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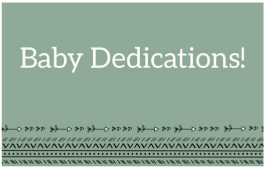
Grace Community Church of Topsail

June 21st, Father's Day: Learning Fatherhood From Our Heavenly Father

GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF TOPSAIL

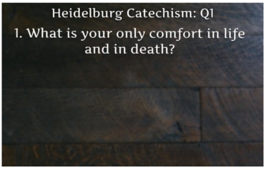

Baby Dedications!

Family Camp Registration Now Open!

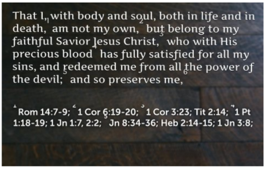
Register via the Events Tab in the app

Friday-Sunday, August 21-23, 2026

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

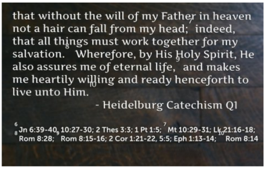

Heidelburg Catechism: Q1

1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?



That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death,[1] am not my own,[2] but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,[3] who with His precious blood[4] has fully satisfied for all my sins, and redeemed me from all the power of the devil;[5] and so preserves me,

[1] Rom 14:7-9; [2] 1 Cor 6:19-20; [3] 1 Cor 3:23; Tit 2:14; [4] 1 Pt 1:18-19; 1 Jn 1:7, 2:2; [5] Jn 8:34-36; Heb 2:14-15; 1 Jn 3:8;



that without the will of my Father in heaven[6] not a hair can fall from my head;[7] indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation.[8] Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life,[9] and makes me heartily willing and ready henceforth to live unto Him.[10]

- Heidelburg Catechism Q1

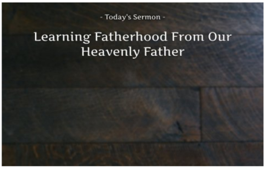
[6] Jn 6:39-40, 10:27-30; 2 Thes 3:3; 1 Pt 1:5; [7] Mt 10:29-31; Lk 21:16-18; [8] Rom 8:28; [9] Rom 8:15-16; 2 Cor 1:21-22, 5:5; Eph 1:13-14; [10] Rom 8:14

♫ **His Mercy Is More**

♫ **How Deep The Father's Love For Us**

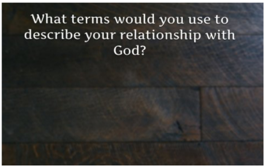
♫ **All Creatures Of Our God And King**

♫ **King Of Kings**



- Today's Sermon -

Learning Fatherhood From Our Heavenly Father



What terms would you use to describe your relationship with God?

Galatians 4:4–7 ESV

> “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into...”

Continue reading »

1 John 3:1–2 ESV

> “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet...”

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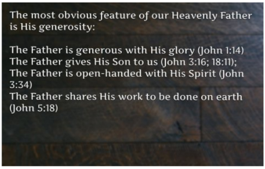
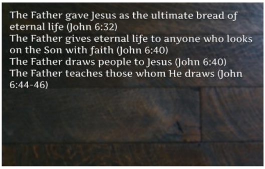
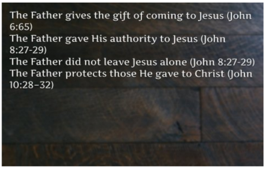


The most obvious feature of our Heavenly Father is His generosity:

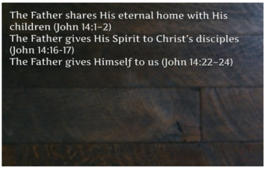
The Father is generous with His glory (John 1:14)
The Father gives His Son to us (John 3:16; 18:11);
The Father is open-handed with His Spirit (John 3:34)
The Father shares His work to be done on earth (John 5:18)



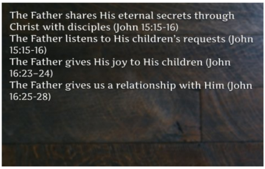
The Father gave Jesus as the ultimate bread of eternal life (John 6:32)
The Father gives eternal life to anyone who looks on the Son with faith (John 6:40)
The Father draws people to Jesus (John 6:40)
The Father teaches those whom He draws (John 6:44-46)



