

**He's Our Everlasting Father
December 17 & 18, 2022**

Isaiah 9:6 (NLT)

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Week #1 – Jesus is our Wonderful Counselor.

Week #2 – Jesus is our Mighty God.

Week #3 – Jesus is our Everlasting Father.

Realities of our Earthly Fathers:

- All earthly fathers are flawed and imperfect.
- Many of our earthly fathers are either physically or spiritually absent. (1 in 4 American children grow up in a fatherless home, which is 18.3 million kids)
- Most of our earthly fathers are emotionally disconnected.
- Most of our earthly fathers suffer with addictions and shortcomings just as their earthly fathers did.

Realities of our Everlasting Father:

- Our Everlasting Father never has a bad moment.

Hebrews 13:8 (TPT)

Jesus, the Anointed One, is always the same—yesterday, today, and forever.

1 Peter 2:22-25 (NLT)

He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone. He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed. Once you were like sheep who wandered away. But now you have turned to your Shepherd, the Guardian of your souls.

- **Our Everlasting Father is never emotionally, physically or intellectually lacking.**

Acts 17:24-25 (TPT)

“The true God is the Creator of all things. He is the owner and Lord of the heavenly realm and the earthly realm, and he doesn’t live in man-made temples. He supplies life and breath and all things to every living being. He doesn’t lack a thing that we mortals could supply for him, for he has all things and everything he needs.”

- **Our Everlasting Father is never cruel and always loving.**

2 Peter 3:9 (TPT)

This means that, contrary to man’s perspective, the Lord is not late with his promise to return, as some measure lateness. But rather, his “delay” simply reveals his loving patience toward you, because he does not want any to perish but all to come to repentance.

- **Our Everlasting Father will never let His children suffer eternal separation from Him.**

1 Peter 3:18 (NLT)

Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the spirit.

Because Jesus is the Everlasting Father I can:

- 1 Live free from guilt and shame.**

Micah 7:19-20 (NLT)

Once again you will have compassion on us. You will trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean! You will show us your faithfulness and unfailing love as you promised to our ancestors Abraham and Jacob long ago.

Revelation 21:4 (TPT)

“He will wipe away every tear from their eyes and eliminate death entirely. No one will mourn or weep any longer. The pain of wounds will no longer exist, for the old order has ceased.”

Psalms 32:5 (NLT)

Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, “I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.” And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.

2

Love everyone regardless of who they are or what they've done.

1 Peter 4:8-10 (TPT)

Above all, constantly echo God's intense love for one another, for love will be a canopy over a multitude of sins. Be compassionate to foreigners without complaining. Every believer has received grace gifts, so use them to serve one another as faithful stewards of the many-colored tapestry of God's grace.

How to demonstrate our Everlasting Father's love this Christmas season:

- **Settle an offense with an apology or forgiveness.**

Luke 17:3-5 (TPT)

"...and if you see him going the wrong direction, cry out and correct him. If there is true repentance on his part, forgive him. No matter how many times in one day your brother sins against you and says, 'I'm sorry; I am changing; forgive me,' you need to forgive him each and every time." Upon hearing this, the apostles said to Jesus, "Lord, you must increase our measure of faith!"

- **Sacrifice financially for those in need.**

Philippians 4:10, 14, 17a, 19 (TPT)

My heart overflows with joy when I think of how you demonstrated love to me by your financial support of my ministry. For even though you have so little, you still continue to help me at every opportunity... You've so graciously provided for my essential needs during this season of difficulty... I mention this not because I'm requesting a gift... I am convinced that my God will fully satisfy every need you have, for I have seen the abundant riches of glory revealed to me through Jesus Christ!

- **Serve in a ministry or outreach here at Grace.**

Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

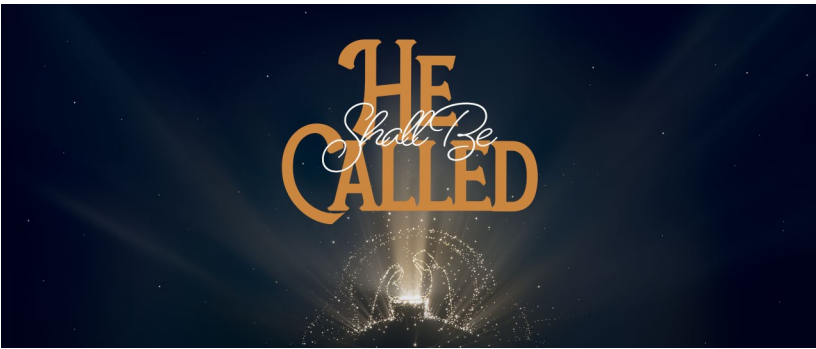
For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

3

Live with an eternal perspective rather than a temporary one.

Colossians 3:1-4 (NLT)

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, in your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.



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