

## *“WHO’S YOUR DADDY?”*

*John 10:27 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:*



*This month, we will be celebrating Father’s Day. A day set aside to honor all Father’s around the world who have shown love, who worked tirelessly and sacrificially to provide the necessities of life for his family, who disciplined his children when it was needed, who raised his children in the fear and admonition of God, and who encouraged them to always reach for the stars. I am so grateful to God that I was blessed to have a wonderful father who I know loved me with all of his heart and I loved him with all of my heart. There is no doubt that I am the apple of His eye and that I am a genuine, cross-my-heart and hope-to-die “Daddy’s Girl!” He was my King and I was his little Princess! And I never had a problem asking him for what I wanted even after I got married. I made him laugh often when I would tell him that I had told my friends, “My Daddy is rich!” That always brought a big smile to his face. Then I’d proudly justify my statement and say with a sweet innocent voice, “But my Daddy is rich!” Then we’d both start laughing. He knew I was referring to God the Father, but I think as a little girl, I really believed that my earthly Father was also rich and I could go to him for whatever I wanted. But once my earthly Father passed away, I realized it was God all along who had given my earthly Father the ability to do what he did to be able to give me the things I needed and some of the things I wanted. When my Daddy spoke, I knew his voice and I responded. I sure do miss my Daddy!*

*Do you recall a time in your life when you were younger and you were at the store and may have gotten separated from your Daddy? When you heard him call your name, you knew he had been looking for you and any minute you would be back in his arms again. How about when you fell off your bike when you first learned how to ride and you needed him to pick you up and help you get started again? Or the day you came home to tell him that Johnnie had broken your heart and threatened you with bodily harm? You knew Daddy would take care of Johnnie for you. Or the time when you were in your first car accident and you had to call home and tell him your car had been hit? Wasn’t it so comforting to hear his voice on the other end and to hear him say, “Are you hurt? Don’t worry. I’ll be there in a minute. I’m on my way!” At that point no matter what the car looked like and how shaken up you might have been you knew your Daddy was on his way and everything would be alright! He was your Daddy and you were his child. You wouldn’t do that with just anybody. He was the only one you called Daddy! It was his voice that calmed your fears when you had a bad nightmare! That kind of interaction can only take place if 1) there is an intentional relationship; 2) there is trust and communication with each other; and 3) he is in close enough proximity for you to hear his voice and for him to hear your voice and come to your rescue!*

*Let me ask you, “Can you do that same thing about your Heavenly Father?” Are you in relationship with him? Do you communicate with him regularly through His word and through prayer and meditation? Is He close to you? Are you close to Him? If not, then you need to seriously think about the safety and salvation of your soul. In order for you to be able to distinguish His voice from that of the enemy, you have to be in constant communication with Him. That means you talk a little bit, but you also listen twice as much to hear what the Spirit has to say. A little child is not going to easily follow a man who’s not familiar. That child knows Daddy’s voice and will only follow Daddy. A real Daddy is not going to lure his child into a dangerous situation that could be traumatic for both body and soul but will make sure that his child is safe and secure by whatever means necessary. A real Daddy is going to always want the best for His child. A real Daddy is going to communicate his expectations to his child as well as shower that child with love, affection and encouragement for life’s journey. A real Daddy will lead by precept and example. And a real Daddy will always be there and never leave you by yourself. Are there any real Daddy’s in the house?*

*A child usually has some characteristic or trait like his Daddy. They will look like him, walk like him, talk like him, laugh like him, act like him, or have his persona! If none of these are evident in that child, then there might be a question of validity regarding the authenticity of who his Daddy really is. Can the world look at you and know that God is your Father? Do you look like him? Do you walk like him? Do you talk like him? Do you act like him? Do you love like him? Inquiring minds want to know, “Who’s Your Daddy?”*

*BBlessed and Happy Father’s Day!*

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