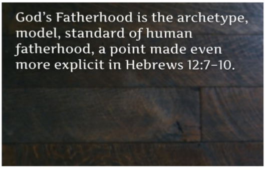
The Father gives the gift of coming to Jesus (John 6:65)
The Father gave His authority to Jesus (John 8:27-29)
The Father did not leave Jesus alone (John 8:27-29)
The Father protects those He gave to Christ (John 10:28–32)



The Father shares His eternal home with His children (John 14:1–2)
The Father gives His Spirit to Christ's disciples (John 14:16-17)
The Father gives Himself to us (John 14:22–24)



The Father shares His eternal secrets through Christ with disciples (John 15:15-16)
The Father listens to His children's requests (John 15:15-16)
The Father gives His joy to His children (John 16:23–24)
The Father gives us a relationship with Him (John 16:25-28)



God's Fatherhood is the archetype, model, standard of human fatherhood, a point made even more explicit in Hebrews 12:7–10.

Hebrews 12:7–10 ESV

> It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons....

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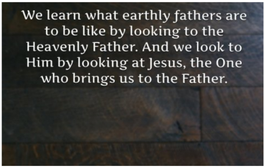
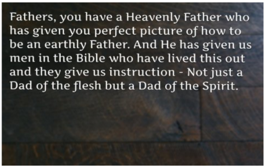
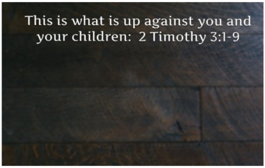

We learn what earthly fathers are to be like by looking to the Heavenly Father. And we look to Him by looking at Jesus, the One who brings us to the Father.


Fathers, you have a Heavenly Father who has given you perfect picture of how to be an earthly Father. And He has given us men in the Bible who have lived this out and they give us instruction - Not just a Dad of the flesh but a Dad of the Spirit.


This is what is up against you and your children: 2 Timothy 3:1-9

2 Timothy 3:1–9 ESV

> But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous,...

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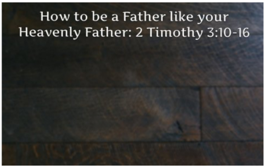
How to be a Father like your Heavenly Father: 2 Timothy 3:10-16

2 Timothy 3:10–16 ESV

> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from...

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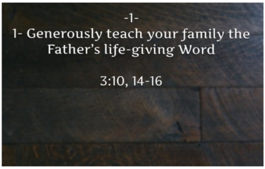

-1-

1- Generously teach your family the Father's life-giving Word

3:10, 14-16

2 Timothy 3:10 ESV

> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness,

Continue reading »

2 Timothy 3:14–16 ESV

> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in...

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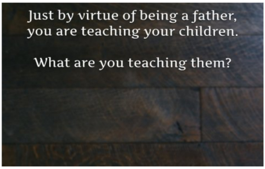
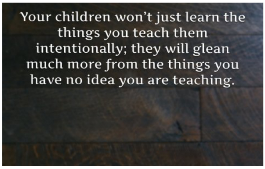
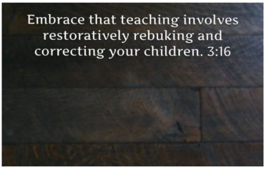


Just by virtue of being a father, you are teaching your children.

What are you teaching them?



Your children won't just learn the things you teach them intentionally; they will glean much more from the things you have no idea you are teaching.



Embrace that teaching involves restoratively rebuking and correcting your children. 3:16

2 Timothy 3:16 ESV

> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

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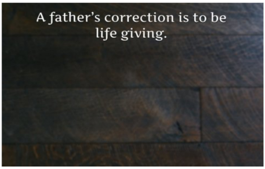
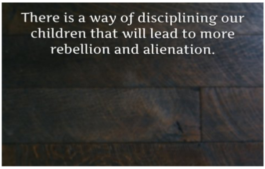
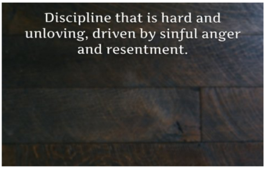
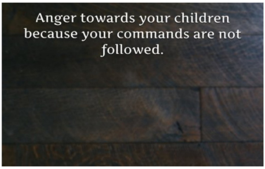
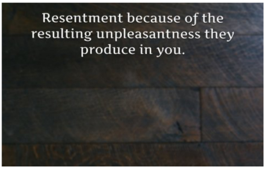

A father's correction is to be life giving.


