

June 2015
From the Desk of Rev. Chuck
Unity Church of Bakersfield
1619 E Street, Bakersfield CA 93301
www.ucob.org
Church: 661-327-8614

Dear Friends,

Last month we honored people who represented the motherly love that nurtured us, our Mothers. This month we honor the people who represented the fatherly love expressed by those who protected us while on this physical plane, our Fathers.

Jesus had a mother and a father too who loved, nurtured and protected him. However, as he grew up in his Jewish faith and became aware of his spiritual side, path, and journey, he began to see God as “Abba Father” God.

To Jesus, God was not a physical being in the sky somewhere but a spiritual essence that was all around us and within us. That idea was counter to the prevailing religious thinking of his day. He taught:

God is spirit, and we must worship God in Spirit and in truth" (Jn 4:24). And if God is spirit where does God and His kingdom reside? Again he said, "People say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' but it is not, because the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:21).

Because of Jesus’s understanding of the nature of God and his connection to the kingdom of God within himself he was able to do things other teachers, sages, rabbi’s could not do. And yet, what did he teach everyone that came to listen, to learn, to live a new life?

“The words I speak and the works I do are not mine, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me” (John 14:10). “Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father” (John 14:12).

In other words, live your life as I have lived mine, believe that you too can have a connection to a loving, caring, all providing Father who also dwells within you. Know that you do not need to worry about anything, for

worry pays no dividends. Instead it robs you of your strength, your power. *“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Fathers good pleasure to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12:32).*

Because Jesus understood the nature of God’s love to be everywhere present as Spirit in action, an activity that prevails the order and harmony of God’s kingdom, it made sense to him that God didn’t want people to go running around looking to have their needs met.

Jesus was very adamant about this teaching, for it worked for him and he knew it would work for others who had faith and trusted in the all providing supply of a very loving Father. To drive home his point on a very personal level, he used the term “your Father!”

“Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him” (Luke 12:32). “And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you” (Matt 6:5-6).

And everything we would ever need was summed up in one all encompassing prayer, which again drove home the point that God is everyone’s Father:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

May you all know, as Jesus did, the awesome connection you have with God as your divine parent!