

Small group optional guide: The Fathers Heart- Affection

UP; we grow in our love for Jesus through His word and worship

WORD: key passage Luke 15 looking at the affectionate heart of God the Father

V20 key words; compassion, embraced and kissed – this is a lavishly affectionate greeting

- This father pours out affection on his son who had done everything he could to lose this love.

Looking at the Father's response to the 2 sons:

1) Luke 15:32 to the younger son he celebrates

To celebrate and be glad; to rejoice and lean towards with favour! It is linked to the word GRACE.

Because of his unconditional love, and his grace, he leans toward and lavishes affection and love on his son.

2) V28-29 to the older son His father came out and entreated him

- to strive to appease by entreaty (an earnest or humble request)
- The older son's anger causes him to retreat and withdraw from the father, despite the love that the father clearly displays

- Both these sons are far off; there is an invitation from God to enjoy his embrace

There are no conditions to be loved by the Father, but we can withdraw and retreat from the Father's love

Questions to consider:

Q) Are there any conditions in your life that cause you to withdraw, or resent the love of the father?

Q) What can cause you to withdraw or disbelieve the Father's love for you?

WORSHIP songs: - Good Good Father - Indescribable - Our Father - Firm Foundation - The Blessing

OUT; we reach out to show people outside of JCC that God loves them

- What plans have you made as a small group to reach out to friends/family/neighbours over this next half term and over the summer?
- Plan a social, picnic, bbq and write down the names that you would like to invite; pray for them tonight
- Plan who will host, pick a date and time...send the invites this week

IN: are you aware of the courses and flow of JCC's year?

Every summer we run courses to equip us in our lives.

Every autumn we run courses that invest in our lives; like freedom in Christ, Marriage and Single courses.

Every spring we run Alpha!

Please sign up to the courses offered this term, starting this week with **Real parenting** and from 9th July **CAP**:

- Please go to the featured events on the website and sign up



📅 Real Parenting 2024

📅 Thu Jun 20, 2024
🕒 7:30 PM - 9:15 PM
📍 Amazon Studio



📅 CAP money coaching

📅 Tue Jul 9, 2024
🕒 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM
📍 Jubilee Community Centre