

## Yea God; You're the Dad I Never Had!

*(Discovering God's favorite name and how to use it)*  
**(SERIES: Yea God!; 01 of 08)**  
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### A Word About Learning

"Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like." (Jam 1:23-24 NIV)

**What we hear.**

**Then put into practice.**

**This is what we learn.**

"And because we are his sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, so now we can rightly speak of God as our dear Father. Now we are no longer slaves but God's own sons. And since we are his sons, **everything he has belongs to us**, for that is the way God planned." (Gal 4:6-7)

### First Things First

**God is not remote or unmovable.**

"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." (PSA 34:18)

**God is not your buddy.**

"This, then, is how you should pray: '**Our Father in heaven**, hallowed be your name,'" (Mat 6:9)

**Kinship defines relationship.**

"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, '*Abba*, Father.'" (Rom 8:15)

**Some live like strays.**

"... the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living." (Luk 15:11)

**Some live like work-dogs.**

"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him." (Luk 15:25)

**Some act like lapdogs.**

"But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'" (Luke 15:29)

**The Father loves outside the lines.**

"So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate." (Luk 15:20)