

## Finding and Navigating The Narrow Way

### Lesson 5 – *Being A Child*

#### INTRODUCTION

Matt 23:9 *And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven.*

It goes without saying, that it is an indescribable honor to be the son and daughter of God, who CANNOT be threatened. There are many who play at the role of “father” in this life, even some of us. But as human, we are subject to at times operating blindly, sometimes too harshly, sometimes not harshly enough. We are flawed, and can sometimes even be distant and unreachable. It is a difficult thing to understand the totality of what a father should be at all times.

As a *child of God*, our Heavenly Father, we stand before our Creator who knows us far greater than any human could. Even when we can't understand the totality of this, what we must know is that as our Father, God loves us far more than we know. He knows our most minute flaws as well as our greatest qualities. We must know too, that we as God's children are part of an ETERNAL realm beyond what we can see with our human eyes. In that realm and in this one, we are GOD'S CHILD. Mat 7:7-11 *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"*

#### SCRIPTURES FOR THIS LESSON

**Mat 7:7** "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

**Matt 23:9** *And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven.*

**Luk 14:26** *"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.*

**Rom 8:19** For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

**Rom 8:29.30** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the *firstborn among many brothers*. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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**Gal 3:26,27** for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

**Gal 4:4-7** 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. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God."

**Heb 2:10-18** For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why **he is not ashamed to call them brothers**, saying, *"I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."* And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, *"Behold, I and the children God has given me."* Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

### **AFFIRMATIONS**

- God is infinitely good, far more loving, gentle and kind to His children than any earthly mother or father imaginable.
- God is infinitely complete – there is NOTHING that can threaten Him. There is NOTHING that can be taken from Him so as to make him less than complete, nor added to Him because He is already complete and needs nothing.
- WE – YOU are made in the likeness and glory of God the Father. We are finite, yet in God through Jesus, we are in and have complete union with our Father and our Father with us. In this relationship, we ARE risen in Him, seated in heavenly places and there is NOTHING that can separate us from the love of God.
- Before you can know WHO you are, you must come to know WHO God is! REMEMBER – your Father holds your robe, your ring, and your seat at His Table even now, eagerly awaiting for you to come to the realization that YOU are HIS child and that HE loves you.
- In life, there is only one RACE distinction that matters. You are either God's, or you are not. Which are we?

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- Because you are in Christ and Christ is in YOU, YOU are in the Father and the Father is in YOU, and YOU are HIS CHILD!

### QUESTIONS FOR THIS LESSON

What is the biggest challenge to you, to seeing God as YOUR Father? \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you believe that you are as much a son or daughter of God, as much as Jesus is your Elder Brother? \_\_\_\_\_

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What do you think the benefits of being a child of the Father are? \_\_\_\_\_

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How do you reflect the heart of your Father in your life \_\_\_\_\_

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