

June 18, 2017
I John 3:1-3

GOD OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

I. Introduction: Happy Father's Day!

- A. The word "father" conjures up different images for everyone.
- B. It is important to take our understanding of our Heavenly Father from _____ and not from our experience of our earthly father.
- C. None of our earthly fathers are perfect, but our Heavenly Father is _____. "Be perfect as your heavenly father is perfect." Matthew 5:48

II. WHAT WE CAN REMEMBER ABOUT OUR HEAVENLY FATHER:

- A. Our Heavenly Father Is A _____

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called **children** of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 1 John 3:1

- B. Our Heavenly Father Is A _____

"Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? [10] Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? [11] If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!**
Matthew 7:9-11

C. Our Heavenly Father Is A _____

“Holy Father, **protect** them by the power of your name--the name you gave me--so that they may be one as we are one. [12] While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me.” John 17:11-12

D. Our Heavenly Father Is A _____

“As a father has **compassion** on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; [14] for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. Psalm 103:13-14

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of June 18th to 24th
I John 3:1-3

Open It

1. *In what way(s) are you like your mother or father?
2. What was one of the benefits of being the child of your parents as you were growing up?
3. How would most people define the term "sin"?

Explore It

4. Why did John encourage his readers to continue in Christ? (2:28)
5. *What is true about everyone who does what is right? (2:29)
6. How has the Father lavished love upon believers? (3:1)
7. Why doesn't the world know Christians? (3:1)
8. What will happen to the children of God when they see Christ? (3:2)
9. What kind of person purifies himself or herself? (3:3)
10. What is sin? (3:4)
11. Why did Christ appear? (3:5)
12. *How is a person who lives in Christ unusual? (3:6)
13. What does it mean to do what is right? (3:7)
14. What did John say about the person who does what is sinful? (3:8)
15. Why did the Son of God appear? (3:8)
16. *Why can't the person who is born of God continue to sin? (3:9)
17. How are children of God and children of the devil identified? (3:10)

Get It

18. What does it mean to continue in Christ?
19. How are you preparing yourself for Christ's return?
20. What is so great about being a child of God?
21. *When have you felt that your non-Christian friends did not really know or understand you?
22. *How do you reconcile the fact that Christians do sin with the statements that they cannot sin or keep on sinning?
23. How can we know that we are children of God?
24. How do you need to change your daily routine so that you may be confident and unashamed before Christ at His Second Coming?

Apply It

25. What step will you take today to purify yourself?
26. *What area of weakness will you ask God to strengthen this week?