

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**FUNDOCY Homework: Our Father and Hallowed**

Lesson Taught on Sunday, March 17

Homework Due: Sunday, March 31

**A. Our Father**

*Jesus says God is "Our Father." So what? Our Father? How could anyone in Jesus' day dare to address God as Father? People didn't even risk saying the word for God (Yahweh) out loud for fear of taking God's name in vain. Instead, they called God words like "Lord" (Adonai) and other terms of reverence, but never Father! To Christ, God wasn't a distant god at all. Nor was God simply a generic Mother Nature. To him, God was a loving parent who loved him, knew his needs, and wanted to give good gifts to all the children of the world. If God is really my loving parent, how will it affect my life? My fears? My decisions? My relationships with others? My prayer life? My worship schedule?*

**Part I: The Lesson**

1. Read Mark 14:36. What terms does Jesus use to address God in this verse?
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
2. The term "Abba" means roughly the same thing as "daddy". It is a name conveying affection and love.
  - Do you call your parents or grandparents by any special names? \_\_\_\_\_
  - If so, what name do you use? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Do your parents or grandparents call you by any special names? \_\_\_\_\_
  - If so, what names do they use? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does the name Jesus uses to talk to God teach us about God?  
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\_\_\_\_\_
4. Read Matthew 6:9-15. What does it mean to say that God is "Our Father in heaven"?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Jesus began the Lord's Prayer with the words (see Matthew 6:9-15):
  - A. Our Father,
  - B. Our Father in heaven,
  - C. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
  - D. Immortal, Eternal, Omnipotent and Most Mystical Ground of All Ontological Being

6. What does "Our Father" mean?:
  - A. God is an Episcopalian,
  - B. God is like an ancient watch maker who built the world, wound it up and walked away forever,
  - C. We can pray to God with complete confidence just as children speak to a loving father,
  - D. God is too busy for our measly problems
7. Where does God live?:
  - A. In the sky,
  - B. In the church steeple with the bats,
  - C. In, with, and under everything, but not held by space, time or any other dimensions of the physical universe,
8. Another name Jesus used for God in prayer was:
  - A. Abba (daddy),
  - B. Abu (uncle),
  - C. Addis Ababa (city),
  - D. A boo boo (ouch)
9. Calling God "Father" or "Abba" was shocking to most people in Jesus' day because:
  - A. God was seen as mysterious, distant and unapproachable,
  - B. God was seen as a God of war and destruction,
  - C. God was always referred to in the feminine in Hebrew,
  - D. Most people didn't like their fathers back then
10. The most common names for God in the Hebrew Bible were:
  - A. Yahweh (I Am) and Adonai (Lord),
  - B. Yassir and a donut,
  - C. Rabbi (Teacher) and Shalom (Peace)
  - D. Kobe and Shaq
11. A good earthly parent:
  - A. Always lets us off the hook when we mess up,
  - B. Always gives us everything we want when we want it and demand it without asking any questions,
  - C. Always loves and forgives us if we are good enough and deserve it,
  - D. Loves and forgives, even when we don't deserve it

12. What did Jesus tell his disciples about prayer?:
- A. Only use written prayers from witty blue handbooks,
  - B. Always pray out loud at church and make a big deal of it in public,
  - C. Cover your heads when you pray, especially if you are female,
  - D. Pray in secret and God will reward you in secret
13. God cares for us:
- A. When we are obedient,
  - B. When we give lots of money to charity,
  - C. When it is in God’s best interest to do so,
  - D. All the time—like a parent cares for a child

**Part II: Reflection Questions (There are NO wrong answers here!)**

1. What are some characteristics of a good parent?

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How is God like a good parent?

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2. Do you think you can or should pray to God saying “Our Mother”? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why or why not?

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3. You invite a friend to a meal at your house. Before eating, you pause and say a prayer. Your friend asks “What’s a prayer all about?” How do you respond?

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**B. Hallowed.**

*A great person’s name deserves respect. If they have done something wonderful, astounding, or unusually sacrificial, they deserve to have their name treated with the highest esteem. Honor, even.*

*There is one name that calls for more respect and reverence than any other name in the universe. It has been spoken throughout history in every language on every continent, though sometimes the name takes on different forms. That name is God's name. God's name by its very nature is great. It speaks of hope, love, power, creativity, majesty and forgiveness. It sometime begs, sometimes demands, but always needs to be treated with respect.*

**Part I: The Lesson**

1. Using a dictionary, define "hallowed".

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Using a dictionary, define "hollowed".

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What a difference one letter makes!

List two ways we can "hallow" God's name:

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_

List two ways we can "hollow" God's name:

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_

2. "Holy, special, sacred, worthy of honor and praise" is a good way to define the word:

- a. Happy,
- b. Hokey,
- c. Hollowed,
- d. Hallowed

3. When is God's name hallowed?:

- a. When God's Word is taught in its truth and purity,
- b. When God's children live in harmony with God's Word,
- c. When people use God's name to justify wars, bigotry or racism,
- d. A & B, but never C

4. When we "hallow" a person or thing, we "respect" that person or thing. The word "respect" literally means to "look or see again". When we take a second look at who God is—creator, Savior, friend—it becomes clear that God is worthy of our praise and esteem. To respect God, therefore, is to offer God our praise and attention.

How can you “hallow” God’s name? (How can you respect God’s name?)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

5. The opposite of “respect” is “disrespect”. What are two ways you can disrespect God’s name? (Hint: Ask your parents if you need some ideas).

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

6. How do people “dis” (disrespect) God?:

a. By harming and polluting creation,

b. By ignoring God’s holy Word,

c. By using God’s name for cursing, yelling at their parents and others in authority, and refusing to take out the garbage when asked,

d. All of the above and then some

7. How is taking care of our bodies a way of showing respect to God?:

a. Our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit and taking care of the temple honors God’s creation,

b. God wants Christians buff so they can impress others into the kingdom,

c. God loves “washboard abs,”

d. None of the above

8. How does regular worship honor and hallow God’s holy name?:

a. It shows God that we aren’t ungrateful brats,

b. It shows the world what God means to us,

c. It shows God how thankful we are for God’s gifts and how aware we are of God’s greatness,

d. All of the above and then some

9. Read Exodus 20:5. What kind of God is God?

God is a \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Based on Ex. 20:5, how do you think God feels when we disrespect God’s name?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. God’s name is certainly holy in and of itself, but we ask in this prayer:

A. That we may keep it holy in the language we choose to use,

B. That we may keep it holy in the way we live our lives,

C. Both A & B,

D. That God' won't mind if we learn to cuss and swear like a drunken sailor

**Part II: Reflection Questions (There are NO wrong answers here!)**

1. What was the last thing someone did that honored you?

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How did you feel?

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2. What does swearing have to do with the First Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

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Does the way we use God's name matter?

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What does it say about us?

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About our opinion of God?

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3. Your coach swears a lot at your teammates, the referees, and at you. They misuse and abuse God's name in practically every other sentence. What do you say?

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