

Like Father, like son="Gospeling" through fathering

A. Fathering: *Like Father, like son*

like Father, like Son: sums up what God is after in fathering>**Heb. 1:3**

God has saved us so that we would be like Him in character and activity=**2 Peter 1:4**

We have been saved **SO WE WOULD BE LIKE OUR FATHER.**

Hopefully each of us who are fathers ask some of these questions:

"Am I "Gospeling" through fathering?"

"How am I doing?"

"Is my fathering the example I want my children and others to follow?"

"Considering "like father, like son", what will my child look like?"

In order to mature as fathers, we must have a compelling example to follow:

whom are we to consider as an example?

Who would be the **best** and **most complete** example of "Gospeling" through fathering?====**GOD**

B. God is THE Father:

God as Father is the most accurate revelation: HE is revealed as Father in both Testaments

Jesus' favorite title for God is *Father*=Matthew, about **44** times==John, **125** times.

Jesus was emphasizing the most **intimate and powerful relationship** of all,

GOD'S GREATEST DESIRE FOR US IS TO BE OUR FATHER

Like Father, like Son>>Jesus did what He did because of God's Fathering.

All the events of Jesus' life are the **result** and **revelation of God's Fathering**:

GODLY FATHERING MUST BE THE PRIORITY OF EVERY FATHER SO THAT THE GOSPEL WILL BE ACCURATELY AND COMPELLING COMMUNICATED WITHIN HIS FAMILY, WITHIN THE CHURCH AND TO THE WORLD.

C. "Gospeling" through fathering:

†What does God's Fathering look like†

the essence of God's Fathering, it is LOVE

God's Fathering is **the result** and **the outflow of His love**,

†What are some of the characteristics of God's love?

1 Cor. 13:4-8a = Gal. 5:22-23

♡FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

†In what ways has God extended His love toward us?

1. *God's love is sacrificial for the sake of His children:* **John 3:16a; Rom. 5:8**

♡FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

2. *God's love is impartial in His care and ministry to His children:* **1 Peter 1:17**

♡FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

3. *God's love is patient, disciplining and training His children for their good:* **Heb. 12:5-11**

♡FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

4. *God's love is always at work for the good of His family:* **John 5:17**

♡FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

5. *God's love creates and builds an intimate family relationship:* **1 John 4:7-10**

♡FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

6. *God's love protects us from loving the world:* **1 John 2:15-17**

♡ FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

7. *God's love causes us to love Jesus' return: 1 John 2:28*

♡ FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

8. *God's love produces righteous living in us: 1 John 3:7-10*

♡ FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

9. *God's love shows that He is always "there" for us*

Jeremiah 29:11-14

♡ FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

10. *God's love shepherds our heart for our complete care and blessing*

Psalm 23 gives us a wonderful overview of the effects of God's love

♡ FATHERS, DOES OUR LOVE LOOK LIKE THIS?

D. Our fathering:

by now we fathers should be overwhelmed:

But do not despair

FIRST: we have all the help we need in Christ=**Rom. 5:5; 2 Peter 1:2-3**

SECOND: We can pray with confidence knowing that God will teach us to be "like father, like son."=**1 John 5:14-15**

THIRD: we must walk in obedience to God's revealed will in His *Word*=**John 8:31-32**

FOURTH: we must look to others for examples, encouragement and help=**Phil. 3:17**

FIFTH: we must have faith that God will do all that He will do as we do all that we should do=**Phil 2:12-13**

E. Conclusion:

God's Fathering love will accomplish all that is need in us and for us.

Because God desired to be a Father to us,

He has Called us and saved us,

He is maturing us

He will preserve us to the end

He will give us an eternal Home with Him

SO THAT "we shall see His Face" **Rev. 22:4**

YES, tomorrow is Father's Day but as the children of God, every day is Father's day to God and should also be to us.