IPSWICH CITY
UNITING CHURCH
Finding New Life Together in Christ

September 6, 2020
NEWSLINK

BIBLE READING

UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
Year 'A'
REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY
2019 – 2020

SEPT 6 2020
Pent 14 [23]

Ex 12:1-14
Ps 149
Rom 13:8-14
Mt 18:15-20

SEPT 13 2020
Pent 15 [24]

Ex 14:19-31
Ps 114 or Ex 15:1b-11, 20-21
Rom 14:1-12
Mt 18:21-35

AFTER PENTECOST
A period of time that varies in length depending on whether Easter is early or late. In this period, the Church recalls its faith in the Holy Trinity. It seeks to relate its faith as a people of God to Christ's mission in the world. It commences with Trinity Sunday and concludes with the feast of Christ the King.

75 Limestone Street, Ipswich, Q
Postal Address:
P.O. Box 2520
North Ipswich Q 4305
Australia
ABN **64 239 176 879**

Minister
Reverend Andrew Gillies
Mob: 0448 617 136

Office
Mob: 0466 787 703
E: *icucreception@outlook.com*

DIRECT DEPOSIT GIVING:
UCA-Ipswich City Uniting Church
BSB: 014010
Account: 387923132

REFLECTION

A GOOD AND PERFECT DAD

On this Father's Day I am reminded that it was Jesus who really showed us that God was a good and loving Father.

The word he used for Father would be the Australian equivalent of "Dad". Ancient Israel sometimes used Father and Mother imagery for God, but they never dared to call God "Dad" in their prayers. Jesus reveals God with us as our brother and Dad.

In today' readings we have other imagery of God meeting us, of heaven and earth coming together. Where two or three gather Jesus is there and what is loosed in heaven is loosed on earth. (Matt 18:15-20)

Slaves are freed because God visits them bringing judgement on the oppressor and release to the captive. (Exodus 12:1-14)

The Romans are urged to love each other and all people because God's "salvation" in Jesus is near at hand so live honourably. (Romans 13:8-14)

What we do really matters because heaven and earth are joined together by God, in us, in Jesus and by the Spirit. God is not a super version of our own Dads, but human Dads and Mums should reflect the love of God.

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION.

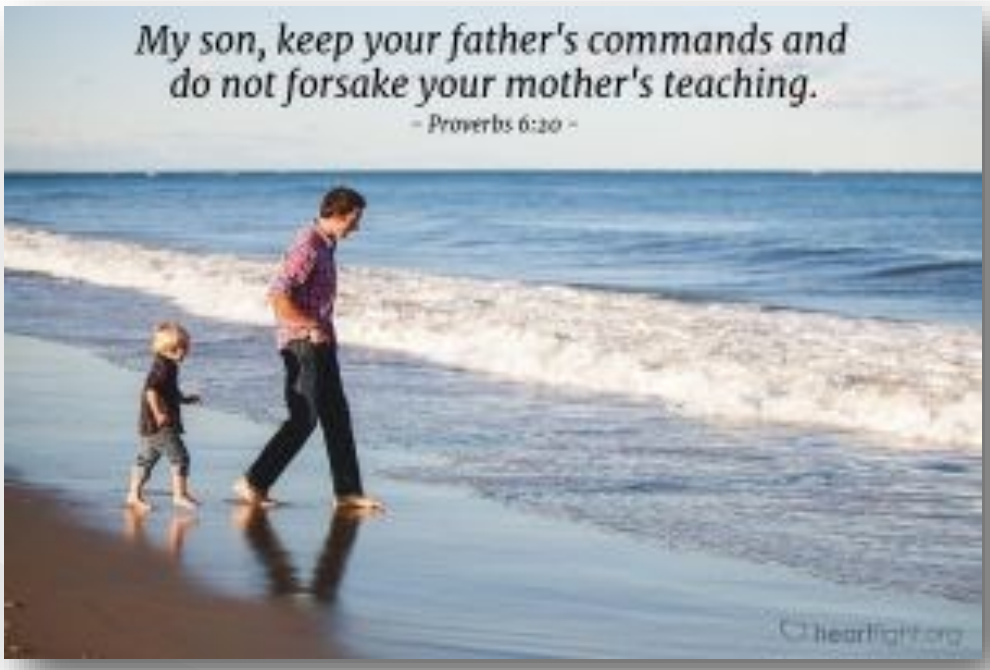
Where is Heaven?

Where is God?

What do you make of the notion of God as "Father"?

What should Christian Fathers be like in the light of God's Fatherhood?

Rev Andrew



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