

Abba

"Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Yeshua the Messiah, through whom are all things, and we exist through Him." ~ 1 Corinthians 8:6 ~

In Scripture, we see God referred to as many different names. He is referred to as the Alpha and the Omega, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, El Shaddai, Jehovah-Rapha, Jehovah-Jireh, and many others. Each of the names of God reveal a different part of His character – another aspect of who He is.

One of the names He is called is Father. The Aramaic title for God as a Father is "Abba." These references occur a number of places in Scripture including *Romans 8:15*, *Mark 14:36*, and *Galatians 4:6*. This title is used by Yeshua Himself, referring to God as His Father. Yeshua – being equal parts man and divine – notes that His disciples were able to see God as a Father because they could see Yeshua Himself. "Philip said to Him. [Yeshua], 'Master show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Yeshua said to him, 'Have I been with you for so long a time, and you haven't come to know Me, Philip? How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words I say to you, I do not speak on My own; but the Father dwelling in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me" (John 14:8-11).

Pause: In what ways do you view God as your Father?			

Not everyone has a positive view of their father. And even if your earthly father was supportive and kind, he was certainly not perfect – because no one is perfect. But God is everything you could ever hope for out of a father and more. He is kind and compassionate. He does not anger easily. He seeks the good of His children – giving them good gifts. He accepts His children flaws and all and gives them guidelines to keep them from harm. He protects them from situations and people that would not be the very best for them. He lets them learn from their mistakes and encourages and helps them to make better ones in the

future. He is gentle and patient. He is loving. He is supportive. He is your comforter. He never leaves. God is the epitome of the kind of father we would want our earthly father to be.

It's important to recognize that viewing God as Abba does not negate any other aspects of His character. God is also King, Sovereign, Holy, and our Judge. God's more "gentle" characteristics do not overshadow His Kingship, and neither is the inverse true. Incredibly, our God is limitless – not confined to one set of character traits. Thus, in order for us to know who God is, we must recognize Him for as our truly perfect Father.

God wants to hear what's on your heart. He cares to know the burdens and the celebrations that live there. Spend some time telling God what is on your heart today. Ask Him to reveal Himself as your Father. He wants to meet you here, and He wants to invade your heart. Don't miss this opportunity. Worship:

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Worship:
~ Abba by Jonathan David Helser
~ Good Good Father by Chris Tomlin
~ The Father's House by Cory Asbury