

Father's Day 2025

This sermon will be/was preached after the Father's Day Panel

'The Great Father!'

John 3:16-17 (ESV)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

John 3:16-17 (ESV)

Sermon in a Sentence:

We have a great Father in our heavenly Father who has a plan, the protection, and thorough process.

Intro:

- Why don't we give a huge thank you and round of applause to the men who served on our Father's Day Panel this year!
 - ***Last Sunday I was sitting in Dallas First Baptist Church and the Lord laid on my heart to share from this text this morning.***
 - I also felt we needed to take a break on our sermon series in Ezra.
 - It's been great, but it has been heavy.

- ***While I do preach verse-by-verse and book by book, when the Lord leads me to go another direction, I listen and obey.***
 - ***And this is what I heard the Lord tell me last Sunday as I sat in the sanctuary at Dallas FBC.***
 - ***'Remind them that I love them'***
- ***While I have referenced this powerful text all throughout my life and ministry, it was the first verse I learned and memorized, I have yet to preach this text.***
 - This comes at a great time in the life of our Church to share this text, for several reasons.
 - #1: No matter what your earthly father was like, our Heavenly Father is perfect.
 - #2: We are getting ready to have hundreds of people on our campus next from our community. Many of which have not heard or haven't heard from the Gospel. If we aren't saved or sure of our salvation, today is the day we make things right with the Lord.
 - #3: To equip everyone in this sanctuary how to share the

Gospel with someone and lead someone to Christ.

Read John 3:16-17

Question to Ask:

What does our Heavenly Father show us about being a Great Father?

Context of John 3:

- *John chapter 3 begins with a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus.*
 - John 3:1 tells us that Nicodemus (who was a high ruling Pharisee) came to Jesus at night.
 - *Of course Nicodemus came to Jesus at night so that no one would know he was meeting with Jesus. That could ruin his reputation as a Pharisee.*
 - During this conversation Nicodemus asked Jesus several questions and as one of His answers, Jesus explains the well known phrase ‘you must be born again’.
 - *In this same conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus gives the most famous summary of the Gospel, in John 3:16.*
- But it’s important to look at the first word in verse 16. **‘FOR’**
 - *This word connects to verses 14 & 15.*

- ‘And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.’ John 3:14-15

- *Jesus is explaining what had to happen in order for someone to have eternal life.*

Truth #1: *The Plan.* (v. 16a)

- “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,”
 - The first phrase here is so important.
 - ‘For God so loved the world’
 - *To the Jewish people, such as Nicodemus in this situation, this phrase would have been astounding and shocking.*
 - The OT and other Jewish writings had spoken only of God’s love for his people, Israel.
 - *Jesus makes it clear that God loves the entire world. He loves every single one of us.*
 - So back in Genesis 3, when Adam and Eve sinned God put into place His plan so that the world might be saved. But, it involved His SON.
- *To give His Son.*
 - God sent His only Son, so that we might be saved.

- Knowing that some would choose not to accept His gift.
- Knowing that some would blaspheme Him.
- Knowing that some would kill others because of their faith in His Son, Jesus.

■ ***God sent His Son to save dirty wretched sinners, such as you and I.***

■ ***If God loved sinners, not the sin, then shouldn't we?***

- Notice that the text is clear:
 - 'For God so LOVED the world'
 - 'LOVED' here is in the past tense.
 - Before we were sinners, He loved us.
- ***Salvation is nothing that we do. It's something we received. We must not forget that God is the one who acts first in Salvation, and He did so by sending His son.***
 - That's why John wrote this in 1st John 4:19
 - 'We love because he first loved us.'
- This was God's plan, to give us eternal protection.

Truth #2: *The Protection.* (v. 16b)

- 'that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.'
 - ***Everyone will live forever. Some of us will be Holy and some of us will be hot.***

- God's protection plan was made possible when Jesus died on the Cross.

