

The Perfect Father

Message to Conversation Guide

1. When you hear the word “father,” what phrases and images come to mind?
2. Discuss this vital verse below. What does the word “perfect” really mean?

Matthew 5:48

48 Be perfect, therefore, **as your heavenly Father is perfect.** NIV

3. **God, the Perfect Father, Loves us fully.** Discuss the verses below that illustrate and support this idea.

Ge. 37:3-4

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. **4 When his brothers saw that their Father loved him more than any of them,** they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. NIV

Romans 5:5

5 And hope does not put us to shame, because **God's love has been poured out into our hearts** through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. NIV

1 John 3:1

1 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. NIV

4. **God, the Perfect Father, takes the initiative to be with us.** Discuss the scriptures below that support this idea.

Ge. 3:8-10

8 Then the man and his **wife heard the sound of the Lord God** as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. **9 But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”** **10 He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”** NIV

Ro. 5:8

8 But **God demonstrates his own love for us** in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. NIV

Philippians 2:6-11

6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; **7 rather, he made himself nothing**

**by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.**

**8 And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself**

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

*9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,*

*10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

*11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. NIV.*

1 John 1:3-4

**3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have
fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son,
Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete. NIV**

5. **God, the Perfect Father, is Patient with us.** Discuss the scriptures below that support this idea.

John 21:15

*15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John,
do you love me more than these?”*

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

*Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He
said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”*

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. NIV (see John 18:18)

6. **God, the Perfect Father, is with us in our suffering.** Discuss the scriptures below that support this idea.

Psalms 56:8

**8 You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your
bottle. You have recorded each one in your book. NLT**

Isaiah 53:3-5

**3 He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.**

