



“You Are His Child”



There is a word that describes why there never has been a person exactly like you, and why there never could be. That word is “unique” – and it means: one and only; different from all others; having no like or equal; unusual; extraordinary!

The reason you are unique is that no matter how many children your parents had, the same egg and sperm that first formed you into a tiny cell that began growing to become you, could never be re-used or re-cycled or reproduced because it only lives once – in you – when you die, it dies and there can never be another exact duplication of it. They have proved this with fingerprints – that’s why they can be used for positive identification – science has proven there can never be another one like it – under any circumstances.



God values you on the basis of your uniqueness, not by some rigid standard of perfection. This truth gets lost because we try so hard to be like everyone else – and the reason it’s hard is because God didn’t make you like anyone else. Because you are one of a kind, you have a place in God’s heart and in His family that no one else can fill. He will never have another child like you, so your value is infinite and priceless. He wants you to see yourself as loved just as you are.

You may have been raised in a home where if you did well, you were made to feel loved, but if you did badly, you felt you weren’t loved any more. That can make it harder for you to accept God’s love as unconditional. There is nothing in His Word that requires certain conditions that must be met before He can love us – but we put those conditions on ourselves and then judge Him by our own standards of smallness. If we get our worth from what we do, we can never do well enough, and will be unable to enter into His rest. Sometimes it takes a total failure to reach the bottom and find out that His everlasting arms of love are there to comfort us and make us ready to re-start on a better path, of His choosing this time.



The world and our earthly parents may have raised us and wounded us with sarcasm, ridicule and criticism, but our heavenly Father raises us up with praise and instruction. When we need reproof or correction, He does it with positive reinforcement that He will help us make the change that is needed. God keeps calling us to higher achievements in the spirit realm – so that we will draw closer to Him and depend on Him more.

Almost every great spiritual leader named in the Bible committed sins – sometimes bigger than you or I would ever commit, but God still honored them and never removed His unconditional love from them. Take time to look up some of them – like Abraham,

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Jacob, David, and the sons of Jacob – big time sins – but they are forever honored in the eyes of God and in His Word.

If mom and dad were too busy to listen to us – or seemed like they were listening, but never seemed to understand our needs – we won't feel that God is really paying attention either when we pray, especially if dad was always gone – physically or mentally. Our prayers will be weak and ineffective if we are not real sure that we have God's attention and that He cares and will answer and help us with our need. The Bible says about that, "*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*" (Hebrews 4:16)



That's the wonderful thing about being a child of God. Our loving Father's heart is available to us every moment of every day. He can be reached as quick as a thought. He is always available and He is always thinking about you. David wrote in Psalm 139:2-4, "*You understand my thoughts afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.*"

If we were disciplined in anger and rejection as children, God's loving correction can feel like rejection. In angry homes discipline is often actually abuse:

There is a big difference between firm discipline and angry impulsive reactions. Children who are punished without understanding why, experience child abuse. Punishment followed by rejection is abuse – loving discipline includes a hug not a slammed door. Permissiveness shows a child he is not loved enough to be corrected, which only increases his rebellion.

Having experienced these kinds of abuse can make us feel very uneasy with God – unsure of how He feels about us and what He is going to do. But God's way of correction is never in anger – it is always in love because He wants only the best for us.



In today's society there is an emphasis on things – things to buy, things to collect, things to do. Clothes, cars, houses, antiques, the list is endless. It is causing children to be raised in homes where perfect order is more important than playing with toys, where things are too precious to be touched, and if something is broken, a parent may scream in rage and ignore the guilt and shame the child is feeling. Even human babies have become things in the hands of an abortionist – because a mother was more interested in a career or her own inconvenience than she was in the life of her child - and we might add, the father is not held guiltless either. Endangered species of animal babies have become more important than endangered human babies.

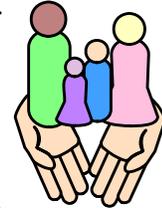


Some parents give their children things rather than give themselves, but God will never do that. God is love. He has given Himself to us and He will never give us a substitute. There is none.

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God values us above every other created being because we are the only thing He created in His own image! (In His own likeness). The world was made for us, heaven was made for us! Every thing in heaven and earth was made for us. God's people are more important to Him than projects, programs or "ministry". When these things become more important than serving people, they fail.

Human parents can break promises, God never breaks a promise. Human parents can reject their children, God never turns His children away. We are forever accepted in the family of the Beloved. God's family. God spoke through Isaiah saying, *"Shall a woman forget her nursing child and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely, they may forget, but I will not forget you. See . . . I have written you in the palm of My hands."* (Isaiah 49:14-16) God never rejects what He has created, neither must we.



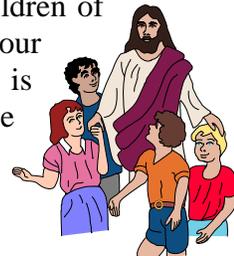
The need to earn money, whether in poverty or affluence, can create absentee parents. Many children spend hours alone, coming home to an empty house every day after school. But God is ever present with them. David was rejected by his parents and spent long lonely days and nights on the hillsides protecting his father's sheep from wild animals, but he spent his time singing praises to God. He learned to say, *"When my mother and father forsake me, the Lord will take me up."* (Psalm 27:10) And God made him a king!



God reveals Himself in the Bible as a gentle, forgiving Father, intimately involved in each and every detail of our lives. It is a beautiful picture, and a true one. Yet, at this moment our heavenly Father is being ignored all over the world by man's cruelty and selfishness.

The victims are those who are smaller and weaker. Children being terrified in the middle of the night by a drunk and angry man. Being slapped awake by the dark, hulking shape of a man he calls, "Daddy," or a 15-year-old prostitute with blank empty eyes, mechanically performing through a night of degradation. Not caring what happens to her since the times she was molested by her own father.

A wounded generation continues to wound the next generation. Who will father the fatherless children? Whose arms are big enough for all the lonely children of the world? Who weeps over our pains? Who will comfort us in our loneliness? **ONLY GOD!** A **BROKEN-HEARTED FATHER** who is rejected by the ones He wants to heal. We shrink from the One who we think will be like the other authorities in our life. But He is not like that. He is perfect. He is LOVE. He stands with open arms, saying to each of us, "Come Unto Me."



“You Are His Child”

1. Why can't there ever be anyone exactly like me?

2. What is my value to God?

3. God's love for me is _____.

4. Earthly parents may have raised me with sarcasm, ridicule, and criticism, but my

heavenly Father raises me up with _____ and

_____.

5. God can be reached as quick as _____.

6. There's a big different between firm discipline and _____

_____.

7. Having experienced abuse can make us feel very _____.

8. God's way of correction is never in anger, it is always in _____.

9. God values us above every other thing He created because _____

_____.

10. When we are forsaken by father or mother, what does God do? (Psalm 27:10)
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE _____

“You Are His Child”

1. Why can't there ever be anyone exactly like me?

Because I am unique.

2. What is my value to God?

Infinite and priceless.

3. God's love for me is unconditional.

4. Earthly parents may have raised me with sarcasm, ridicule and criticism, but my heavenly Father raises me up with praise and instruction.

5. God can be reached as quick as a thought.

6. There's a big difference between firm discipline and angry impulsive reactions.

7. Having experienced abuse can make us feel very uneasy with God.

8. God's way of correction is never in anger, it is always in love.

9. God values us above every other thing He created because we are the only thing He created in His own image (in His own likeness).

10. When we are forsaken by father or mother, what does God do? (Psalm 27:10)

MEMORY VERSE “When my mother and father forsake me the Lord will take me up.”