

GOD THE FATHER

“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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.”

I JOHN 3:1-13

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.”

JOHN 1:12-13

God has revealed himself throughout the pages of Scripture to be a father. God is our Heavenly Father. However, when we bring our own history and experiences of fathers to this new understanding of God, we must ask the question, “what kind of a father is God”? The Apostle John helps us answer this question in 1 John 3 when he erupts with emotion about the love that God has for us, his children, and the difference this makes in our lives. In this passage, John shows us 3 essential characteristics of God’s fatherly love for us:

1. God’s love is a gift _____
2. God’s love is a miracle _____
3. God’s love is transformational _____