

Good, Good Father Pt. 3

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You cannot know God until you understand his love and fatherhood.

I John 3:1 – ¹ How **great is the love** the **Father has lavished on us**, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

God does not love the “better version” of you. He loves you just like you are, right where you are, so you can be liberated from all that imprisons you. Jesus loved people exactly as they were, so they could experience his presence, which transformed them.

God is your Father by a blood covenant.

Hebrews 10:16-17 – ¹⁶ "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," ¹⁷ then He adds, "**Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember, be mindful of or remind them of, no more.**"

Being in the presence of your Father demands the absence of shame. Our Father loves us unconditionally, and He celebrates when we believe it and act upon it.

Luke 15:1-2 – ¹ **Dishonest tax collectors** and other **notorious sinners** often **came** to listen to Jesus' sermons; ² but this caused complaints from the Jewish religious leaders and the experts on Jewish law because he was associating, giving credence and value with such despicable people-even eating with them!

Why were they drawn to Jesus and repelled by His church? Self-righteousness is when you measure yourself against others, instead of the person of God.

Luke 15:23-24 – ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and **celebrate.** ²⁴ For **this son of mine** was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to **celebrate.**