

EVERLASTING FATHER

As preached on Sunday, December 22nd

Read: Isaiah 9:1-7

1. What was your relationship with your father like growing up? Would you characterize it as positive or negative? Why?
2. What impact do you think your relationship with your earthly father has had on your understanding and perception of your Heavenly Father?
3. What do you think Isaiah is implying about God when he offers the name “Everlasting Father” (Abi-ad) in Isaiah 9:6?
4. Take a moment to re-read Jesus’ parable found in Luke 15:11-32. Re-imagine the story from the younger son’s perspective. From the older son’s perspective. From the Father’s perspective. What distinctions stand out for you?
5. What “unthinkable” things does the father in the parable do? In what ways do these actions help to picture the way our Heavenly Father loves us?
6. What would it look like for you to fall into the embrace of your Heavenly Father this Advent season? How would it feel to do so?