

# GOD IS THE PERFECT FATHER

YEAR: UNITE / FOCUS: I AM PART OF A FAMILY  
SERIES: GOD IS FATHER — I AM ADOPTED

## BIG TRUTH: GOD IS THE PERFECT FATHER

Psalm 27:1; 84:11; James 1:17; Matthew 5:48; 7:11; Hebrews 12:7; Psalm 18:30

## BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 8:31-32

*“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?”*

## BIG IDEAS

- The Father is for His children.
- The Father graciously provides His children with everything they need.
- The Father’s love for His children is unbreakable.

## BIBLE PASSAGE: ROMANS 8:31-36

### UNITE - I AM PART OF A FAMILY

The Unite Year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are given a spirit of adoption as sons (Romans 8:15-16), are made a child of God, and we are also saved into a family- the Church. The Unite Year explores how we are to live as a part of a family, and to live in light of our calling as servants and disciples of Christ. We use our gifts to build up the church as we pursue unity, humility, and gentleness with our brothers and sisters in Christ (Ephesians 4:1-2).

## SERIES AIMS



### Every student should know that...

- Family exists for God.
- Their heart was bought with a price.
- God is building His family through adoption.



### Every student should feel...

- Broken over the ways that sin has fractured their family and the family of God.
- Hope that one day, their adoption as sons and daughters of God will be fully realized



### Every student should strive to...

- Memorize Romans 8.
- Do one new thing each week to honor their parents or siblings.
- Find one new way to love and serve their church family.



### Every student should want...

- To glorify God in their families.
- To see their family, and the church family, as gifts from God.
- To share the truth that Jesus made our adoption possible with someone

## GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week’s Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.

**BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 8:31-32**

*“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?”*

**The Father is our defender.**

*“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”*

- It is generally true that earthly parents watch over their children. They provide for them and protect them. Humans know how to do these basic things because of God the Father. God watches over His children. He protects them and provides for them. He does all of this perfectly.
- God fights for His children. He goes before them and makes their way straight and clears their path. God defends His children. He does all of this perfectly. Because God is perfect, we do not have to fear anything or anyone. When we belong to God, nothing can come against us and separate us from Him.

**The Father gives our sacrifice.**

*“He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?”*

- Satan delights in convincing us that God does not care about us. He loves to lead us to believe the lie that God is not giving us all that we need or that He is keeping some good thing from us. This was the first lie that Satan told in the Garden of Eden. He perpetuates that lie in the world today, trying to convince all people that God is the evil, wicked liar that Satan is.
- God’s sacrifice of His Son shows us that His love is perfect and good. God’s love is revealed by more than the sacrifice of His Son. He loves His children perfectly always. Paul’s words in these verses show us that the sacrifice of Jesus is just the beginning of the way God shows His love for His children. He holds them fast and works in them to make them more like Him.

**The Father is our provider.**

*“He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things.”*

- God not only defends His children, but He provides for them. God does not withhold any good thing from His children. He gives His children all that they need from air in their lungs, food on their tables, and clothes on their backs to every open and closed door that is in their best interest.
- We can know that God provides all things we need because of the example that His sacrifice of Jesus teaches us. God was willing to give up His Son for us. If He is willing to do this, He will most definitely give us lesser things, like food, clothing, friendships, etc. We can trust that God will always do what is the very best for us and that which brings Him glory.

**BIG IDEA #1: THE FATHER IS FOR HIS CHILDREN.<sup>1</sup>****[ THIS ]**

Our sin separates us from God. Even before we realize that we need God, we feel the effects of our separation from God. Every person feels the emptiness that is because of our separation from God. Unbelievers do not realize that it is God that they are missing. One of Satan's biggest lies is that God doesn't care for us. He tries to convince people that God isn't on our side. When bad things happen, he quickly lies to us and wants us to believe that God isn't good. Because of these feelings, we can often believe that God isn't on our side. Romans 8:31-36 shows us that these lies aren't true. God redeems us by sacrificing His own Son for us. He makes the ultimate sacrifice that we might have eternal life. Someone not on our side wouldn't sacrifice their only Son for them. God is on our side; we can trust in this no matter our circumstances because His promises are true.

**[ THEREFORE ]****When have your circumstances made you doubt that God is for you?**

Our circumstances are not an indicator of God's faithfulness to His people. Bad things happening are a result of the brokenness of our world, not a statement on who God is. 2 Timothy 2:13 teaches us this. God is faithful even when we are not. He cannot stop being faithful because it is His very nature to be faithful. Some of our circumstances can be very hard and difficult, but we must always remember that God is always for us and not against us.

**[ THIS ]**

We can get a picture of who God is as our heavenly Father by looking at the way earthly parents take care of their children. Most parents who are good parents take care of their children. They stand up for them and are they fight for what is best for their children. God is a perfect Father. He is for His children always. He is on their side and watches out for them always. The Father works in the lives of His children for His glory and their good. He uses all situations for His glory and the good of His children. Even when we sin against Him, He is always for us. Just as Paul teaches in Romans 8:31-36, if God is for us, who can be against us? God is our defender and protector. He is our Father who cares for His children and never leaves them or forsakes them.

**[ THEREFORE ]****What does it mean for God to be "for us"? Does it mean that God will support whatever we choose to do in this life?**

God is "for us" in that He equips and enables us to pursue Him and to become more like Him. He draws us to Himself and then guides us to obey Him and be more Christ-like. God being "for us" doesn't mean we can do whatever we choose or that our lives will be without struggle.

