



Conversations with Dad

Matthew 6:7-9; Luke 11:1-2

Main point: Praying to God as Father radically changes our prayer life

A radical change

In the OT, God was generally addressed as "Adonai"

They only used "Father" to plead in serious situations

Isa 63:15-17; 64:8-9; Jer 3:19-20

Jesus built His entire prayer on God as "Father"

6x in this passage; +6x in Matt 6, all of NT except Jude

Conversations with our dads are

Generally private (not to impress others)

Generally short (not to twist arms)

Our Father in heaven

Our: implies corporate nature of prayer

Prayer is generally private, but has a corporate nature

We don't have exclusive connection to God

Father: God is our Dad

Implies our position in Christ through adoption *Eph 1:3-6*

More than Dad, He is "Abba" *Mar 14:36; Rom 8:15; Gal 4:6*

The Holy Spirit helps when we don't know how to pray

Rom 8:26-27

As Dad, He disciplines us *Heb 12:5-10*

In Heaven: implies His power and location

We have a Father who is always looking down on us

Christ lives to make intercession for us *Heb 7:25; Eph 2:18-19*

Application

If your dad was good: prepare for discipline

If your dad was bad: embrace a loving father

Response

Talk often, short and real with your heavenly Dad

