

ABBA, FATHER

We make bold to say, "Our Father"

18

son of God
in His humanity
Luke 1:32, 35

19

Son of God
in His deity
Jn 1:14, 18

1

seldom
called Father
in OT
or Jewish
writings

2

Father of
nation Israel
in OT (Jn 8:41)
—the King is
only exception
(2 Sam 7:14);
Father of
individual
believers
in NT
Rom 8:15
Gal 4:6

3

close relationship
of child to his father

4

Jews never used
"My Father"
in their prayers
cf. 2 Chr 20:6; Neh 1:5

16

reserve
Abba
for God
Mt 23:9

17

becomes our
Father by faith
Jn 1:12; Gal 3:26

אָבאָ
אָבאָ

15

taught disciples
to call God Father
Mt 6:9

- everyday word in Aramaic
- from language of small children
- first sounds a child makes (Isa 8:4)
- equivalent to "mama" and "dada"
(*imma* and *abba*)

5

most
frequent
title for God
in the NT

6

used 170
times
by Jesus
in Gospels

14

disrespectful
to Jews
(Adonai
for Yahweh)

- used by infants and grown children for their parents
- respectful address to old men

7

used 100
times by Jesus
in John
(9 in prayer)

13

Jews never
called God Abba

11

Jesus' use of
"My Father"
was new and
unheard of

10

Holy
Father
Jn 17:11

9

Jesus used
"My Father"
in all His prayers
(16 times)—
one exception
"My God, My God"
Mt 27:46

12

Jesus always called God Abba
Mark 14:36

Righteous
Father
Jn 17:25

8

synonym
for God