

2 Corinthians 6:18

- It hasn't been around as long as Mother's Day, but a day to honor dad in our nation has been happening for 105 years.
- Since 1910 our nation has observed a day set aside for dads from every walk of life.
- It is a day to honor, praise, and thank the men in our lives who have given their all in shaping who we become.

 However, honoring dad (and mom for that matter) has Biblical precedence long before father's day began in Spokane, Washington in 1910.

 Honoring our parents is something that God has always expected from His children, and we see this in both the Old and New Testaments:

Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

~ Deuteronomy 5:16

For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother' and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.

~ Matthew 5:14

 It is no wonder that we see this command at least six times itself in the New Testament.

Parents should be honored.

 And This is why Father's Day is so important, because it calls us to remember that we owe our parents a debt a love and gratitude that is both right, and biblical.

- So what better way to give honor to dad then to remember some of dad's greatest quotes!
- This is going to hurt me more than it hurts you.
  - Quiet. I'm watching the ball game.
  - Don't forget to check the oil.
  - Bring back all the change.
  - How should I know? Ask your mother.

- I'm not made out of money!
- When I was your age I walked 5 miles to and from school each day and it was uphill both ways.
- You are going and you will have fun!
- Who's paying the bills around here, anyway?
- If you break your leg don't come running to me.

- Don't put your feet on the furniture. Your mother will kill you.
- Get down before you kill yourself. On second thought, go ahead.
- Quit playing with your food.
- Be quiet! Can't you see I'm trying to think!
- Why? Because I said so!

- If you don't quit that I'm going to call your mother.

- You better get that junk picked up before your mother comes in here.

- Just wait till you have kids of your own.

- I was not asleep. I was just resting my eyes.

 As We honor dad today let us examine fatherhood from three different views:

1. The Nature of Fathers

2. Earthly Fathers

3. Our Heavenly Father

## The Nature of Fathers



- The Phrase Father, as we see it in the Bible, comes from a few different words:
  - AB Hebrew
  - Abba Aramaic
  - Pater Greek

- The Greek word is the closest to our word "Father" and it means:

"A man who is a parent or progenitor, ancestor, or founder of a family line; exhibiting parental control over someone.

- God is our direct Father in that He created us (Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7)

 He is our Adoptive Father in that He has redeemed us from sin:

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

~ Romans 8:15

For if the first fruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root *supports* you.

~ Romans 11:16-18

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

~ 1 John 3:2

 Sin Separates Us From the Father, and through the Son we return to Christ.

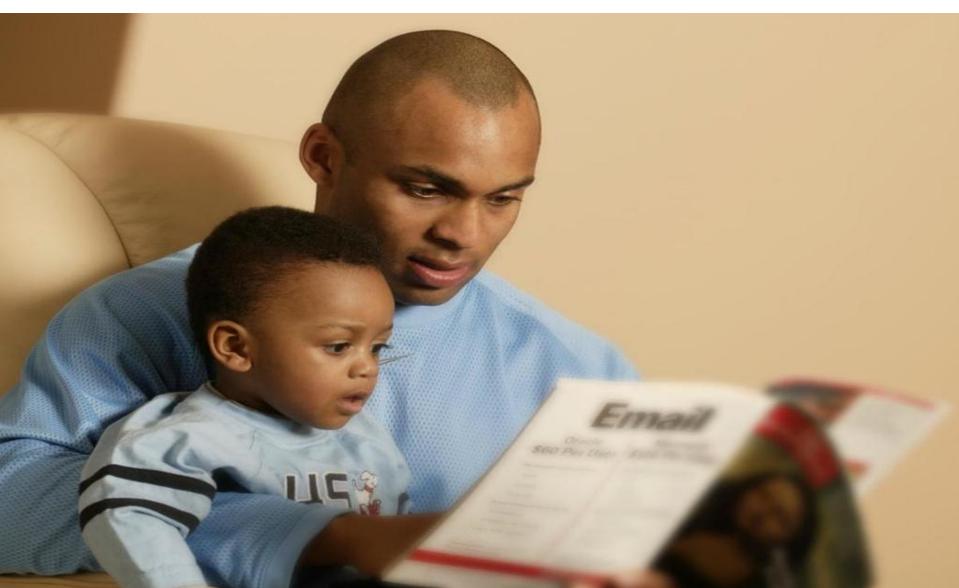
 We resemble our Father Image in the sense of quality and attributes.

