## Draw Near to the Heart of God

"Come near to the Lord and He will come near to You." (James 4:8)

Let's draw near to the Lord for a time of much needed refreshment and renewal! This Father's Day weekend offers an opportunity to step back, enjoy our families, and spend time with the Lord during the weekend and going forward, throughout the week. Then our strength will be renewed by the Lord (Is 41:1) and He will fill us to overflowing with His love and peace.

Listen to <u>THIS SONG</u> that many have known for years and it expresses so clearly and simply the sweetness, comfort, peace and love of being near to the heart of God. Here is "Near to the Heart of God" sung by Tiffany Coburn.

"Near to the Heart of God":

Stanza 1: There is a place of quiet rest, Near to the heart of God. A place where sin cannot molest, Near to the heart of God.

Stanza 2: There is a place of comfort sweet, Near to the heart of God. A place where we our Savior meet, Near to the heart of God.

Stanza 3: There is a place of full release, Near to the heart of God. A place where all is joy and peace, Near to the heart of God.

Chorus: O Jesus, blest Redeemer, Sent from the heart of God, Hold us who wait before Thee, Near to the heart of God, Near to the heart of God.

Lord, may we draw near to Your heart, a place like no other, a sanctuary of quiet rest, as You draw near to us. (James 4:8)

Lord, Jesus, as You call those who are heavy laden to rest, our relief is great for You take on our burdens so we are deeply relieved. (Matt 11:28-30)

As we draw near to Your heart, Lord God, we thank You for we are blessed with Your covering of help to resist Satan and keep us from sin. (James 4:8-9)

Abba Father, may we draw near to Your heart because it is a place of such sweet comfort given to us through our Savior, Jesus Christ. (Ps 94:18-19; 2Cor 1:3) Lord, may we remain close to Your heart so we will maintain our close relationship with You, our Abba Father, and our fellowship with Your Son, our Savior. (John 15:4)

Lord, help us to realize Your heart is a place of great joy and peace for each one of us to rest in full release, regardless of what is happening around us. (Rom 15:13) We praise You, Father God, for as we come near to Your heart, through Your mercy, You will freely pardon us from all sin. (Is 55:6-7)

Redeemer, Lord Jesus, sent from the heart of God, we trust You to hold us close to the heart of

Father's Day Prayers:

Lord, may each father realize his role as the leader of the family, accept that role, then establish and grow his family on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ, the Chief Cornerstone. (Eph 2:20)

We come to You, our Heavenly Father, asking for blessings for our earthly fathers and father figures praying they will seek You with all their hearts and be open to the Holy Spirit moving in their lives producing in them Your wisdom, strength, leadership, compassion and love for their children. (Prov 22:6)

Thank You, Lord, for the gift our earthly fathers were to us as we were growing up. Keep fresh in our minds their guidance and parenting so we can pass that wisdom on to our children.

Lord instill in every husband the desire to love His wife as Christ loved the church and inspire in him a commitment for them to be unified in the Lord, seeking God first in all their purposes. (Eph 5:25-26)

Bless and guide those, Lord, who have lost a spouse due to death or separation and are raising their children as a single parent. Give them Your courage and strength to parent their children with Your heart, Lord. (Eph 6:10-12)

For those children, Lord, who do not have a father figure in their daily lives, provide a Christian mentor, family member or friend who will be that role model for them. (Phil 4:9)

Help us to forgive our fathers who did not seek your guidance, Lord, throughout the years.

Click <u>HERE</u> more prayers to honor Fathers - "A Fathers' Prayers", "Prayers for Fathers", "Prayers in Remembrance":

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