There is a way of disciplining our children that will lead to more rebellion and alienation.


Discipline that is hard and unloving, driven by sinful anger and resentment.


Anger towards your children because your commands are not followed.


Resentment because of the resulting unpleasantness they produce in you.

Ephesians 6:4 ESV

> “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

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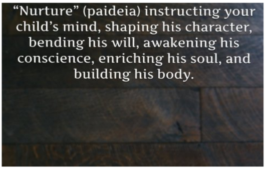
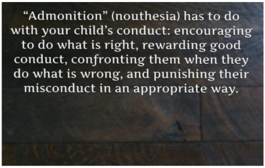
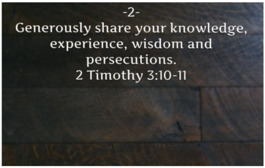

“Nurture” (paideia) instructing your child's mind, shaping his character, bending his will, awakening his conscience, enriching his soul, and building his body.


“Admonition” (nouthesia) has to do with your child’s conduct: encouraging to do what is right, rewarding good conduct, confronting them when they do what is wrong, and punishing their misconduct in an appropriate way.


-2-
Generously share your knowledge, experience, wisdom and persecutions.
2 Timothy 3:10-11

2 Timothy 3:10–11 ESV

> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from...

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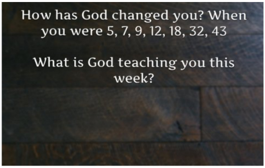
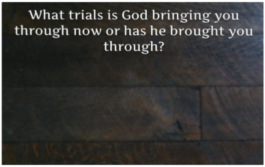
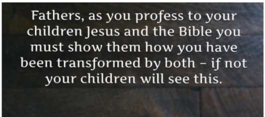
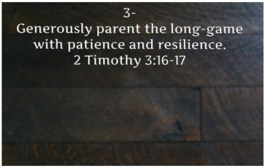

How has God changed you? When you were 5, 7, 9, 12, 18, 32, 43

What is God teaching you this week?


What trials is God bringing you through now or has he brought you through?


Fathers, as you profess to your children Jesus and the Bible you must show them how you have been transformed by both – if not your children will see this.



3-
Generously parent the long-game with patience and resilience.
2 Timothy 3:16-17

2 Timothy 3:16–17 ESV

> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

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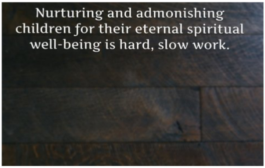
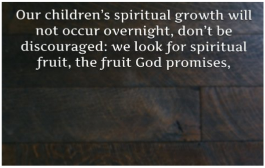
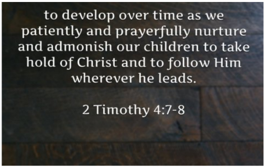


Nurturing and admonishing children for their eternal spiritual well-being is hard, slow work.



Our children's spiritual growth will not occur overnight, don't be discouraged: we look for spiritual fruit, the fruit God promises,



to develop over time as we patiently and prayerfully nurture and admonish our children to take hold of Christ and to follow Him wherever he leads.

2 Timothy 4:7-8

2 Timothy 4:7–8 ESV

> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who...

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♫ **How Deep The Father's Love For Us**

Baby Dedications!

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF TOPSAIL

Family Camp Registration Now Open!
Register via the Events Tab in the app
Friday-Sunday, August 21-23, 2026

Volunteers Needed for Monthly Baby Pantry Ministry

Accountability & Discipleship
Men's Group
Tuesday Morning @ 6am
A Taste of Sunrise Coffeehouse
Discussions on Biblical Manhood

GRACE GROUPS

Ready to Grow in GRACE Together? Contact any of our Grace Group Leaders for More Information

