

SERMON QUESTIONS

1. In Scripture, the lost are never referred to as God's children. Only believers have the unique and intimate relationship with Abba Father. God as Abba Father is only used three times in scripture including by Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane in Mark 14:36.

How should this special status affect our behavior and recognition of children of God?

2. Matthew writes in Matthew 3:16-17: As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.

How do these verses illustrate that God's love for His Son and His children(us) is not based on works? How is this evidenced in Ephesians 2:8 and elsewhere?

3. Pastor Ted provides personal examples of how his position as a father or father figure and his sister's adoption mirror how God's relationship with us changes the way we see everything.

How does our familial relationship with Abba Father as illustrated in the parable of the Prodigal Son, provide a wonderful example of loving Father God who unconditionally forgives and accepts His child?

Please share with your group your own examples about when you have demonstrated God's love in your position as parent or parental figure.