

# What Do We Believe?

## Lesson 10

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## Lesson 10: God the Father: He is Father and Judge

### Scriptures:

Psalm 68:5; Psalm 103:8,13; Isaiah 43:1-7; Isaiah 63:7-16; Isaiah 64:8; Matthew 6:9, 25-34; Matthew 7:7-11; Galatians 4:1-7

### Lesson Goals:

To lead the learner to see God as the best father of all  
To lead the learner to know that God cares for him or her  
To lead the learner to understand that God judges

### Scripture Memory:

**But now, O Lord, you are our Father, we are the clay, and you our Potter; and all of us are the work of your hand. (Isaiah 64: 8)**

### The Lesson:

Every human has a father. Some fathers are really good fathers and don't make many mistakes. Some are not good fathers. A father may never live with, or even know his own child. Sometimes things happen to make it that way. Fathers are just human and they make mistakes and do things that aren't best. Things happen to them, or because of them, that keep them from being good fathers.

God is the perfect father. There is not another father like Him. He never makes mistakes. And, He is always there. He loves us like no earthly father ever could. He watches over us better than any earthly father. He is concerned about everything that we do and say. He corrects us when we are wrong. He celebrates with us when we accomplish good things.

Jesus talked a lot about the Heavenly Father when He was on earth. He said, "...be sons of your Father who is in Heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." (Matthew 5:45) He said, "...your Heavenly Father will...forgive you." (Matthew 6:14) He said, "If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers – most of which are never seen – don't you think He'll attend to you, take pride in you, do His best for you?" (Matthew 6:30-31 The Message)

When God was about to lead His people Israel into the Promised Land, Moses told them, "The Lord your God who goes before you will Himself fight on your behalf, just as He did for you in Egypt before your eyes, and in the wilderness where you saw how the Lord your God carried you, just as a man carries his son, in all the way which you have walked until you came to this place." (Deuteronomy 1:30-31) God cares for His own and helps them be all that they can be. He did not allow His people to die in the desert. He loved them as a father should and rescued them from the mess they had made for themselves.

Jesus taught us to say, "Our Father" when we pray. He wants us to call him father. He wants us to depend on Him and trust Him. He invites us to ask Him for that which is important to us.

Human fathers should want to guide their children to be the best that they can be. They should want to be sure that their children have strong healthy lives...good Christian lives...good neighborly lives. Every father has that responsibility, whether he chooses to do it or not. The Bible tells us that God is the potter and we are the clay. God, the perfect father, helps us to be the best that we can be. If we allow Him, he will shape our lives like a potter shapes a beautiful piece of pottery.

By reading His word, the Bible, and by living as much like His Son, Jesus, as we can, we will have good, healthy lives. We will be good Christians. We will be good neighbors. Jesus tells us that we should have

at least two great goals. We should love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We should also love our neighbors as we love ourselves. If we do those two things, we will be well on the way to doing what our Father, God, wants us to do.

God is like a father in another way. He is the judge of all things. He decides what is right and what is wrong. He decides what is good and what is bad. He decides what is healthy and what is not. Isn't it wonderful to know that our Heavenly Father, the perfect father, is also our judge? He, like all good fathers, wants His daughters and sons to not only do the best things, but He is the one who decides what are the best things. And, He teaches us how and when to do these best things.

God is the father of Jesus. He sent Jesus into this world to let us know what God is like. Jesus is the one who shows us how God thinks and how God behaves. We can have a personal relationship with God. He becomes our father, when we ask Jesus to be our Savior and the Lord of our lives.

In II Corinthians 6:18 we read, "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Isn't it wonderful to know that God wants to be our father? He really does!

### Life Application:

Is God your Father? Have you trusted in Him, believing that He loves you more than anyone ever could? You know, He loved you so much that He sent His One and Only Son to live a perfect life and then to die in your place, carrying your sin. It is not a hard decision. God did all of the work. All that is left for you is to trust yourself to Him.

