

"People Who Need the Blessing of a Father" Isaiah 9:6
December 11 & 14, 2016: Cam Huxford, Senior Pastor

When we talk about God as a Father, some of us are real comfortable with that...but sadly, some of us have a "cringe factor." *Ephesians 6:4 NIV* 

Repentance is a willingness to change the way you think and produces a change in the way you live.

Isaiah describes the fatherly traits that Jesus will exhibit when He comes to reveal God the Father to us.

## What "Jesus is Our Everlasting Father" means:

Jesus is the founding father of our <u>faith!</u>

If you have a relationship with God, you are part of a faith and a kingdom and a community of believers that was <u>founded</u> by Jesus Christ. *Hebrews 1:1-3 NIV* 

2. Jesus is the Spiritual Father of a new <u>family</u>. 1 Corinthians 15:22 NIV

Every one of us was born with a sinful <u>nature</u>...an inclination toward sin... that will influence us and that hopefully, we will all fight in God's power every day of our lives. *1 Corinthians 15:21-22 NIV; John 3:16 NIV* 

3. Jesus is the Compassionate Father who gives us <u>unconditional love</u>.

In Mark 10:13, people actually brought their children to Jesus so He could bless them.

The idea of "blessing" is that you speak <u>value</u> into the life of a child.

The best gifts cost only *time* and the *effort* required to create a <u>memory</u> of blessing in your family.

If Jesus is your Everlasting, Spiritual Father, don't talk about Him in the <u>past</u> tense.

Jesus is your Everlasting, Spiritual Father only if you've chosen to be part of His family in Christ.

Christmas is all about a <u>reunion</u> of people like us with our Everlasting Father.

Choose <u>Jesus</u> as your Everlasting Father!

# **Ministry Opportunities**

For the full list of upcoming events, visit CompassionChristian.com/events.

## The Journey CD

Enjoy music from The Journey throughout the Christmas season. A selection of beautiful music pieces performed by musicians from many of our campuses is available on CD at the Resource Center and online from Amazon, iTunes and many other online digital music sites. These CDs make great Christmas gifts!

#### **Winter Coat Collection**

## **Throughout December**

Choose compassion and donate new or lightly used coats in adult or child sizes. We'll give them to homeless people and refugee families. Leave donations in the collection bin in the lobby by the Global Outreach wall.

### **Welcome to Compassion Class**

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18

#### **Volunteer Central**

Come to this class if you'd like to know more about our church. Cam will talk about our mission, vision, values and statement of faith. Lunch will be provided. Sign up at Connecting Point or at CompassionChristian.com by Saturday, Dec. 17.

### **Christmas Service Times**

Join us for special Christmas services as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Saturday, Dec. 24: 3 and 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 25: 11 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 28: 6:45 p.m.

Programming is available during all services for children aged 2 and under. All other children and students will join their parents in the Worship Center.

## 2016 Contributions

The last date to make 2016 contributions in the building will be in services on Wednesday, Dec. 28. Online and kiosk gifts can be made until midnight on Saturday, Dec. 31. All gifts received on Sunday, Jan. 1, will be counted as 2017 gifts.