

## SERMON NOTES



### Gifts from your Father!

June 16, 2024

*Matthew 3:16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."*

#### 1. Gift #1: He is always \_\_\_\_\_ with you!

- *Matthew 6:7 And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. 8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.*
- *Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."*

#### 2. Gift #2: He is willing to \_\_\_\_\_ you!

- *Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*
- *Galatians 3:26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

### **3. Gift #3: He is selflessly \_\_\_\_\_ you!**

- *John 3:16-17 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*
- *Proverbs 3:11-12 My son, do not despise the Lord’s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, 12 because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.*
- *Matthew 7:9 “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!*

### **4. Gift #4: He is extremely \_\_\_\_\_ of you!**

- *Luke 12:31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. 32 “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.*
- *Matthew 25:23 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’*

### **5. Dads, never underestimate the \_\_\_\_\_ you are to your children!**

- *Here are a few ways that God designed dads to have a unique influence on their families:*
  - *A father’s strength can be powerful*
  - *A dad’s words can be fueling and inspirational*
  - *Hugs from a dad can be deeply comforting*
  - *A dad’s smiles can instill joy and confidence*
  - *Time with a dad can be fun and productive*
  - *A dad’s physicality can be challenging*
  - *A dad’s guidance can be life-changing and foundational*
  - *A father’s correction can be life-saving and life-giving*
  - *Adventures with a dad can be exciting and memorable<sup>1</sup>*
- *According to the Father Involvement Research Alliance review, girls with involved fathers have higher self-esteem, and teenage girls who are close to their dads are less likely to become pregnant. Boys show less aggression, less impulsivity, and*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/fathers-matter-the-importance-of-a-father/>

more self-direction. As young adults, children of involved fathers are more likely to achieve higher levels of education, find success in their careers, have higher levels of self-acceptance and experience psychological well-being. Adults who had involved fathers are more likely to be tolerant and understanding, have supportive social networks made up of close friends, and have long-term successful marriages.<sup>2</sup>

- Another survey found that if a child is the first person in a household to become a Christian, there is a 3.5% probability everyone else in the household will follow. If the mother is the first to become a Christian, there is a 17% probability everyone else in the household will follow. However, when the father is first, there is a \_\_\_\_\_% probability everyone else in the household will follow.<sup>3</sup>

**Everyone Outreach Witness Idea:** Do you have a friend who is a dad? Write them a text to encourage them in their role as a dad, affirming the positive impact God is using them to have on their child(ren).

NEXT SUNDAY: Guest Preacher: Pastor Dan Laitinen "Faith is a Matter of Fire & Smoke!"

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*4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

*Deuteronomy 6:4-7*

## MY PERSONAL NOTES

<sup>2</sup> (<https://fathermatters.org/why-kids-need-their-dads/>)

<sup>3</sup> <https://nickcady.org/2016/06/20/the-impact-on-kids-of-dads-faith-and-church-attendance/>

## **SERMON REFLECTIONS: Apply to My Life**

**The thought the Spirit is leading me to focus on is:**

**The change the Spirit is leading me to work on is:**

**The action the Spirit is prompting me to take is:**

**My prayers today are:**

**Someone I would like to bless with today's message:**