**How does the truth that God is for you help you live more faithfully for Him?**

Knowing that God is on our side helps us live more boldly and faithfully for Him. We can stand out in the crowd and stand for what we believe in when we know that our Father is with us always. Deuteronomy 31:6 is a reminder that God is always with His children. Matthew 28:20 and 2 Timothy 1:7 also teach us that those who follow Christ can do so faithfully and boldly because God is always near them and working on their behalf.

1. Romans 8:31: God is always for His children. He never forsakes them or leaves them.

## BIG IDEA #2: THE FATHER GRACIOUSLY PROVIDES HIS CHILDREN WITH EVERYTHING THEY NEED.<sup>2</sup>

### [ THIS ]

No one deserves the kindness of God. We are all sinful and from our birth we reject God. Our sinful hearts lead us away from God as we follow our own desires. God is perfectly just. He required the right payment for man's sin and then He provided that payment through His Son. We all need the salvation He offers. We cannot overcome our sinfulness without Him. He is the perfect Father because He willingly gave up His greatest treasure for us. Because He didn't withhold His only Son, we can trust that He will give us all that we need. God's sacrifice of His Son shows His graciousness towards us and His provision. He is a good Father who loves His children and gives them what they need.

### [ THEREFORE ]

#### **What does God's sacrifice of Jesus show you about His willingness to provide for you?**

We know God loves His people because we see this truth in Romans 5:8. While we were all still sinners, God sent His Son to die for us. This great sacrifice reveals that God will provide for us. Philippians 2:6-8 reminds us that Jesus willingly humbled Himself to die for us. We cannot doubt God's provision for us for long when we remind ourselves of His great sacrifice for us.

### [ THIS ]

God provides the spiritual needs of His children. He also provides for the physical needs of His children. He gives His children their daily bread and He does so faithfully. God provides for all people the things required to live on this earth, such as air to breathe, warmth from the sun, etc. These common graces are for all people, not just God's children. If God graciously gives to all people, how much more will He give to His own sons and daughters? God knows exactly what each of His children need and He provides it for them in the perfect time. He has given His Word as our guide and the Holy Spirit as our Helper. All that we need can be found in Christ, and we can be fully satisfied in Him.

### [ THEREFORE ]

#### **What are some ways we mistake our wants for our needs?**

We can often think that the things we desire are the things we need. James 1:13-18 teaches us that our desires can lead to temptations that lead to sin and death. We have to be careful not to mistake our desires and wants for our needs. 1 John 2:15-17 also reminds us not to love the world or the things in it. God always gives us what we need, but often we mistake our want or desire for something as need.

#### **How does God's provision of our daily needs reveal His graciousness towards us?**

If God's provision for us had been only His Son, it would have been enough. If God had provided salvation for our souls and nothing else, it would have been enough. But God did much more than that. In His graciousness, He lavishes it upon us as Ephesians 1:8-9 tells us and He provides us so much more. He gives us good gifts and blesses us much more than we could ever deserve.

2. Philippians 4:19: God provides for His children. He gives them all that they need.

**BIG IDEA #3: THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR HIS CHILDREN IS UNBREAKABLE.<sup>3</sup>****[ THIS ]**

Few things in this life last forever. Few things are unchanging and unbreakable. Our lives change either because of our actions or the actions of someone else. Our relationships with others can change, sometimes forever. Because humans are sinful and believers fight the sinfulness in their hearts, our human relationships can be broken. This isn't true with God. His love is unbreakable. His love is unchanging and there is nothing we can do to change His love or to break the relationship we have with Him. This means God's love for us is not based on us. It's based on who He is and His unchanging character.

**[ THEREFORE ]****What hope does it give you that God's love is not breakable?**

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 shows us the type of love that God has. These characteristics of love are who God is. He never stops loving us. He never changes. This should give us great hope because, unlike other things in this life, we cannot break God's love for us. We cannot break our relationship with Him because it does depend upon us. We are His sons and daughters because He makes us His sons and daughters.

**How does God's unbreakable love help you to love others unconditionally?**

Jesus tells us in John 13:34 that His followers are to love one another as He has loved them. Knowing that this love will never break, we should seek to love with no conditions. 1 John 4:11 and 1 Peter 4:8 teach us that loving others is part of knowing God and being like Him. This unbreakable love requires a posture of forgiveness of all things as Matthew 18:21-22 tells us.

**[ THIS ]**

In Romans 8:33-35, Paul teaches that nothing can separate a believer from God. This means that God's love for His children is unbreakable. We also see that it is God who rescues sinners. It is God who saves unbelievers and makes them part of His family. As Paul writes in Romans 8:33, it is God who justifies. Man does not justify himself. Because we do not make ourselves right before God, we cannot undo what God has done. This also means that it is God who chooses to love and we cannot make Him choose not to love us. Once we are God's son or daughter, we cannot cause Him to not love us. We cannot break this love.

**[ THEREFORE ]****How does God's unbreakable love produce a security in you? How can you serve Him wholeheartedly?**

In Acts 4:13-22, we see a story of Peter and John serving God boldly in spite of persecution and opposition. They could do this because of the security they had in God's love for them. We can live boldly no matter our circumstances because we know that God's love is unbreakable. This knowledge should produce a security and hope in us. Just as Peter and John were not deterred by opposition or hardship, we should face whatever we have to as we serve God. Knowing that God so willingly loves us because He chooses to do so should lead us to live a life of service to Him.

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3. Romans 8:35: *Nothing can separate us from God's love.*