

LESSON 22: OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

Memory work

Memorize either the questions and answers or Hymn 63:1

120.Q. Why has Christ commanded us to address God as Our Father?

*A. To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer
that childlike reverence and trust toward God
which should be basic to our prayer:
God has become our Father through Christ
and will much less deny us what we ask of Him in faith
than our fathers would refuse us earthly things.*

121.Q. Why is there added, in heaven?

*A. These words teach us
not to think of God's heavenly majesty in an earthly manner,
and to expect from His almighty power
all things we need for body and soul.*

Hymn 63:1

*Our Father, great in majesty,
enthroned in heaven eternally,
with childlike trust we seek your face,
relying on your love and grace.
In faith and reverence we draw near
for you, in Christ, our prayer will hear.*

Homework

1.(4) Look up Matthew 7:9-11.

a) What will an earthly father not give to his son? _____

b) In what way is your heavenly Father superior to an earthly father? _____

c) What do you learn from this about God and yourself praying to God? _____

2.(2) Are you allowed to call God your Father if you don't believe in Him? _____ because _____

3.(2) Does God owe you anything if you don't trust Him as your Father? _____

4.(2) Imagine we were not allowed to call God our Father. How would it make you feel about God?

(An important question: Muslims figure that God (Allah) is not a father)