning God".
- B. The key to understanding the Lord's Prayer and everything else in life is to know that God Is!

II. FOR ANOTHER THING THIS PHRASE REVEALS WHOSE FATHER GOD IS.

- A. It's P.C. today to say, "We're All God's Children" but this isn't really true.
- B. Jesus says we should pray "Our Father".
1. What makes God "our" Father?
 2. He is our Father because Jesus is our brother—Gal. 3:26.
 3. Faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord means God is our Father.
- C. Why is it so vital that we know God is our Father?
1. It means as His Sons and Daughters we have rights and privileges others don't have.
 2. It also means we have a guarantee of access.
- D. The word Jesus uses here for Father also illustrates the kind of relationship we have with God.
1. Jesus used the Aramaic word "Abba" for "Father" in the Lord's Prayer. In English it's translated as "Daddy"
 2. The Apostle Paul used this same word in Gal. 4:6.

3. Jews in Jesus' day thought this a disrespectful way to refer to God. Jesus solved their objections by adding the phrase "Our Father in heaven".
 - a. "Abba" stresses God's immanence or closeness.
 - b. "Heaven" stresses God's transcendence or otherness.

III. STILL, FOR ANOTHER THING, THIS PHRASE REMINDS US WHAT ONLY GOD CAN DO.

- A. The phrase "In Heaven" refers to more than just "The Man Upstairs".
 1. Heaven is the center of the universe and the seat of all power and authority.
 2. As one pastor put it, it means "we have a friend in high places".
- B. This further means God has the power to help us when no one else can.
 1. "In heaven", then, means there's not a problem that He can't handle or solve.
 2. The Apostle Paul understood this when he said—Phil 4:19.