

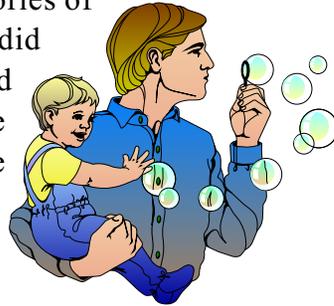
Munfordville Church of Christ

No 748

June 21, 2009

Fathers

I am blessed to have good memories of my father. Sometimes we did things together that I wish had never ended. There was a time when I thought he had all the answers to all the questions. There were times when I needed him the most and he was there. And there was a time when I thought my father could do anything.



When I think of those times, I wonder if we use the word “father” correctly. Do we call our earthly fathers “father” after God, or do we call God “Father” because of our earthly fathers? Those good times with my father came to an end. I didn’t want them to, but they ended anyway. Things change, people change, times change, but God stays the same. My Heavenly Father never changes. Our “good times” together never have to end, unless I end them.

One day I realized that my father didn’t know everything. He made mistakes. He wasn’t perfect, but God is. I can go to my Heavenly Father with all my problems, all my trials, and all my mistakes, and my Heavenly Father will have the answer.

My father was there when I needed him most, but it was impossible for him to be there all the time. There will be a time when I’ll need my father again, and he won’t be there, but God will be. The only time my Heavenly Father won’t be around is

when I’ve run away from Him. Even then, He’ll only be a prayer away.

There was a time when my father could have beat up your father, but that time has passed. I realized that other fathers were stronger or my father got weaker, but not God. My Heavenly Father is all-powerful. I see people all the time who can’t trust their Heavenly Father because of what their earthly fathers have done, or didn’t do. No matter how bad our earthly fathers may have been, we’ve got to realize that our Heavenly Father isn’t.

I hope you can call your earthly father “Father” because his earthly care for you resembles the work of your Heavenly Father in your life. If you can’t, then you can still discover all the wonderful things your Heavenly Father can do for you.

—Gene Baker
Malakoff, Texas

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I read a comic in a church bulletin that had two young people talking to each other. One made the comment, “You know, I’m beginning to unravel the mysteries of the Old Testament—I’ve started reading it.” The humor is obvious, but there is no humor in the fact that so many of our brethren know so little about the Bible. Many feel it is just too difficult to understand, but they never try reading it.

In Nehemiah 8:8 we are told, “*So they read in the book, in the law of God, distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.*” Understanding of the word of God is no different for us. We must “read in the book” before we can begin to understand.

No one would expect to master any discipline without first studying in that field. Likewise, to understand the Bible, we must dig into its depths. Dig deep, for therein one will find great, eternal treasures.

—Marty Edwards ❖

News

—**Hallie Davidson** is in the Hart County Health Care Center in Horse Cave. Continue to remember **Mandy Hankins, Jean Coffee, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry.**

—**Ali Rose Duncan** was omitted from June’s birthday list. Her birthday is June 29.



You certainly are familiar with the age-old discussion as to whether a glass is half empty or half full. Some say one is a pessimist if stating the glass is half empty and an optimist if seeing the glass as half full. It really does not matter what your perspective is, but one thing is certain, when the building is either half empty or half full during a worship service, it indicates half-hearted attitudes.



No doubt we all have busy schedules with jobs, families, and all the other responsibilities of life, but the Lord must come first. We need to be at the worship services. The Lord said in Matthew 6:33, *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness. . .”* Hebrews 10:25 says, *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”*

Granted, there will be times when one may not be able to attend due to an illness, a death in the family, or some other occurrence, but that is certainly the exception and not the rule. How many Christians do you know of who have not missed a service in years— maybe even decades? Are they any different from anyone else? Don’t they ever get sick? The difference is in their attitude and determination. They get sick, but they press on when the illness is minor or they simply don’t feel good. Other things happen, but the worship services come first.

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Sunday, June 14, 2009		
Classes	5	Matthew 3:1-17
Preaching	9	Matthew 6:1-12
Contribution	\$298.00	
Evening	18	Daniel 2:36-49
Wednesday, 17, 2009		
Classes	18	Exodus 19:1-25

Bible Quiz

There were what weather occurrences when the Lord appeared on Mt. Sinai?

Last Week’s Answer— From morning unto evening (Exodus 18:13)

Do we really enjoy and anticipate the worship service or is it drudgery to attend? Can we say with all sincerity the words of Psalm 122:1, *“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.”*

—Marty Edwards ❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)