

## **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020 -'The Father heart of God'**

Pray that each one of us might gain a new and fresh picture of the Father heart of God from our reflections and discussions together.

What one thing struck you from Phil's retelling of the parable of the Waiting Father in our Sunday service and the intersection of his own story?

Recall how you thought of God – Who He is and what He's like, before you came to faith?

- In the culture of Jesus' day how do you think the Jewish people related to God?
- For Jesus to relate to God as 'Father' was revolutionary, offensive and blasphemous. Why? (See John 5:17,18).
- Mark 14:36 Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane, calls God, His Father, 'Abba' and Paul in Romans 8:15 says we too who are 'In Christ' can call him 'Abba'. What image comes to mind when you think of calling God, 'Abba'? How does it make you feel?
- Read the familiar story of Luke 15:11-32
- Why do you think Jesus told this story?
- How much emotion do you think the Father might have been feeling? How easily do you express your emotions to those you love?
- What does the character of the Father teach us about the nature of God?
- What steps might you take to be intentional about taking time to know God better, enjoy his presence and grow in intimacy with Him?

**Pray for one another that we might grow closer to God and know him more intimately.**