



# GOD'S CHILDREN – OUR HEAVENLY FATHER (11)

## START HERE:

Our identity as God's children only makes sense in relation to God's identity as our Father.

We are invited to call him "Our Father" each time we speak to him.

We are invited to call him "Our Father" because all God's children are collectively his beloved people.

He does indeed love each of us personally and passionately.

But the identity of each child of God is intertwined with every other child of God.

The phrase "Our Father" describes both God himself and his relationships:

**God with me and God with you and God with all of us.**

**OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, MAY YOUR NAME BE KEPT HOLY.**

**MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME AND YOUR WILL BE DONE  
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN.**

**GIVE US DAILY BREAD, AND HELP US FORGIVE OTHERS  
AS YOU FORGIVE US.**

**PROTECT US FROM TEMPTATION AND RESCUE US FROM THE EVIL ONE.**

**READ THIS:** John 1:12-13 . Matthew 6:9-13 . Luke 11:2-4

## THINK ABOUT:

Copy the prayer (either Matthew 6:9-13 or Luke 11:2-4) in two different versions. Journal and/or talk about the importance of talking to God as one of his children.

## EXTRA THINGS

*The Lord's Prayer isn't actually called that in the Bible. It was how Jesus taught people to pray: simply clearly, reverently. If anyone had a right to speak casually to God, it was his own Son. But he didn't. Not here, or anywhere else. He addressed God as "Father" - which is both personal and respectful. He didn't say "Hey, Dad" or "Yo, Pops" or "Hey, God" or "Wutup?" or "Sup??"*

*Some traditions call this prayer the "Our Father." Others call it the "Pater Noster" which in Latin is literally "father of us."*

*"Hallowed" is an archaic form of the word "holy." It has technically only two syllables.*

*"For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever," isn't in the earliest Bible manuscripts.*

## EXTRA VERSES

*Read John 6:32-35 for some more thoughts about "daily bread."*

## EXTRA STUFF

Listen to "Our Father" at [THIS LINK](#).

Listen to "The Lord's Prayer" at [THIS LINK](#).

## EXTRA STUFF:

Listen to both of the prayers located under EXTRA STUFF. Write down any observations.

**AM:** Throughout today, pray the simple prayer the Jesus taught us.

**PM:** How did you experience God as your Father today?

**PRAY THIS:** *Dear Father who is in heaven, whose Son secured my salvation, and whose Spirit fills my heart - I am grateful to be your child. Thank you for loving me, for adopting me, and for calling me your son/daughter. Amen.*

