



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

June 20, 2021

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
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Elders:

Kendall Bear
Dana Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Larry Brackett
Aaron Evans
Larry Hill
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Dale Barger

Secretary:

Service Times:

Sunday

Bible Study 10 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Worship Service 6 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7 pm

Email:

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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

It's Father's Day Again!

When they came home from school, the first words out of our children's mouths was, "*Where's mom?*" I would usually hear, "*Where's Dad?*" when money was needed or a parental decision was required. Such is the common pecking order in a typical family. Moms are always needed. Dads? Well, perhaps not so much, until maybe there's a loud thunderstorm, or when there's something lurking outside their bedroom window, or when the bike is broken, or when they want to get their driver's license, or...well, you get the idea.

We dads sort of figure that "*need*" and "*love*" go hand in hand. To be needed is a way of being loved by family. "*Can you help me with my homework?*" is an expression of love for a dad because he is needed. We like for our children to depend on us since we have a heart full of love for them, and we want them to love us. God may feel the same way because He invites all of His children to trust in Him. Peter said that you should cast "*all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you*" (1 Pet. 5:7). Needing God and leaning upon God like a Father is a way that we express our love for Him.

While men may not use the "*love*" word as much as moms do, they still need to hear it. My children are all grown now, but they are comfortable in saying "*I love you*" to me and hearing the same from me. And, we really mean it. That's a great Father's Day gift. Why don't we give our Heavenly Father such a gift today?

Guy Orbison Jr.
Durango Church of Christ
Durango, CO

What Does it Mean to Be Loved by a Father?

What does it mean to be loved by a father? Let the apostle John answer.

“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!” (1 John 3:1 NKJV).

“Behold” See, behold, and understand. God wants us to understand how he loves us. He wants us to see all the ways God has shown his love toward us. God created man to be like him by giving him an immortal soul. God wanted us to be like him, but Genesis chapter three demonstrates just how unlike our father mankind has become.

“What manner of love” When man chose sin and death, God refused to let his creation perish. God sent his son to take men from darkness, hatred and death and bring them to light, love and life. The apostle Paul wrote, “But, God has demonstrated his own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us,” (**Romans 5:8 NASB**).

“The Father hath bestowed on us” God reached out to man while man was still living in sin and presented him a gift of his love: his only begotten son, Jesus (**John 3:16**). This gift was designed that we should learn through Jesus to become more like our Father in heaven, and the first of many brethren (**Romans 8:29**).

“That we should be called” That we should be called aloud by name. Some are proud to be called Smith, or Jones, or Brown, or White. Some are proud to be known as an award-winning writer, or a life-saving surgeon, or an Academy-award winning actor. God’s children should be proud and humbled to be called by the family name: Christian (**Acts 11:26**).

“The sons of God.” By obedient faith (**Romans 1:5**), we are related to Christ and the Father. A good name brings privileges, and wearing the name of Christ as a son of God means even more than having a human family name. We are servants of righteousness (**Romans 6:17-18**). We are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ (**Romans 8:17**). We are redeemed (**Galatians 3:13**). We have become children of God by putting Christ on in baptism (**Galatians 3:26-27**).

What does it mean to be loved by a father? It means more than anything.

John Henson
Dibrell church of Christ
McMinnville, TN