



“OUR FATHER”

Matthew 6:9; Galatians 3:26, 4:7 (ESV)

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MESSAGE NOTES

Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. — Matthew 6:9 – 15 (ESV)

Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven ...” — Matthew 6:9 (ESV)

- **Being adopted means we get to experience the gift of prayer**

... for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. — Galatians 3:26 (ESV)

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. — Galatians 3:27 – 28 (ESV)

- **Being adopted means we get to come to God with hope**

So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. — Galatians 4:7 (ESV)

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. — Romans 8:15 – 19 (ESV)

- **Being adopted means we have unconditional access to God**

And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” — Galatians 4:6 (ESV)

- **Being adopted means we can pray with freedom**

So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. — Galatians 4:7 (ESV)

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. — Galatians 4:4 – 5 (ESV)



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: How have the California fires led you to go to God in prayer? What have you been praying for?
- Why is our “*adoption*” through Christ such a powerful truth that unlocks our hearts in prayer?
- What do you find to be some of the barriers to prayer in your life?
- If you could grow your prayer life, what is one step you could take to get started?
- If you are participating in the 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting, what are you choosing to fast from and why?
- Why are the positive images of knowing God as “*Our Father*” so key to growing our relationship with Him?
- Read Galatians 4:6. How does knowing God as our “*Abba Father*” begin to change how we relate to God?
- Read Galatians 4:7. How does being an “*heir*” through Christ connect us to the hope we find in God through prayer?
- Read Romans 8:15 – 18. What principles in these verses encourage us to approach God confidently in prayer?