



Discussion Guide for God Is... Father *Monday Messiah Week 10*

What does it mean to be a good father? And what do we do if we have bad fathers? In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches us what fatherhood looks like - and why it matters that God is our father, whether we're fathers or not.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[John 3:16-18](#)

[John 5:19-21](#)

[John 15:1-3](#)

[John 17:20-24](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [John 5:16-47](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. Do you have mostly positive or negative associations with the idea of fatherhood? Why is that?
2. Read the passages above. What claims does Jesus make about God the Father? Which are most surprising to you?
3. What role did a Father play in ancient, patriarchal cultures? How does that change how you understand Jesus God 'the Father'?
4. What qualities of a good father do you see in your own life? Where do you sense God calling you to grow?
5. What does it look like for you to rest in God's fatherhood this week?