

We All Have a Father

LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON

Theme: Father's Day

Scripture: Psalms 68:5

Memory Verse: "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." Psalms 68:5

Get Ready: Click [here](#) to get your complete supply list for this lesson.

The Children's Sermon

Do This:

SAY: In the dictionary, there are many meanings to the word "father." Here are a few of them:

1. Father can be a man who has a child. (You might call him "your real dad.")
2. Father can be someone who begins something.
3. Father can be an older man.
4. Father can be one of the leaders of a city.

Sometimes a father could be your real dad. Sometimes a father could be a stepdad.

Sometimes a father could be a man who treats us as though they were our dad.

Sometimes a father could be a preacher, or maybe a teacher who teaches us important things.

Maybe you are a kid that has a wonderful dad. He does special things with you that you like to do. Maybe he takes you camping, or on special trips, plays soccer or football with you, or takes you shopping at the dollar store, or maybe to get an ice

cream cone. Maybe he teaches you how to do things like ride a bike, how to fish, how to play a musical instrument, or how to fix something. Maybe he reads the Bible or Bible stories to you and teaches you about God.

Of all the things he can teach you, that's the most important thing. But you know, sometimes kids don't have a dad that they ever see, or who they don't see very often. But, they might have a stepdad, a grandpa, another relative or a good friend that almost seems like a dad to them.

Like the dictionary said, a father can be an older man. In the Bible there's a story about an older man who became like a father to a young man. The older man's name is Paul, and the young man's name is Timothy. The Bible doesn't tell us anything about Timothy's real dad—it just tells us about his mom Eunice, and his grandmother Lois (II Tim.1:4-6). Those Bible verses tell us that his grandmother was the first one in his family who loved God, and then his mother loved God, and then Timothy loved God. We don't know where Timothy's dad was, but we know that Paul, an older man, wrote letters to Timothy and taught him about God. He was like a father to him. He even told him what to do when he had a stomach ache! He also told him not to pay attention to the people that were saying that he was too young to do anything for God.

There's another story in the Bible about a leader in the city being like a father. In that story, Samuel was a young boy when his mother took him to the temple (like a church) to be taught by the priest/preacher Eli. Eli taught Samuel how to listen to God. Samuel grew from a young boy into a very great man of God because he learned how to listen to God.

We should be very thankful for having a dad that loves us, or for having someone who treats us like they are a dad to us. That's what this day is all about. If you have a Dad that does things with you or not, there is one Father that has promised to always be with you. God is our heavenly Father. He will never mess up, never leave us, and never make a mistake. He even said He would be a Father to those who don't have a father. Isn't that wonderful?

In Psalm 68:5 it says, "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." There were some words people used in the Bible when they would pray to God. They would say, "Abba, Father." Do you know what those words really mean? They mean "Daddy God." God is our perfect Father. We can trust him completely. He wants you to talk to him like you would with your dad or with a good friend here on earth. We call that praying. Praying is just talking to God like you talk to anyone else. He loves you so much. He wants you to love Him too. Why don't we talk to Him right now?

PRAY: Father, thank you for letting us be here to celebrate Father's Day today. Thank you for putting people in our lives that can be like a father to us. Most of all, thank you for being my heavenly Father. Thank you for loving me. I want to love You too. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Bible Memory Verse

"A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." Psalms 68:5

You'll Need:

- **A Bible**

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps:

- Read Psalms 68:5.
- Invite kids to gather in a circle.
- Explain that you're going to play a game of "Telephone." Kids will need to listen carefully, just like today's memory verse says.
- Whisper phrases from today's memory verse one at a time into the ear of the child next to you. Encourage them to whisper what they heard into the ear of the next child. Do this until the message makes its way around the circle and the last child reveals what he or she heard. Then repeat this by whispering the next phrase into the first child's ear.
- Do this several times to teach today's memory verse.

ASK:

- **Tell about one way your dad or father figure blesses you.**
- **How does your dad teach you about Jesus?**

SAY: Jesus calls us to listen closely, pay attention, and learn from our father's instruction. Let's learn more about that now.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- **A Bible**

- **Paper - 1 per child**
- **Crayons or markers**
- **Tape**

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps:

- Read Psalms 68:5 aloud.
- Invite kids to listen closely for things that sound like instructions.

