

PRAYER BULLETIN #210, 04MAY2022

COME TO THE HEAVENLY FATHER

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"

1 John 3:1

REFLECTION

Growing up, I had a close relationship with my father (we still do!) probably because we understood each other very well. He was strict with us but my siblings and I knew that it was for our good that he had to cane us when we were naughty. We didn't see Pa often because he was on shift duty. However, whenever he could, he brought us out to swim or to Macritchie Reservoir and had us model for his photography sessions (photography was his other passion.)

My Pa was not rich and didn't shower us with lots of material stuff but he gave out of his treasure trove of experiences and set for us an example in how he relates to others and his own experience with his father. As a father, and now grandfather, he shows his love and care for us in quiet ways - by bringing us in prayer to God and offering advice whenever we need it. His concern is always for our spiritual well-being and our walk with God. In him, I see a glimpse of how God, my heavenly Father shows His love for me.

God has watched over me even before I knew Him in my teens and He continues to be with me through the seasons of life. I know that with my heavenly PaPa, I can just come to Him as I am. I don't have to be bothered by whether I am rich or pretty, smart or capable; God cares for me just as I am, in big and small ways, even when we think He doesn't care.

My friends if you have wondered where is God when your loved one is dying, He is right there! If you wonder whether He understands your pain, remember He had to send His only Son to the cross and watched him die. The God of the Bible wants to lavish you with His love, if you only let Him. Some of us may have a strained relationship with our earthly father and cannot imagine a loving heavenly Father. May I ask you to give God a chance. Would you trust God and hand over the relationship to God and allow Him to heal and restore? If you are a father and struggle to be a good father to your children, don't be afraid to ask our heavenly Father to give you wisdom to lead your family towards holy and right living. Come to our heavenly Father.

PRAYER

Abba Father, we thank You that You showers us with all good gifts to build us up for Your purpose and glory. We

thank You that You formed us in our mother's womb and know the number of hairs on our head. Help us to always remember this generous love that You have lavished upon us and that we are to share this love with those around us who are so in need of it. In Jesus' name, amen.

SUPPLICATION for

- Give thanks for our earthly fathers who provide for our needs in the family.
- Pray for ourselves that God will help us to be blessing in our families.
- Pray for our church that we will be a community that looks out for one another, so that no one will be left to fend on their own. We pray that our church may be a community that will build up both our own earthly families as well as members of the family of God.
- Pray for God to bring restoration to broken relationships all over the world. That God will raise up fathers to take their roles as fathers seriously, not just to provide for their families materially but also to lead them spiritually.

You may have seen the video clip of two of our members testimonies - one about the influence of his earthly father and another about his desire to be a good father to his daughters. Here are the links. May you be encouraged by their stories and also to pray for them.

- <https://youtu.be/EhLjkirje7A>

- <https://youtu.be/Fyz6zjQVUug>

Here's a song that reminds us of God's love for us.

- <https://youtu.be/A0CDqG5STPM>

"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him."

Psalms 103:11

If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:

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