

Fathers Day

AT TWIN LAKES CHURCH

The Father Is Pleased with You

JUNE 18 & 19, 2011 • REV. DR. M. CRAIG BARNES

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented.

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." *Matthew 3:13-17 NRSV*

Notes



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Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Matthew 3:13–17. What is one thing from the weekend’s sermon that stood out to you?

How does this passage encourage you in your relationship with God?

In what area of your life do you especially need to know that you are God’s beloved child?

Thank God today for His love and encouragement. Talk to Him about the struggles you have when it comes to trusting His love and acceptance of you. Ask Him to use this week’s study of God’s Fatherhood to encourage you and grow you.

Tuesday

Please read Ephesians 1:3–14. What a glorious phrase: “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us. . . .”! It can be hard to believe that God wants to bless you. Sometimes we emotionally finish that sentence with “who has condemned me. . . or who is mad at me. . . .” In what area of your life are you struggling to believe that God has blessed you?

What blessings does the Apostle Paul list in these verses?

How have you seen those in your life?

Thank God today for the many blessings He has lavished on you. Pray that you’ll be aware of the blessings of His grace and that you’ll see them as gifts of love from Him to you.

Wednesday

Please read 1 John 3:1–3. What do these verses say about how God sees you?

What do they say about your response to God’s love?

Meditate on the phrases “. . . called children of God! And that is what we are!” Write down your first impression of how this phrase impacts you:

How do you think God would want this phrase to impact you?

Thank God today that He calls you His child. Pray that the truth of that will impact your heart, mind and actions.

Thursday

Please read Psalm 103:13–14. What is your initial reaction to these verses?

How could God’s compassion on you impact your view of yourself?

How could it impact your view of others?

Thank God today for His compassion towards you. Thank Him for the intimate knowledge He has of you. Ask God to give you the graciousness to extend His compassion to others in your life.

Friday

Please read Matthew 6:25–32. What things are you most worried about right now?

According to these verses, how can understanding God is your heavenly Father impact how you deal with worry?

How can you apply the truth that “your heavenly Father already knows all your needs” (the rendering of verse 32 in the NLT) to your worries right now?

Thank God today that He is your heavenly Father. Talk to Him about your worries. Ask God to bring to mind the phrase “your heavenly Father already knows all your needs” each time you deal with worry.

Saturday

Please read Daniel 3 in preparation for this weekend’s sermon. How has studying the book of Daniel impacted you so far?

Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that God will use the study of Daniel in your own life and the lives of the people in our church. Please pray for Camp Hammer and Kruz Kidz as they continue their summer programs. Pray that God will keep them safe, they’ll grow in their faith, and that they will have fun!



See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.” *1 John 3:1 NIV*