





COMMUNITY GUIDE

November 24th, 2024

 ethosoh.com

 @ethos_oh

 facebook.com/ethosoh

WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: Our relationship with our earthly father often shapes our view of God.

HEAD CHANGE: Common father wounds include: never-satisfied dad, time bomb dad, emotionally distant dad, passively happy dad, and absent dad.

HEART CHANGE: Jesus, as the Everlasting Father, is the opposite of these wounds and desires to heal us.

LIFE CHANGE: The quality of a father's relationship with his children is crucial in passing on faith.

OVERVIEW

As we enter the Advent season, we're reminded of the profound hope that Jesus brings into our world. The prophet Isaiah's words in chapter 9 paint a beautiful picture of Christ as our 'Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.' This message invites us to reflect on how we perceive God, particularly through the lens of our earthly fathers. Whether our experiences with our dads were positive or painful, we're encouraged to see God as the perfect, everlasting Father who never disappoints or abandons us. This perspective can be transformative, healing wounds left by imperfect earthly fathers and allowing us to experience the deep, unconditional love of our Heavenly Father. As we light the Advent candles each week, we're reminded that Christ's light is growing brighter in our lives, dispelling darkness and bringing hope. This season, let's open our hearts to experience God's fatherly love in new and profound ways.

"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How has your relationship with your earthly father influenced your view of God?
2. Which of the "father wounds" mentioned in the sermon resonates most with you or someone you know? How has it affected their faith journey?
3. How can we begin to see God as He truly is, rather than through the lens of our earthly experiences?
4. In what ways does Jesus demonstrate being an "Everlasting Father" that contrasts with negative earthly father experiences?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for being our Everlasting Father. Help us to see You clearly, beyond the limitations of our earthly experiences. Heal our wounds and quiet us with Your love. As we enter this Advent season, open our eyes to see Jesus more fully. Amen.

IN THIS TOGETHER!