

What I Think About God – Week 1 – 5-19-24 – Pastor Guy

1. How would you describe God in one word?
2. If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

Matthew 6:9-13 - "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

3. Pastor Guy mentioned that in Jesus' time God was thought of as Holy, Distant, and Separate from mankind. How do you think the average person reacted to Jesus calling God our Father?
4. Jesus calls God our Father. What are your thoughts about God as your heavenly father?
5. What characteristics would you use to describe a father?

John 8:37-44 - I know that you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are looking for a way to kill me, because you have no room for my word. ³⁸ I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you are doing what you have heard from your father." ³⁹ "Abraham is our father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do what Abraham did. ⁴⁰ As it is, you are looking for a way to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. ⁴¹ You are doing the works of your own father." "We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself." ⁴² Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on my own; God sent me. ⁴³ Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. ⁴⁴ 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.

6. Jesus said that he knows God intimately, was in God's presence, and was actually one with the Father. (John 10:30). He contrasts that with the religious leader's relationship with God. In what ways were their relationships different?
7. What distinguishes someone who has a relationship with God from someone who doesn't, and what role does Jesus play in that?
8. Why do you think that Jesus is so harsh with these religious leaders?
9. These verses indicate that not everyone is one of God's children. How do you think that God feels about that? How do you feel about that?
10. How can we know that we are God's children?
11. Pastor Guy listed seven characteristics of God as our heavenly father. Which one stands out to you the most and why?

- Near & Listening
- Good
- Powerful
- Caring
- Giving
- Forgiving
- Protecting

12. Do you struggle to see God in any of these ways.
13. God calls us to be like him, which one of these 7 characteristics comes the easiest for you?
14. Which one is the hardest?
15. Why does what you believe about God matter?
16. How does what you believe about God impact your daily life?
17. Are there any beliefs that you have about God that may not be true?