

Show'em Your Heavenly Father

(John 17 NIV) After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “**Father**, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, **that your Son may glorify you**. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 Now this is eternal life: **that they know you**, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 **I have brought you glory on earth** by finishing the **work you gave me to do**. 5 And **now, Father, glorify me in your presence** with the glory I had with you before the world began.

Key points:

1. Jesus came to **glorify the Father** so that the world know our heavenly Father
2. Jesus came to **glorify the Father** by doing the work of the Father
3. Jesus enjoyed **presence of the Father** therefore know His heart, Word and will...therefore, Jesus didn't need a building, denomination

Question:

1. Do you like talking about, show, post and glorify things like a new car, job, project, house, clothes, food, FB, IG, social media, etc.? How often do you do it?
2. How often do you show, post and glorify your heavenly Father? Your heavenly Father in your family, in your workplace, in your community, in your church?

What's stopping us from glorifying our heavenly Father and enjoying His presence today?

(John 8:44 NIV) You belong to your **father**, the **devil**, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a **murderer** from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and **the father of lies**.

USA Today – How America See's God

Here is what it said. Surveys say that 9 out of 10 Americans believe in God, but the way we picture that God reveals our attitudes on economics, justice, social morality, war, natural disasters, science, politics, love and more (say Paul Froese and Christopher Bader, sociologists at Baylor University). Their new book, America's Four Gods: What We Say About God – And What That Says About Us, examines our diverse visions of the Almighty and why they matter.

The study concludes **that Americans have four Gods. They are...**

The Authoritative God (28%)

The Distant God (24%)

The Critical God (21%)

The Benevolent God (22%)

What's striking about this study is that only 22% of Americans who believe in God believe that God is all-loving. Whereas 73% of Americans who believe in God believe Him to be Authoritative, Critical, and Distant.

What are the consequences of not glorifying our heavenly Father and enjoying His presence in our families today?

(Malachi 4:4-6) 4 “Remember to obey the Law of Moses, my servant—all the decrees and regulations that I gave him on Mount Sinai for all Israel. 5 “Look, I am sending you the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord arrives. 6 His preaching will turn the **hearts of fathers** to their **children**, and the **hearts of children** to their **fathers**. **Otherwise** I will come and **strike** the **land** with a **curse**.”

(Genesis 27:38) Esau said to his father, “**Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!**” Then **Esau wept aloud**.

What can we do to glorify our heavenly Father and enjoy His presence in our families today?

1. You need the same DNA of our heavenly father.

- **Divine Truth (UP; Connecting with God)** *Truth comes from God. It is the revelation of God to humankind. It is best seen in the person of Jesus and the Scriptures. Divine Truth is seen in the Incarnation (the Word becoming flesh) and in the Word of God.*
- **Nurturing Relationships (IN; Connecting with Each Other)** *Humans were never created to be alone. We are social creatures and have an intrinsic need for relationships. God Himself is relational and exists in community. God is love because God is relational.*
- **Apostolic Mission (OUT; Connecting with the Community)** *Apostolic means “sent as a representative with a message.” Christians are here for a purpose. We have been given a prime directive to fulfill: to make disciples of all nations. “As the Father has sent Me, so I am sending you.” John 20:21.*

2. Need to Leave A Legacy Of A Fathers Blessing...Don't need to be a Father so show the Father....But if you are a father, what an honor

1) Meaningful and appropriate touch

- We read in Genesis 27:26 that Isaac said, “Come near now and kiss me, my son.” This incident was not an isolated one.
- Meaningful touch was an essential element in bestowing the blessing in Old Testament homes. So it was with Isaac when he went to bless his son.
- Each time the blessing was given in the Scriptures, a meaningful touch provided a caring background to the words that would be spoken.

2) A spoken message

- The second element of the blessing involves a spoken message—one that is actually put into words.
- In many homes today such words of love and acceptance are seldom received.
- Parents in these homes assume that simply being present communicates the blessing—a tragic misconception.
- A blessing fulfills its purpose only when it is actually verbalized—spoken in person, written down, or preferably both.
- For a child in search of the blessing, silence communicates mostly confusion.
- Children who are left to fill in the blanks when it comes to what their parents think about them will often fail the test when it comes to feeling valuable and secure. Spoken or written words at least give the child an indication that he or she is worthy of some attention.
- Abraham spoke his blessing to his son Isaac. Isaac spoke a blessing to his son Jacob. Jacob gave a verbal blessing to each of his twelve sons and to two of his grandchildren. When God blessed us with the gift of his Son, it was his Word that “became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14).
- (Matthew 3:17 NKJV) And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

3) Attaching high value to the one being blessed

- In blessing Jacob (thinking it was Esau), Isaac said, “Surely, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field which the LORD has blessed. . . . Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you” (Gen. 27:27, 29). That pictures a very valuable person!

4) Picturing a special future for him or her

- Picturing a Special Future A fourth element of the blessing is the way it pictures a special future for the person being blessed. Isaac said to his son Jacob, “May God give you of the dew of heaven, of the fatness of the earth. . . . Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you” (Gen. 27:28–29).

5) An active commitment to fulfill the blessing

(Romans 8:15) So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you **received God’s Spirit when he adopted you as his own children**. Now we call him, “Abba, Father.”

THINK ABOUT IT

1. What are some examples you’ve observed of people following the father of lies?
2. What do you need to overcome to become a committed child of God and receive God’s DNA and Spirit of adoption?
 - **Divine Truth** (UP; Connecting with God)
 - **Nurturing Relationships** (IN; Connecting with Each Other)
 - **Apostolic Mission** (OUT; Connecting with the Community) *“As the Father has sent Me, so I am sending you.” John 20:21.*
3. What do you need to overcome to show the world your heavenly Father?

Call to action (So what? Now what?):

- What steps will you take this week to stand out for your heavenly Father?