

1. Why do you believe there are so many absentee fathers in families?
2. Many people say that a mother can be a “*father and mother to a child.*” Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
3. Can there ever be a “*substitute*” for a person who is missing their “*biological father*” in the home? Explain.
4. **1 John 3.1** is our key verse for today. Do you think having God as our “*heavenly father*” provides any consolation to someone who is missing their “*biological father*”? Explain.
5. Romans 18.16, 17a says, “God’s Spirit makes us sure that we are **his children**. His Spirit let us know that together with Christ we will be given what God has promised...” If you had to talk to a friend who was upset about his/her father not being a part of their life, rewrite this verse in your own words to give your friend comfort.