



God the **Father** had a wonderful plan to send God the Son to save us and God the Spirit to guide us. God is **ABOVE** us. Nothing else, no one else is like him and nothing matters more than building a relationship with him. Knowing God is more important than knowing anything else.

What does the Bible mean when it refers to **God “the Father”**? Throughout the New Testament, God the Father is revealed as:

- The Father of _____ (Colossians 1:3)

Do you remember how Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane? **“Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done”** (Luke 22:42) And do you remember the **REALLY** special way Jesus taught **US** to pray? **“Our Father in heaven...”** (Matthew 6:9)

- The Father of _____ (2 Corinthians 1:3)
- The Father of _____ (Hebrews 12:9)
- The Father of _____ (James 1:17)

On top of it all, at the heart of the gospel is the news of the Father with a plan to **save** us. Is your Bible open to **Ephesians 1**? Notice these “good news” verses about our Father’s plan:



Blessed be the God and _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places... (Ephesians 1:3)

...making known to us the mystery of his _____, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a _____ for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. (Ephesians 1:9-10)

“For God so loved the world...” What **wonderful** news!

FOUNDATION STONES

Can you find **Matthew 5** in your Bible? Let's notice what Jesus tells us about **God** in his famous **Sermon on the Mount**. Can you find and circle every time Jesus calls God "**Father**"? What can we learn from...



"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." (Matthew 5:43-45)

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:1, 3-4)

"But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matthew 6:25-26)

