

## **Our Father in heaven and on earth**

When Jesus taught his disciples to pray, He began, "Our Father". It is one of many Scripture passages that refers to God as Father. I find it fascinating that when God wanted us to know what He is like, He chose to emphasize His fatherhood. What do we know about God as our Father? According to Jesus' prayer, we know that our Father in heaven is available and attentive to us. It is also clear that He provides for us giving us our daily bread. He forgives us and protects us from evil.

What a wonderful pattern for us fathers who aren't in heaven, yet!! Granted, there is only one perfect Father in the universe, but He sets the pace for the rest of us less than perfect fathers. I discovered early in my role as a father that my children were not impressed with what I did, or the titles I have, or the places I have been. They craved my time and attention, the provisions I provided for basic needs, a love that patiently forgave, and the creation of a safe place for them to grow and mature. It's a short but important list of fatherly duties.

And what about those who didn't get a dad who met those needs? Take heart in the fact that through Jesus, you have a perfect heavenly Father that will never grow tired of holding His children. Even a not so perfect father like me, needs guidance and strength, from Our Father!!!!

**Happy Fathers Day!!!**

**Deacon Mike**