

## From Lord to Father

(January 25, 2026, Glen G. Scorgie)

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:14-16

### SERMON SUMMARY

God is first revealed in Scripture as the LORD, a title that conveys his majestic sovereignty, his authority, and his right to our obedience. This title remains in effect, and its implications should continue to shape our responses to God. But Jesus favors another (complementary) name for God, one that has the potential to profoundly alter our relationship to him and our outlook on life. Using more intimate, familial imagery, Jesus refers to God as his *heavenly Father*, his *Abba*, and he invites us to do the same. In this message, we want to explore the significance of the “fatherhood” of God, and our status as his adopted children, a privileged position we enjoy in and through our identification with the Father’s beloved Son. This biblical vision of God as our heavenly Father encourages an affectionate, secure, and confident attachment to him.

### GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

1. What was your main personal takeaway from the message this week?
2. Why is it important always to remember that God is always and forever “the LORD our God”?
3. What changes in our perception of God when we think of him as our Father (or even *Abba*) instead of just our LORD? What difference can this make in how we related to God?
4. Obviously, we are not exempt from difficulties and even suffering in this life. Realistically, what can we expect from our heavenly Father’s heart for us?
5. Imagine that someone says to you: “I struggle to think of God as my Father, because back in my growing-up years I did not develop a very positive image of fathers.” How would you respond to them?
6. Do you think the Bible is teaching us that the Father can love us just as much as he loves his only begotten Son Jesus Christ? Is this expecting too much?
7. How can we get this truth of God’s fatherly love for all of us who are “in Christ” from our heads (as a cognitive truth) down into our hearts (as something that we deeply experience)? Are there any clues in the sermon text (Romans 8:14-16)?
8. What might it mean to say that we let the Father’s love define who we are?