

## LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

"If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten." - Tony Robbins

A leader's job is to find a way from point A to point B. Everyone starts somewhere, and everyone is heading somewhere. If what we're doing right now is not getting you to where you want to go, then something needs to change. A leader identifies where they're at, where they need to go, and finds out how to get there.

**QUESTION - What is something new you can do to change then results you've been getting?**

# P12 LESSON: GOD IS A GOOD, GOOD FATHER.

Today we will continue studying how scripture shows us that God is a Good Good Father. Someone please read our main scripture James 1:16-17.

James 1:16-17 (NLT) 16 So don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from "God our Father", who created all the lights in the heavens. 18 He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

**Note:** The context of this portion of scripture is a persecuted church. When we are going through trials and tribulations it is easy to magnify our problems instead of our God. The goal of this teaching is to get us focused on how good our God is, not how big our problems are.

**QUESTION - What are some effective ways to take your focus off of your problems and onto God?**

**The purpose of today's P12 is** to get know who our God is so that we can grow in our love and faith in Him. *The better we know Him, the more we will love Him*, the more we love Him, the more we will show Him to this hurting World. Someone please read Hosea 6:3.

Hosea 6:3 (NLT) 3 Oh, that we might know the Lord! **Let us press on to know him. . .**

**QUESTION - What do you think scripture means when it says, "press on" to know him?**

When we grow in our knowledge of how Good our God is, we become more and more like Him. We will never trust and be like our God if we don't know Him. The better picture we have of who our God is, the more we will reflect His loving image to others. The only God people will see is the God we show them and introduce them to. Our lives are an introduction to who God is. Who would like to read 1 John 3:2?

1 John 3:2 (NLT) Dear friends, we are already God's children, but **he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is.**

**QUESTION - What are ways that you personally can get to know God better?**

**QUESTION - Why is it so important that you keep growing in your knowledge of who God is?**

Today, it is more obvious than ever that we need our Heavenly Father in our lives. The more our society falls away from identifying God as our father, the more fatherless homes we are creating. A Godless country results in more and more broken homes as men pursue the desires of their sinful and selfish nature. The word **Father** means (pater): nourisher, protector, provider, teacher, parent.

STATS (negative effects of a child without a father):

- 63% of Youth suicides come from fatherless homes
- 90% of runaways come from fatherless homes
- 71% of High School dropouts come from fatherless homes
- 70% of juvenile detentions come from fatherless homes
- 75% of adolescent patients in substance abuse come from fatherless homes.

This is only a physical representation of the tragedy of fatherless society. In the Spirit the consequences are much more severe because they are eternal. Without a relationship with our Heavenly Father, we are empty, hopeless, self-destructive, depressed, full of fear, addicted, lonely, broken hearted, lost, tormented, stuck, miserable, full of anger and hate, critical, prejudice, violent, abused and an abuser, suicidal, mentally tormented, full of worry, demonized, sick both physically and emotionally, broken relationships and not knowing how to fix it, under a generational curse of poverty, divided families and worst of all headed to eternal destruction.

**QUESTION - Have you witnessed any of these negative effects in your life due to a father not being in the home?**

**THE GOOD NEWS OUR GOOD GOD IS A FATHER TO THE FATHERLESS.** He came to rescue and adopt everyone of us into His family. All of us need a relationship with our Heavenly Father to be whole and have eternal life but it has never been more obvious. Someone please read Psalms 68:5.

Psalms 68:5 (CSB) **God in his holy dwelling is a father of the fatherless and a champion of widows.**

**QUESTION - How has God been a loving Father in your life?**

**God shows us His goodness in several ways. Here are a few:**

### **1. THROUGH HIS CREATION**

The sun, stars, mountains, oceans, trees, rivers... all of this was created for us by a Good Good Father! Take a look at Romans 1:20. Someone please read that.

Romans 1:20 (NLT) For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. **Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities —his eternal power and divine nature.** So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

### **2. THROUGH JESUS.**

If we want to see how good The Father is just look at the Son. Study the life of Jesus and you will know the Father. Seeing and hearing the Son, is seeing and hearing the Father. Jesus only said and did what the Father said and did. Someone please read John 14:9-11.

John 14:9-11 (NLT) 9 Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? **Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!** So why are you asking me to show him to you? 10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? **The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me.** 11 Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or **at least believe because of the work you have seen me do.**

**QUESTION - How did Jesus show us how Good our Father is?**

**JESUS SHOWED US HOW GOOD OUR FATHER IS BY GOING AROUND DOING GOOD.**

Acts 10:38 (NLT) And you know that **God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.**

## **THE ONLY WAY TO COME TO THE FATHER IS THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST.**

• John 14:6 (NLT) Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one can come to the Father except through me.**

**WE BECOME HIS CHILDREN THE MOMENT THAT WE REPENT OF OUR SINS, TURN TO CHRIST AND RECEIVE THE FREE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** (He becomes our father when He infuses us with His Spirit. )

• Acts 2:38 (NLT) Peter replied, “**Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

**QUESTION - If there is anyone that would like to repent and turn to God, today is the day. Let’s pray for you.**

**LAST QUESTION - What is something you learned today?**

## **GIVING**

PROVERBS 11:25 A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. Thank you for your giving and generosity. So many lives have been transformed by the love of Jesus simply because you were willing to share God’s love in your giving. Our generosity translates into souls for Jesus! Let’s give today using The Way World Outreach app.