

# Lord's Day 46

## Heidelberg Catechism

### The Third Part – Of Thankfulness – Of Prayer

#### Question 120

Why hath Christ commanded us to address God thus: “Our Father”?

#### Answer

That immediately, in the very beginning of our prayer, He might excite in us a childlike reverence for and confidence in God, which are the foundation of our prayer, namely, that God is become our Father in Christ,<sup>1</sup> and will much less deny us what we ask of Him in true faith than our parents will refuse us earthly things.<sup>2</sup>

#### Question 121

Why is it here added, “Which art in heaven”?

#### Answer

Lest we should form any earthly conceptions of God's heavenly majesty,<sup>3</sup> and that we may expect from His almighty power all things necessary for soul and body.<sup>4</sup>

1 **Matt. 6:9**

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

2 **Matt. 7:9–11**

Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

**Luke 11:11**

If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

**Isa. 49:15**

Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

3 **Jer. 23:24**

Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

4 **Acts 17:24**

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

**Rom. 10:12**

For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.