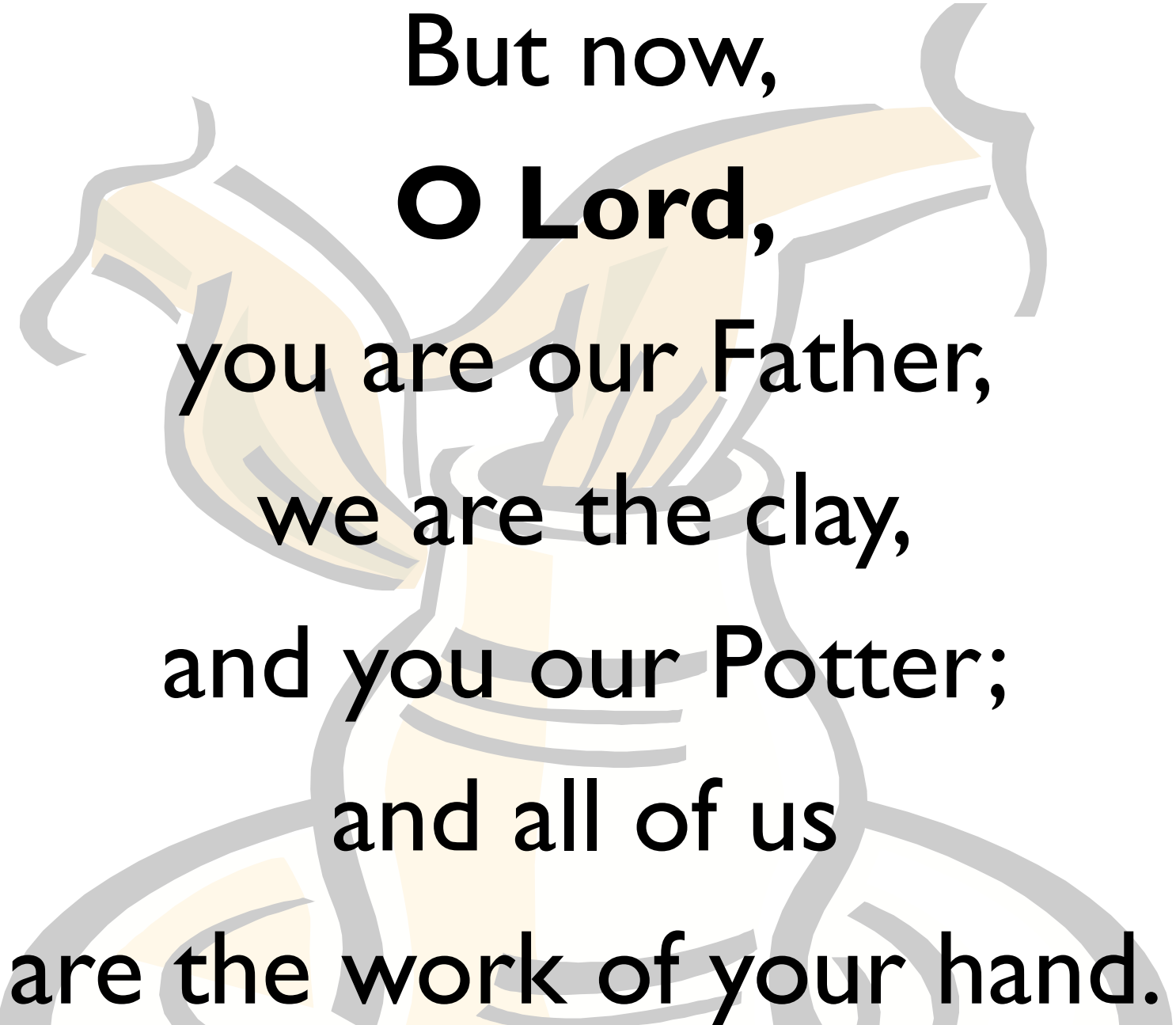
Without God as our father, we are slaves to sin. But when we become God's children by believing in His Son and putting Him in charge of our lives, God sends the Holy Spirit to live in us and guide us. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we call God "Abba," or daddy! With God as our Father, we are not slaves to sin any longer.



Planning for Lesson 11  
 God the Father:  
 He is at Work in the World  
 Today



- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Take a Memory Verse Walk. Print each word of the memory verse on separate sheets of construction paper. Use different colors for each word. Affix the construction paper to the floor far enough apart so that your students can comfortably step from one to the other. Sing or play music as your students walk from one word to the next. When the music stops, your students should stop as well. Have each one read their word, saying the entire verse in order. Continue until the verse has been memorized.
  
- ◆ Make pinch pots from clay. Attach the memory verse with string or ribbon.
  
- ◆ Sing “Change My Heart, O God,” “Father, I Adore You,” “Blessed Be the Lord, God Almighty,” and “Behold, What Manner of Love.”
  
- ◆ Read Isaiah 43:1-7 from several translations. If possible, make sure you include The Amplified Bible and The Message.
  
- ◆ **Dig Deeper:** Read Matthew 6:25-34. Read again and count the number of times we are told not to worry. Discuss the reasons given for not worrying. Is there any room for worry in the life of a child of God?
  
- ◆ **Dig Deeper Still:** Bring a lump of clay and a finished piece of pottery. Talk about the process of turning a lump of clay into something beautiful and lasting. Read the following for discussion; Isaiah 64:8, Isaiah 45:9, Isaiah 29:16, Jeremiah 18:1-6, and Romans 9:20-21.



**But now,  
O Lord,  
you are our Father,  
we are the clay,  
and you our Potter;  
and all of us  
are the work of your hand.**

**Isaiah 64: 8**

Who is the perfect Father?  
Trace the letters to find out.



# Word Search



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**concern**

**care**

**correct**

**Father**

**celebrate**

**Judge**

**potter**

**clay**

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Y | A | L | C | E | L | C | J | U | G |
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