

# Knee Deep

## Our Father... | Week 5

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The Lord's Prayer begins with "Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name." Jesus teaches us to talk to God like a parent who has our best interest at heart. We can relate to him with trust, intimacy, and love. We don't need to be afraid to approach him. Following this is asking God to show his true nature – how special and holy he is. In me. In the world. Before others... It's how he wants us to pray.

### THIS WEEK

#### Memorize: Psalm 23:2-3a

*He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.*

#### This Week's Action Step

Carve out a quiet time each weekday. Spend 10 minutes in a place of solitude. Read a Bible passage. Be still in God's presence. Pray. This week set your cell phone timer so you don't clock-watch. Pray based on the line "Our Father in heaven, make holy your name."

## MONDAY

1. The Lord's Prayer says "Our Father," not "My Father." What is the importance of talking to God as a part of a spiritual family?
2. Do you belong to any Christian communities? If so, which? If not, what are some ways to take steps towards that family reunion today?
3. How does intimacy with Church family impact intimacy with our Father?

**Read:** Luke 11:1-13

## TUESDAY

1. How do you feel about calling God "daddy"? How can you go about calling/thinking about God as "daddy"? What possibilities does it open?

**Read:** Psalm 17

## WEDNESDAY

1. Does the notion that you are adopted by God change your perception of your relationship with him?
2. What does it feel like to be specifically chosen by God? What attitude does it give you?
3. What similarities and differences are there between Jesus as God's one and only son and you as an adopted "son" (whether male or female)?

**Read:** Psalm 18

## THURSDAY

1. Think about a child rescue story that resonates with you. Now imagine yourself enslaved in a third world orphanage, and God coming to adopt you. How does that shape your thinking about God?
2. Father/son language is a metaphor that describes our relationship with God. Many of the ancient near east religions saw the gods as creators, but not fathers. What does this say about God's nature and character?
3. The Bible talks about children of God and children of the world. Read 1 John 3 or John 8. None of us are God's children initially. Who are the children of each, and how do we become a child of God?

**Read:** Psalm 19

## FRIDAY

1. What comes to mind when you hear "hallowed"? If you were to pray the Lord's Prayer using today's language, what would you say?
2. In Anglo-Saxon, "hallowed" means "to make holy." What are you asking God to actually make holy? Can you pray this with integrity?

**Read:** Psalm 20