■ ***To perish, is to spend eternity without God.***

- The worst possible thing that can happen to anyone, is dying without Jesus.
- ***That word 'perish' in the greek literally means to be deprived of, and void.***
 - To not have Jesus= You have nothing.
 - To have Jesus= you have everything.
- ***Eternal Life.***
 - ***Our Heavenly Father has given us the opportunity to have the greatest Gift that anyone can ever give, eternal life.***
 - ***For centuries, people have searched for it, led expeditions over it, and even killed over it.***
 - God made it possible by sending His Son, so that we can spend eternity with Him.
 - Yes, we will get a new body, we will dwell in Heaven forever, we will see loved ones, ***but the best part about Heaven is the fact that King Jesus is there!***

Truth #3: *The Process.* (v. 17)

- ‘For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.’
 - The process that God enacted to save the world was sending His Son as a baby, who would grow up and die on the cross for our sins. We know that!
 - *But this was not what the Jews thought or expected the process to be like.*
 - They had waited thousands of years for their Savior to come.
 - *The Jews were looking for a religious leader, a king to condemn the Romans and liberate the Jews.*
 - *This is why Jesus says that the process wasn’t to condemn the world, but to save the world!*
 - *So then why do we as Christians do so much more condemning and judging than we do sharing our faith with others so that they might be saved?*
 - Yes, others may sin differently than us, but we still have sin in our lives and God is still working in and on us, daily!
 - If our God didn’t come to condemn the world, then why should we?
- *A Life Saver.*
 - Jesus is our life savior. He came to save the world when most of the Jews wanted him to

save them from their temporary oppression from the Roman government.

- *Such a strong reminder that God does in fact know a lot more than we do. He knows what’s best.*
- *Notice the last two words in verse 17.*
 - *‘Through Him’*
- *It’s not through Mohammed, Allah, the government, or even yourself, only through Jesus Christ can you be saved.*

So what does all of this mean for me right now in my life?

- *Unless the rapture of the Church occurs during your lifetime, all of us are going to experience a physical death.*
 - ☐ You are going to die. One scholar wrote it out like this:
 - *‘You are going to die. Take a moment to let that sink in. You are going to die. One morning the sun will rise and you won’t see it. Birds will greet the dawn and you won’t hear them. Friends and family will gather to celebrate your life, and after you’re buried they’ll return to the Church for ham and potatoes. Soon your job and favorite chair and spot on the team will be filled by someone else. The rest of the world may pause to remember– it will give you a moment of*

***silence if you were rich or well known—
but then it will carry on as it did before
you arrived.'***

- ☐ So, how can you live forever with King Jesus and live for Him as your Savior and Lord right now?

- ***Admit that you are a sinner.***
- ***Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for your sins.***
- ***Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord.***

- If you don't know Jesus today, I want to give you that opportunity
 - ☐ ***God, I know that I am a sinner. I am asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sin. I believe that you sent your Son Jesus Christ to die on the Cross for my sins, and that He defeated death by rising up three days later. I am confessing you as Lord and asking you to save me from my sins, because I cannot save myself. My life is no longer my own, I am giving it to you right now. I am repenting, and turning from my own life. To you, I give all. Amen.***
- If you are a believer in Christ Jesus today, we need to ask ourselves the following questions.

-Did I know how to share my faith before walking in today? (If not, you do now)

-If I did, how many people did I have a Gospel conversation with this past week?

-How many people did I stop and pray for in my daily life this past week?

-How many people have I led to Christ in June so far?

-Does my facebook feed promote Christ?

-Does my worship attendance reflect that I am obeying Hebrews 10:25?

- Does what rolls off my tongue show non-believers that I am not of the world but just in the world?

-If you are saved, who is your paul and who is your timothy?

Question to really think about:

- ***If we aren't regularly sharing Christ with those in our daily lives and in our daily routines, then why do we think that all of a sudden, during VBS, we'll be able to do it?***
- That's like NEVER running, and all of a sudden, randomly, running a marathon. Evangelism should be YEAR round.
- ***Because our Heavenly Father is so great, the Gospel Message is so Glorious. You've been***

*equipped to share the Gospel this morning,
now WHO are you going to share it with this
week?*

- *FBCG is to be an army of Believers in the
midlands. Not an adult daycare where we wait
to be cared for, but willingly and Bodly go and
care for our community with the Love of Jesus
Christ.*