

SHOW US THE FATHER

- Our Word for 2022:

Fathers

A
Atmosphere – Awareness – Anticipation

M
Mothers

I
Investment - Involvement - Interaction

L
Look Around!

Y
You

- **John 14:1-12** 8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." 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?"
- **Very different contrast:**
- What is God really like? Some people think the most important question of life is "Do you believe in God?" But a more important question is "What kind of God do you believe in?"
 - Some people picture God as a task master who gets great joy out of disciplining His people when they make a mistake. He has a bunch of rules in force that no one believes they can accomplish so they feel that He is always mad at us and correcting us.
 - Others picture God as a buddy. He will forgive anything no matter what you do or how you act. In the end, all go to heaven because a loving God "would never send anyone to hell"

3 Parables in Luke 15.

- **The Father's Heart:**
- **The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin**
 - Both parables highlighted the need to find the lost!
 - Both demonstrated the determination to find the lost!
 - Both expressed the joy and rejoicing when the lost are found!
- **The Prodigal**
 - The Father Has tremendous love for you, so much that he sent His only Son to die for you!
 - He regrets your rebellion but, gives you the freedom to choose to!
 - He runs to meet you when you repent and return to Him!
 - He immediately restores you! **Exuberant joy when we return!!**

- **Our quest to “Know the Father”**
- “The Shack”
 - What was it about the book that was such a huge draw or interest to people?
 - Making “**The Father**” too simplistic, or so distant and unapproachable!
- What do we think the #1 priority in the church should be?
 - Leviticus 20:26 You must be holy because I, the Lord, am holy. I have set you apart from all other people to be my very own. NLT
 - 1 Peter 1:15-16 But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. 16 For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy." NLT

“The idea of holiness is so central to biblical teaching that it is said of God, “Holy is his name” (Luke 1:49). His name is holy because He is holy. He is not always treated with holy reverence. His name is trampled through the dirt of this world. It functions as a curse word, a platform for the obscene. That the world has little respect for God is vividly seen by the way the world regards His name. No honor. No reverence. No awe before Him.” (The Holiness of God)

- Look with me at the Lord's Prayer:
- Matthew 6:9-13 Pray then like this: " Our Father in heaven, **hallowed be your name.**
10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
11 Give us this day our daily bread, 12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ESV
- **How we understand the person and character of God the Father affects every aspect of our lives.**

- Open the Eyes of My Heart

Isaiah 6:1-7 In the year of King, Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called out to another and said,

"Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined!, Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts."

6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, with a burning coal in his hand which he had taken from the altar with tongs. 7 And he touched my mouth with it and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away, and your sin is forgiven." NASB

The Call - The prophet in Old Testament Israel was a lonely man. He was a rugged individualist singled out by God for a painful task.

The Timing - We are told that it came to pass in the year that King Uzziah died.

- **2 Chronicles 26:3-5** Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-two years. His mother was Jecoliah from Jerusalem. 4 He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight, just as his father, Amaziah, had done. 5 Uzziah sought God during the days of Zechariah, who taught him to fear God. And as long as the king sought guidance from the Lord, God gave him success.
- **2 Chronicles 26:6-15 Great Achievement and Success**
- **2 Chronicles 26:16-21** But when he had become powerful, he also became proud, which led to his downfall. He sinned against the Lord his God by entering the sanctuary of the Lord's Temple and personally burning incense on the incense altar. 17 Azariah the high priest went in after him with eighty other priests of the Lord, all brave men. 18 They confronted King Uzziah and said, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord. That is the work of the priests alone, the descendants of Aaron who are set apart for this work. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have sinned. The Lord God will not honor you for this!"

Isaiah went to the temple, presumably looking for consolation in a time of national and personal grief.

He got more than he bargained for: **“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple” (Isaiah 6:1)**

Lord - Adonai means “sovereign one.”

LORD - Jahweh is the sacred name of God, the name by which God revealed Himself to Moses in the burning bush. This is the unspeakable name, the ineffable name, the holy name that is guarded from profanity in the life of Israel. Normally it occurs only with the use of its four consonants—yhwh. It is therefore referred to as the sacred tetragrammaton, the unspeakable four letters. (The Holiness of God)

- When Isaiah came to the temple, there was a crisis of sovereignty in the land. Uzziah was dead. The eyes of Isaiah were opened to see the real king of the nation. He saw God seated on the throne, the sovereign one.
- Humans are not allowed to see the face of God. The Scriptures warn that no person can see God and live.
- **Moses Request** - “Let me see your face. Show me your glory.” The request was denied: And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.” Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”
(Exodus 33:19-23)

God allowed Moses to see His hindquarters but never His face. When Moses returned from the mount, his face was shining.

- Moses' face was too dazzling for them to look upon. So Moses put a veil over his face so that the people could approach him.
- This was a reflection of the glory from the back of God, not the refulgent glory of His face.
- If people are terrified by the sight of the reflected glory of the back parts of God, how can anyone stand to gaze directly into His holy face?
- **Yet the final goal of every Christian is to be allowed to see what was denied to Moses. We want to see Him face-to-face.** We want to bask in the radiant glory of His divine countenance.
- It was the hope of every Jew, a hope instilled in the most famous and beloved benediction of Israel: **“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace” (Num. 6:24-26).** This hope, crystallized in the benediction of Israel, becomes more than a hope for the Christian—it becomes a promise.
(The Holiness of God)