 As His Children we resemble our Father, and resemble His Son.

He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

~ 1 John 2:6

## **Earthly Fathers**



We are created in God's image

 We posses His attributes and as such we are capable as earthly parents of being able to raise our children the way He desires.

These are not just for dads but all parents:

Provide For the Basic Needs of Our Children.

But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

~ 1 Timothy 5:8

- Providing for our children is programmed into so many of God's creatures.
- The jaws of a mamma crocodile can lovingly carry her babies to safety. Mamma elephants, although big, are some of the most gentle natured creatures toward their young.
- Even Penguins, natures stay at home dad, will continuously guard and warm the eggs of their young.

 As people we are born with a maternal sense of love and protection.

 Even unbelievers are capable of caring for their children.

 If Christians fail in this capacity, they make the unbeliever look preferable.

Provide Faithful Instruction

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

~ Ephesians 6:4

Are We coaches or critics?

 Do we provide loving discipline or do we rule through fear and tearing down a child?

 Do we show our daughters the way that they should expect a man to treat a woman?

 Do we show our sons the divine way they are treat their future wives?

 Even as it comes to raising our children the words of Paul are still true, "Do all in the name of the Lord" (Colossians 3:17)

Godly Illustration

Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

~ 1 Corinthians 11:1

 He did not say "Do everything I Do" because Paul was human and made mistakes, just like parents do.

He said "Do everything I do that is Christ like"

 The first and most important place our kids should see Christ is at home in mom and dad.



#### **Heavenly Father**

 As we have said the innate abilities we possess and the abilities that we have to be fathers and mothers to our children come from our Heavenly Father who made us.

 It is God who thus provides for His children both physically and spiritually.

For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

~ Matthew 7:8-11

#### **Father of Humanity**

God is where it all began, where all life has come from.

You were not an accident, but a carefully considered, and lovingly crafted, creation of God.

I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are your works, and that my soul knows very well.

~ Psalm 139:14

God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, (continued)

so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; "for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'

~ Acts 17:24-28

 Every ray of sunshine, every bite of food, every drop of water, and precious breath of air we take comes from God's love and benevolence.

"That you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

~ Matthew 5:45

#### **Father of Israel**

- The Israelites were a special people with a redemptive role.
- Despite their rebellion, despite God's discipline of them, they were still God's "child"
- And from their bloodline and lineage would come Jesus Christ.

Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine.

~ Exodus 19:5

When Israel was a child, I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son.

~ Hosea 11:1

#### Father of Christ

Jesus Christ was not created (John 1:1-3) but the body he had while here on earth was through his birth mother Mary.

Jesus is literally unique and one of a kind as God's Son, there will never be another like Him (John 3:16).

# As a Son Christ made His Heavenly Father Proud

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

~ Matthew 3:17

 He remains a Son, who through His blood paid for the sins of the world committed against His Father.

And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end. ~ Hebrews 3:5-6

He Is Our Spiritual Father

We are adopted and begotten into God's family in this way.

First a seed is planted, and we know that this seed is God's Word.

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

~ Luke 8:11

 Through this word we can grow, we can be sustained, we can thrive.

having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.

~ 1 Peter 1:23

We are born of water and immersed for our sins

But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.

~ Titus 3:5

Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

~ John 3:3-5

We are then called His Children.

And will be a Father unto you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.

~ 2 Corinthians 6:18

 We are then given the Holy Spirit so that we may approach Him in prayer, through Christ as our Father.

And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

~ Galatians 4:6

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

~ Romans 8:16

It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

~ Romans 8:34

What a joy and privilege fatherhood is indeed.

 Through Fatherhood we see it nature as it was intended by God to be.

 Through Fatherhood we see how we as parents must raise our children today as intended by God.

 Through Fatherhood we are shown the love, sacrifice, care, and joy from our Heavenly Father who loved us, created us, and sacrificed His Son for us.

Oh How wonderful is fatherhood.

#### Today Your Heavenly Father Invites You

Yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.

~ 1 Corinthians 8:6

To join a family that will live and endure forever