

## FAMILY #3 OUR FATHER

Matt. 6<sup>9</sup> “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,<sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. <sup>14</sup> For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. NIV

In the prayer that Jesus prayed he gives us the perfect image of our Father. When we say, “Our Father which art in heaven...”, we recognize that everything we seek and need, he has the power to bring it to make it happen.

In this passage we discover a father’s ear, a father’s hands, and a father’s heart.

### I. A FATHER’S HEARING (EARS)

“This, then, is how you should pray: v 9

A. A father listens when we give him **respect**- “hallowed be your name”

B. A father listens when we recognize his authority knowing he **rules**- “your kingdom come, your will be done..”

C. A father hears the cry of the righteous.

John 11 Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me,...

Psa. 34<sup>17</sup> The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;

Psa. 18<sup>6</sup> In my distress I called to the Lord ; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears.

### II. A FATHER’S HANDS

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

**A. A father’s hands represents his provision.**

III. My father’s hands were strong. He worked hard. He was a laborer. When I see his hands the remind me of how much he labored to meet my needs. I never went without.

1. A father’s hands are **large** enough to provide plenty.

Isa. 40<sup>12</sup> Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?

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2. A father is known by the way he provides.

1Tim. 5 <sup>8</sup> If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

“I have never seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed out begging for bread”.

The hands large enough to provide

**B. A father's hands represents his protection.**

v-13 .. **deliver us** from the evil one...

In our eyes our father can whip anyone!

His arms are the safest place in all the world.

“Whosoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered..”

“Many are the afflictions of the righteous but the Lord delivers us out of them all”

**C. A father's hands represents his power.**

The father has a grip strong enough to save you!

John 10 <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; **no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.**

### **III. A FATHER'S HEART**

**A. A father's heart is to give you love.**

1Jo 3 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!

Joh 3 16 For God so loved...

**B. A father's heart is to give you all he has obtained.**

Luke 12 32.... for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

**C. A father's heart is set to help you live your dream.**

Eph. 3 <sup>20</sup> 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, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Psa. 37 <sup>4</sup> Delight yourself in the Lord  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

How far will the father go to help you with your dreams?