ASK:

- **What is this passage telling us to do?**
- **Why do you think the Bible tells us to listen to our fathers?**

- Give each child a piece of paper.
- Invite them to use crayons or markers to draw them and their dad on the sheet of paper.
- Help kids roll the piece of paper up into a cone shape and tape along the edge to make a megaphone as a reminder to always listen to their father figures.

SAY: Today we read about what it means to listen to our fathers, and more importantly, God our Father in heaven.

Virtual Lesson Tip

You can do this activity with the entire family.

Father's Wisdom

You'll Need:

- ["Father's Wisdom"](#) video lesson
- Something to play the video

Do This:

Show them the video.

ASK:

- What is something you've learned from your dad?
- In what way are you like your dad?
- How does your dad show you Jesus' love?

SAY: Many of us follow our dads just like Jesus followed His Dad.

Father's Necktie

You'll Need:

- Graham crackers - 1 per child
- Frosting
- M&M candies
- Disposable bowls
- Plastic knives
- Napkins

Get Ready: Before the snack, have kids wash their hands. Put frosting into various bowls.

Do This:

Follow these steps to make the "Father's Necktie" Snacks:

- Give each child a Graham cracker.
- Invite kids to use the frosting and M&M's to design a necktie on the Graham cracker.
- Enjoy.

ASK:

- **What does the Bible tell us about fathers?**
- **How does God show us a father's love?**
- **What are some ways you can show your dad that you love him?**

Father Says

Do This:

Follow these steps to play the "Father Says" game:

- Invite kids to spread out around the room.
- Explain that you're going to play a game of "Father Says," which is played like "Simon Says."
- Whenever you say "Father Says" before doing an action, kids should repeat it. If a child repeats an action when you don't say, "Father Says," they are out, and get to sit at your feet.
- Play several rounds as time allows.

SAY: You did a great job listening and watching during this game! Part of loving our fathers well is listening and obeying what they say. The Bible tells us to “honor your father and mother,” and we do that today and everyday by listening, obeying, and loving our fathers the way Jesus instructed us to.

Virtual Lesson Tip

You can do this activity with the entire family.

Father's Tie

You'll Need:

- **["Father's Tie"](#) handout - 1 per child**
- **Cardstock**
- **Colored pencils**
- **Glue**
- **Pom-poms**
- **Glitter glue**
- **Scissors**
- **A hole punch**
- **Yarn**

Get Ready: Before class, print the “Father’s Tie” handouts on cardstock, one per child.

Do This:

To make the "Father's Tie" crafts, have kids follow these steps:

- Give each child a "Father's Tie" handout and invite them to decorate the tie.
- Help each child cut out the tie, then hole punch the top two corners.
- Give kids a long piece of yarn to tie a loop to each hole so they can wear the ties around their necks.

SAY: Great job making your Father's Ties! You are all looking sharp. Take these home as a reminder of God, our ultimate Father, and the wonderful dads and father figures He gives us.

Thank You, Father Prayers

You'll Need:

- Father's Tie craft

Do This:

- Have kids spread out around the room.
- Invite kids to wear their "Father's Tie" crafts around their necks.
- Have kids bow their heads and silently thank God the Father for their earthly fathers.
- Close in prayer.

PRAY: Jesus, thank You for our Fathers. Help us to listen and obey their teaching and Yours everyday. In Jesus' name, amen.

Time to Praise God

You'll Need:

- Song: "Jesus Is the Living Water"
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track
- Song: "To Be Like Jesus"
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

SAY: We give thanks for our fathers. Let's show God our love now through worship.

Lead children in singing "Jesus Loves the Little Children" and "To Be Like Jesus."

If You Have Extra Time...

Use these activity sheets to fill in any time and keep kids learning.

- [Coloring Page](#)
- [Word Search](#)

Complete Supply List

- A Bible
- Paper - 1 per child
- Crayons or markers
- Tape
- "Father's Wisdom" video lesson
- Something to play the video

- Graham crackers - 1 per child
- Frosting
- M&M candies
- Disposable bowls
- Plastic knives
- Napkins
- "Father's Tie" handout - 1 per child
- Cardstock
- Colored pencils
- Glue
- Pom-poms
- Glitter glue
- Scissors
- A hole punch
- Yarn
- Father's Tie craft

[Back to the top](#)