

Doctrine: God the Father

Question	My Answers
1) What truths do I already know about Him?	
2) If I were to see Him, what would I expect to see?	
3) How has this doctrine affected my perspective on life and who I am?	
4) How has this influenced how I act every day?	
5) Where, specifically, have I learned what I wrote on #1?	
6) How has knowing about Heavenly Father impacted my standards everyday at school and with my friends?	
7) Why is it important to me that my future children understand who Heavenly Father is?	
8) What are specific things I do because I know this doctrine?	
9) How, do I think, He would want my prayers to Him to be like?	
10) What are some things I would like to better understand about Him?	

Who is Heavenly Father?

& What does it mean that I have a Divine Nature?

"If any of us could now see the God we are striving to serve – if we could see our Father who dwells in the Heavens, we should learn that we are as well acquainted with him as we are with our earthly father, and he would be as familiar to us in the expression of his countenance and we should be ready to embrace him and fall upon his neck and kiss him, if we had the privilege. And still we, unless the vision of the Spirit is opened to us, know nothing about God. You know much about him, if you but realize it. And there is no other one item that will so astound you, when your eyes are opened in eternity, as to think that you were so stupid in the body." (Brigham Young, JD 8:30)

"It is the first principle of the Gospel to know for a certainty the character of God, and to know that we may converse with Him as one man converses with another." (Joseph Smith, Teachings, p.345)

"God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder Heavens! That is the great secret. If the veil were rent today, and the great God who holds this world in its orbit, and who upholds all worlds and all things by his power, was to make himself visible – I say, if you were to see him today, you would see him like a man in form – like yourselves in all the person, image and very form as a man." (Joseph Smith, HC, 6:305)

"And now we're here – our memories are veiled – and we're showing God and ourselves what we can do. And nothing is going to startle us more when we pass through the veil to the other side than to realize how well we know our Father and how familiar his face is to us." (President Ezra Taft Benson, Ensign, Dec 1988, p.6)

"We know, because the Lord has revealed it in this our day, that we are the spirit children of an exalted, glorified being, a holy man who has a body of flesh and bones and who is our Father in Heaven.

"We know that the name of the kind of life he lives is Eternal Life and that it consists of living in the family unit and of possessing all power, all might, and all dominion." (Elder Bruce R. McConkie, Ensign, Nov 1976, p.106)

"You are His child all the time, not just when you are good, you are his child when you are bad. You have within you a portion of Divinity that is real and tremendous and marvelous and wonderful." (President Gordon B. Hinckley)

"I am perfectly satisfied that my Father and my God is a cheerful, pleasant, lively, and good-natured being. Why? Because I am cheerful, pleasant, lively, and good-natured when I have his Spirit. That is one reason why I know; and another is – the Lord said, through Joseph Smith, 'I delight in a glad heart and a cheerful countenance.' That arises from the perfection of His attributes; He is a jovial, lively person, and a beautiful man." (Heber C. Kimball, Journal of Discourses, Volume 4:222)

"Elder Henry B. Eyring of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles tells us a tender personal story that makes this point in a penetrating way. When he was a teenager his family moved from a very comfortable environment for young Elder Eyring to a location that was not to his liking. He sulked for a bit until the Spirit spoke directly to him about who he was in God's plan and how we out to proceed. One day the Spirit instructed, 'When you find out who you are, you will be sorry you didn't try harder.' I suspect this spiritual admonition for more diligent effort is probably appropriate for most of us. The Lord will lead us in our particular role if we will seek and follow His guidance."

(Quoted by Elder Robert C. Oaks, BYU Devotional, 'Understand Who You Are' 21 March 2006.)