Porters Neck Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

Bill & Jenny Morrison
828-244-5196

Stephen & Celeste Anderson
910-508-7208

Castle Hayne Grace Group
1st Sunday at 5pm & 3rd Friday at 6.30pm

Bobby & Wendy Rosinbaum
910-602-0121

Rob & Harriet Sullivan
919-917-5988

Washington Acres Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

Ben & Ashlyn Regier
910-431-5646

Warren & Miriam Rich
910-622-1711

Country Club Drive Grace Group
6pm Every Friday

Tom & Kimberly Miller
920-737-6445

Max & Melissa Luke
910-619-0168

South Belvedere Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Friday

Jim & Deborah Farmer
910-470-0424

Evan & Micaela Head
910-547-1999

North Belvedere Grace Group
5pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

Bob & Necey Highet
910-785-1247

Tom & Barbara Sheldon
410-610-7123

Holly Ridge/Sneads Ferry Grace Group
6pm Friday, Every 2 weeks

Cooper & Madison Strand
501-545-6845

Taylor & Becca Hess
619-772-0142

INT'L MISSIONS

Steve & Rissa Curtis
Judson, Timothy
Director of Timothy Two Project, Intl.
and Regional Director in S.E. Asia
steve@timothytwo.org

Tajikistan
Largest religion: Islam
Population: 10,094,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 0.7%

Martin & Vanya McCrory
Evangeline, Guinevere
Serving with Timothy Two Project, Intl.
in South Africa
martin@timothytwo.org

Brett & Taylor Rayl
Paton, Lily, Ry
Serving with Christ Bible Institute in
Nagoya, Japan
brett.rayl@gmail.com

Japan
Largest religion: Buddhism
Population: 123,218,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 0.57%

Laurel Brunsink
Serving with YWAM Mercy Ships in
Papua New Guinea
Lgbrunsink@gmail.com

Job Lai Nei Sum &
Eunice San San Lin
Bethany, Jeremy, Timothy
National Pastor serving in Myanmar
Connect on facebook

Myanmar
Largest religion: Buddhism
Population: 54,370,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 4%

Lauren Jaski
Serving with Pioneers
in the Basque region of Spain
lojaski29@gmail.com

Spain
Largest religion: Irreligious Catholic
Population: 47,434,000 people
% Evangelical Christian: 1.6%

Missionaries that GCT Supports

LOCAL MISSIONS

Ratio Christi UNCW
John & Kim Zing
johnfzing@gmail.com

RATIO CHRISTI
Ratio Christi (Latin for "The Reason of Christ") is a global movement that equips university students and faculty to give historical, philosophical, and scientific reasons for following Jesus Christ.

GCT Baby Pantry
Mary Copeland
GCTBabyPantry@gmail.com

BELOVED

Lifeline Pregnancy Center
Sandra Holdstein
info@lifelinewilmington.org

LIFE LINE

Center For Christian Thought
Bill & Jenny Morrison
bill@cfctwilmington.org

CENTER FOR
CHRISTIAN THOUGHT
WILMINGTON

KidzAtHeart
Becca Hess
bhess@kidzatheart.org

KidZ at Heart

"Equipping indigenous churches across the world to evangelize and disciple children."

Arbor Landing Tuesday Bible Study
Denise Graddon, Gina Brohaugh,
Cheri Standish, Lynn Norwood,
Cynthia Marion
dgraddon@gmail.com

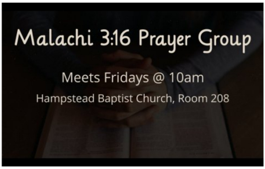
ARBOR LANDING at HAMPSTEAD

Journey to Heal Ministries
Emily Parker
emily@journeytohealministries.org

Journey to Heal

Prayer Before Sunday Morning Worship, meets at 9AM in Media classroom. Open to all!

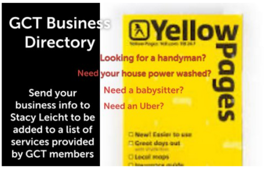
"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances." — 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Malachi 3:16 Prayer Group

Meets Fridays @ 10am

Hampstead Baptist Church, Room 208



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Need a babysitter?

Need an Uber?

Send your business info to Stacy Leicht to be added to a list of services provided by GCT members

Yellow Pages
New! Easier to use
Great days out
Local maps

GRACE
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OF TOPSAIL

Grace Community Church of Topsail

11 members