

GOD IS OUR LOVING FATHER

Three misunderstandings people have about God.

- God is **Unreasonable**
- God is **Unreliable**
- God is **Unconcerned**

If we grew up with an unreasonable, unreliable, or an unconcerned father, then, we could view God in the same way!

Jesus described God as our ‘*heavenly*’ Father in *Matthew 6:9* “*Our Father in heaven...*”

WHAT KIND OF FATHER IS GOD?

- God is **CARING**

God is compassionate, loving, and gracious toward us.

*“As a father has **compassion** on his children, so the Lord has **compassion** on those who **honour** Him...”*
Psalms 104:13

Does God really care about our problems, our hurts and what really happens to us?

Yes, He does!

*Cast all your anxiety on Him, because **He cares** for you!*
1 Peter 5:7

God doesn't want us to worry about our needs either!

*God will give you everything you need because of His great riches in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:19***

Doubting if God really does care about us is a warning sign that we doubt God's love for us!

- God is DEPENDABLE

God is consistent and worthy of our trust.
We can count on Him.

***James 1:17** Every good and perfect gift is from **the Father** who **does not change** like shifting shadows.*

Inconsistent fathers produce insecure children.

God always acts the same way towards us through His love, forgiveness and acceptance – we can rely on Him!

God's consistency toward us does not depend upon us being consistent.

*Even if we are faithless, **He remains faithful** ...,*
2 Timothy 2:13

- God is **CLOSE** to us.

Many have grown up with absentee fathers.

God is never too **Busy** for us.

*Psalm 145:18 The Lord is **near** to all who call on Him.*

God is sensitive to our **Hurts**.

*Psalm 34:18 The Lord is **close** to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

*Isaiah 51:12a I am the One who **comforts** you...*

- God is **CAPABLE**.

God can handle any problem we give Him.
Nothing is beyond His ability and resources.

*Luke 1:37 For **nothing** is impossible with God.*

*He is able to do **far more** than we would ever dare to ask to even dream of – **infinitely beyond** our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes! **Ephesians 3:20***

If you view God through the lens of your disappointment or disapproval of your natural father, you will not see clearly all the wonderful attributes and beauty within God our heavenly Father.

- God **ACCEPTS** us.

Romans 8:38-39 (cev) ...nothing can ever separate us from His love ..., nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from God's love for us.

God's love attracts us to Himself. He knows everything about us and yet He still loves us!

1 Peter 4:8b (gnb) ... love (God's kind of love) covers over many sins.

God will not associate with our sin.

His love for us helps to move us away from sin and the shame and guilt that is attached to sin.

God loves us too much to give up on us. He wants to change us in ways we cannot change ourselves.

God sent His Son Jesus to pay the ultimate price of death so that you can now receive His gift of forgiveness.

1 John 1:9 But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.

Our greatest need is to be **accepted** and **forgiven**.

There is ***nothing*** too big for God to forgive!
God will never ***reject*** you!

Will you receive His forgiveness and His acceptance?