

Everlasting Father

The prophet Isaiah describes the Messiah as an “Everlasting Father.” Now that we know the Messiah is Jesus Christ, how are we supposed to understand that title? Can the Son of God also be a father or is that heresy? Let's study scripture to find out what this title would have meant to its original Israelite audience and why it really is an appropriate title for Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What do you think it means to be a father? What characteristics would you want a father to have?
- Why do you think Isaiah says the Messiah is an “everlasting father” not just a “father”?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Everlasting Father](#)

READ [Isaiah 9:6](#), [Isaiah 1:16-18](#), [John 14:1-11](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- What biblical stories can you think of that exemplify Jesus' fatherly nature?
- In many contexts, a fatherless child is vulnerable to all sorts of threats. Can you identify with that level of vulnerability? What does it mean to you then, that Jesus the Messiah is a father to the fatherless?
- In segment 2, hosts Dave Bast and Scott Hoezee describe that in Isaiah's day a father represented provision and protection. Having an everlasting father means we are always provided for and will never be vulnerable again. How might you describe this to someone in today's context and terms?
- How have you experienced God's provision and presence in the day-to-day, ordinariness of life? What does it mean to you that it is possible to know God so intimately through Jesus?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Isaiah 63:16](#), [Isaiah 64:8](#), [Psalm 103:13-18](#)

CONCLUSION

Read and ponder this quote from David Sunday's article "[How Can Jesus Be Our Everlasting Father](#)":

Jesus, your Everlasting Father, came down at Christmas into a broken and sinful world to fill our hearts with heaven's love, and to teach us how to love one another. He came to make sons and daughters out of his enemies. This is the Father's gift to us at Christmas.

Reflect on how you see the presence of this gift in your life and consider how you might share this gift in the ordinary, day-to-day events of your life over the next week. Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for this gift and the Messiah, our Everlasting Father.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/everlasting-father>

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