

DATE: Sunday, December 18, 2022 TITLE: His Name Shall Be Everlasting Father PASSAGE: Isaiah 9:6 SERIES: His Name Shall Be

# **Jesus Cares**

I. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus shows that he cares for you (Mark 4:35-41)

Providence is the governing power of God that oversees his creation and works out his plans for it.

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28)

# II. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus shows that he cares for you (John 11:21-26, 32-36)

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (2 Cor. 12:38-39)

### III. The\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus shows that he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:5-11)

"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Cor. 12:9-10)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

*"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."* (Psalm 90:2)



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### **DISCUSSION:**

- 1. The word "father" brings up different emotions for different people. When you hear the word "father", what you think and feel? Is your emotional response to the word "father" an accurate representation of Jesus? How does it differ?
- 2. What are the fatherly characteristics that Jesus portrays?
- 3. Do you believe that God cares for you? Why do you hold this position? Have you relied on experience, emotion, or education to support this position? How does experience, emotion, and education impact your answer?
- 4. Read Mark 4:35-41. What power does Jesus hold over the storms of life? What storms are you facing right now? How does the truth that Jesus cares for you impact the way you navigate this storm? How might you invite other believers into this storm to encourage you?
- 5. Read John 11:21-26, 32-36. What does it mean to you that Jesus understands our grief? What grieves you right now? What hope does Christ's resurrection power bring to this sorrow?
- 6. Read 1 Pet 5:5-11. What instructions are we given in this passage? What does God promise in this passage? Who gets to define the duration of "a little while" in verse 10? After that "little while" what will God do?
- 7. In 1 Pet 5:8 we read the enemy prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. He wants you to believe that no one cares for you. He wants you to believe that your decisions only impact you.
  - a) How does the image of Jesus as a father contrast the enemy's lies?
  - b) What steps do you need to take to believe Jesus and resist the enemy's lies?
  - c) Who can you invite closer to hold you accountable to firm up your faith to resist the devil? What steps will you take?

# THE PRAISEWORTHY QUALITIES OF GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE SON, AND GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Jesus is our "Everlasting Father" (Isaiah 9:6)
- Jesus is in control and directs all of his creation (Mark 4:35-41)
- Jesus cares for us through his providence (Romans 8:28)
- Jesus loves and cares (John 11:33-36)
- Jesus' love can never be separated from us (2 Cor. 12:38-39)
- Jesus' providence, love and grace is never changing (Hebrews 13:8)
- Jesus providence, love and grace is everlasting (Psalm 90:2)

## REVERENCE

- Lord, we worship you because ...
- Lord, I praise you because you cared for me as an everlasting father when you ...
- Lord Jesus, we honour and praise you that you never change and have existed for all eternity from everlasting to everlasting as God.
- Lord Jesus, thank you for caring for me when ...

## RESPONSE

- Lord have mercy on me a sinner.
- Lord Jesus, I confess that I have not always believed that you care for me.
- Lord Jesus, I confess that I don't always see your providence, your love or your grace as sufficient for my life.

## REQUEST

- Lord, I need you to help me believe that you care for me.
- Lord Jesus, show me your perfect plan in the midst of this struggle that I am in.
- Lord Jesus, help me to accept and find rest in your love for me.
- Lord Jesus, help me to rely on you and you alone for your grace is sufficient in my struggle.

# READINESS

- Lord, would I turn to you first trusting that you have a providential care for me.
- Lord Jesus, your loving care for me is never-ending, help me to be ready to share this same everlasting loving truth of your gospel with ...

Lord, help me to extend grace to others as you have towards me