

Father's Day

Lord, on this day set aside to honor and remember fathers, we give you thanks for our fathers. We are grateful that you chose to give us life through them, and that they received the gift of life from your hands and gave it to us. Thank you for the sacrifices they made in the form of time, courage and patience.

We thank you for the men who raised us, who were our fathers in childhood. Whether biological father, adopted dad, older brother, uncle, grandfather, stepfather or someone else, we thank you for those men who guided and protected us, who cared for us and held us in your love. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our dads.

We pray for older dads whose children are grown.

Grant them joy and satisfaction for a job well done.

We pray for new dads experiencing changes they could not predict.

Grant them rest and peace as they trust you for the future.

We pray for expectant men who will soon be dads.

Grant them patience and good counsel in the coming months.

We pray for dads who face the demands of single parenthood.

Grant them strength and wisdom.

We pray for dads who enjoy financial abundance.

Grant them time to share with their families.

We pray for dads who are raising their children in poverty.

Grant them relief and justice.

We pray for dads who try to balance vocation and family.

Grant them courage for the living of each day.

We pray for stepdads.

Grant them patience and understanding and love.

We pray for dads who are separated from their children.

Grant them faith and hope.

We pray for dads in marriages that are in crisis.

Grant them support and insight.

We pray for dads who have lost children.

Grant them comfort in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We pray for fathers whose children's lives ended in abortion.

Grant them healing and peace.

We pray for dads who gave up their children for adoption.

Grant them peace and confidence as they trust in your providence.

We pray for adoptive fathers.

Grant them joy and gratitude for the gift you have provided.

We pray for boys and men who think about being dads.

Grant them wisdom and discernment.

We pray for men who desperately want, or wanted, to be dads.

Grant them grace to accept your timing and will.

We pray for all men who have assumed the father's role in a child's life.

Grant them joy and the appreciation of others.

We pray for dads who show us the way of faith.

Grant them the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We pray for those people present who are grieving the loss of their father in the past year.

Grant them comfort and hope in Christ's resurrection.

Lord, we thank you for the gift of fatherhood. We thank you for the many examples of faithful fathers in scripture, like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Zechariah.

We are mindful this day of all these men, and especially Joseph, the earthly father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who had the courage in faith to say "yes" to your calling. May these men and boys gathered here today emulate these examples of faith. And may they model for all the rest of us what it means to be your disciple. Bless them on this special day, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.