

Our Father in Heaven

A model for how to pray.

Matthew 6:9-13

Galatians 3:26-4:7



**God wants
full custody
of his children.
not just
weekend
visits.**

Discipleship is journeying to the
Father.

What prayer is and what it is not!

- Not an opportunity to show off.
- Not an opportunity for comparison.
- Not a religious ritual.
- It's the space for relationship with Father God.
- It's a two way conversation between friends.
- It's an awesome privilege to communicate with the God of Heaven.

Our.....

- Adopted into His family by the cross.
- Made possible by grace through faith.
- He knows us intimately.
- He loves us completely.
- He holds us protectively in the palm of His Hand.
- We gaze upon His radiance and our shadows reveal our need for Him. We meet with our choices and emerge from our shadows cleansed and renewed in our love for Him, each other and ourselves.

Our Father

- Experience is vital
- Absentee or abusive: choose different title.
- Father heart of God: Abba, papa, daddy almighty.
- I dared to call him Father: Bilquis Sheikh
- Moses had to cover his face when he left God's presence: today, because of Jesus, we can speak to Father face to face, creator and sustainer of everyone and everything.

In Heaven

- One who sits on the Throne of Grace invites us to join Him through prayer (preparation for being around the throne for all eternity).
- One who sees all from the perspective of heaven/eternity and who knows exactly what is best for us and when.
- One whose “All Authority in heaven and on earth” has been given to our Jesus and His Body, the Church, as a whole (one).

Paul spells it out in Galatians

- How do we become His children and has unique access to Him?
- Through Faith, confirmed by Baptism (water and spirit) and evidenced by clothing ourselves with Christ. Col. 3:12-14 Gal 5:22-23
- Results in complete unity and grains in the sand promise
- Example / Kairos / Galatians 4:4
- Result: Sons / Holy Spirit / Abba Father!
- Slave to Son / Heir of promise.

**Our Father in heaven,
Reveal who you are.
Set the world right;
Do what's best— as above, so below.
Keep us alive with three square meals.
Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving
others.
Keep us safe from ourselves and the
Devil.
You're in charge!
You can do anything you want!
You're ablaze in beauty!
Yes. Yes. Yes.**