

Chapter 3

Our Heavenly Father

God is our Heavenly Father.

Chapter Summary

Within God's loving plan for mankind, He provides for our needs as a good father provides for his children. God is a good and loving Father, and He shares His goodness and love with us so that we can share it with others. As we see God's loving actions in the Bible and in our own lives, we come to love Him more. Therefore, it is important that students come to know the loving actions of God in Scripture and in their daily lives. The more we love God, the happier we will become. It pleases God when we show Him that we are grateful for all His gifts by giving Him praise and thanks; in this we are blessed all the more.

More for Parents

Parents have an important responsibility: they are the first and most important way children begin to learn about God. Children begin to learn about God when their parents live out the faith. Children begin to learn about truths they cannot see by first understanding things they can see. When parents care for their children, love them, provide for their needs, forgive them for their mistakes, and teach them how to be good, their children begin to learn about God's love and care for them. Although parents will make mistakes along the way, God still chooses them to be the first ones to reveal something of what our perfect God in Heaven is like. What an honor and responsibility we have as parents. God tells us He is our Father and then allows moms and dads to represent Him to their children. May our Father in Heaven help us represent Him well by loving our children better each day and making every day about getting closer to Heaven.

Our Family Prays Together

Dear God, You made us, and You love us. Thank You for being our Father in Heaven. Help us learn more about You today and every day. Help us know all the good things You do for us. Amen.

Let's Talk about It as a Family

- **God is our Heavenly _____.** (Father.)
- **God our Father is good and _____.** (Loving.)
- **If we know about God, can that help us love Him more?** (Yes.)
- **Because God is good and loving, we should always give Him praise and _____.** (Thanks.)

Let's Live Our Faith

- Discuss what your family has received from God that you should be thankful for.
- List and discuss the ways that your family can show thanks to God for being our Heavenly Father.
- Discuss what can be done to show thanks to caretakers.

Family Faith Activities

Choose one or more of the following to do as a family:

- Practice saying "thank you" to one another. Consider rewarding your children with points for saying "thank you" or taking points away for forgetting to say it.
- Practice the first line of the Our Father together as a family.
- Pray the Our Father together.
- Read and discuss the *Small Wonders* story as a family by going to the parent portal.

For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.