

EVERLASTING FATHER
THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF KNOWING GOD AS YOUR FATHER
1/3/16

Isaiah 9:6

I. Introduction: One of the most profound reasons Jesus came was so that we could know God as our _____.

A. Jesus came to make known not only the reality of God, but the relationship with God that is possible. Jesus came to give us the relationship He has with the Father.
John 14:7-9, 16:25-27

B. This is so important because to the degree we truly know God as Father we know _____ as sons and daughters. There is nothing more powerful and transforming in our lives than truly knowing God as our “Abba Father.”

1. Many Christians though sons still see and live as if they were _____.

2. At the core of so much insecurity, ineffectiveness, and bondage is the absence of the inner knowledge of the Father’s love.

C. Jesus made it possible to truly know what it means to move from slavery to _____.

1. Through Christ we are _____ into God’s family.

“God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.” (Eph. 1:5)

2. We stand in His righteousness and _____.

• *“Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.” (Eph. 1:4)*

• *“This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.” (Mat. 3:17)*

3. He gives us the Holy Spirit to make the adoption _____ and real.

“And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child.” (Gal. 4:6-7)

II. Specific things it means to truly know God as Father

A. We move from fear and respect of God to _____ with God. It is out of our fellowship with the Father we have clarity and power in our life.

1. One of the most revolutionary things Jesus brought was the concept of God who truly seeks intimacy with each of us.

“I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father, does, the Son does also. (Jn. 5:19-20)

2. Intimacy means confident access to God and boldness in _____.

- ***“At that time you won’t need to ask me for anything. I tell you the truth, you will ask the Father directly, and he will grant your request because you use my name.” (Jn. 16:23)***
- ***“If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone?... If you the, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” (Luke 11:11, 13)***

- B. We move from uncertainty to certainty and _____.

“You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.” (Ps. 139:16)

- C. We move from insecurity to _____.

To know ourselves as sons is to have the power to remove labels and to quit looking at ourselves through the eyes of other people or our past performance.

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” (Jn. 1:12-13)

- D. We move from poverty to partnership. We know His heart so we can show and share His heart for the world.

(Answers: I. Father, ourselves, slaves, sonship, adopted, approval, personal II. intimacy, prayer security, identity)