

Praise The Father

Ephesians 1:2-3

- I. God is our _____ (Eph. 1:2).
 - A. Our Father is a _____.
 - 1. God delights in what He _____ (Gen. 1).
 - 2. God delights in us as His _____ and _____ children (Gen.1:31; Eph. 1:5-6).
 - B. Our Father cares for _____.
 - 1. In the Old Testament God cared for His children _____ by giving her love, significance, and security when she did not trust Him (Deut. 1:29-31).
 - 2. In the New Testament God cares for his adopted children the _____ — giving us love, significance and security by rescuing us from our sin through the sacrifice of Jesus (Rom. 5:8).
- II. He is not _____ at you (Eph. 1:2).
 - A. In the Old Testament, God the Father is patient, gracious and full of love (Ex. 34:6).
 - B. In the New Testament God the Father is also patient, gracious and full of love (Eph. 1:7-8).
 - C. God's message to us has always been _____ (Jn. 1:14-17).
- III. We should _____ Him (Eph. 1:3).
 - A. In the Old Testament God desired the praise of _____ (Jer. 4:1-2).
 - B. In the New Testament God desires the praise of the _____ (Heb. 13:15).
 - C. Praise is the appropriate _____ to the Father's grace (Deut. 1:32-33; Jas. 5:13b).

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Reflection

1. Describe the relationship you had /have with your biological/ adoptive Father.
2. How might your relationship with your biological/ adoptive Father affect your understanding of your heavenly Father?
3. Do you ever find yourself longing for love from someone or something but find that it disappoints? How do you respond when that happens?
4. How do you feel knowing that you are deeply loved, valued and provided for by the Father? What do you need to do in order to more greatly appreciate the love, self-worth and security that He gives you?
5. Take a moment to write a prayer or praise to your Father for his love.

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