

# We All Have A Father

## UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

**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

## The Children's Sermon

Hello, little friends! Today, we're going to talk about something really special. It's about how God is like a Father to the Fatherless. That means even if someone doesn't have a daddy, God is there to take care of them, love them, and guide them just like a daddy would. Isn't that wonderful?

God's love is so big and so wide, it can fill up the whole world and still have room for more. He looks after everyone, especially those who might feel alone or sad because they don't have a father. God makes sure they are not alone. He is like a superhero dad for everyone!

Now, imagine you're playing in a big, beautiful park, but you can't find your parents. You might feel scared or alone, right? But then, imagine there's someone who comes to help you, to make sure you're safe and to find your parents for you. That's kind of what it means when we say God is a Father to the Fatherless. He's always there to help, protect, and make sure we are okay.

Sometimes, we see families that have a mommy and a daddy, and sometimes, we see families that are a little different. Some kids might have just a mommy, just a daddy, grandparents, or even other family members taking care of them. And some kids might not have anyone. But the cool thing is, God promises to be like a father to those who don't have one. He fills that special spot in their hearts.

God's love is super strong. He can make the saddest heart feel happy again. He listens when we talk to Him, even if it's just in our hearts and not out loud. And guess what? He always understands, no matter what. That's something a really good daddy does, and God is the best at it.

Now, let's talk about how we can see God being a Father to the Fatherless in the world around us. Sometimes, He uses people like you and me to show His love. Maybe it's by being a good friend to someone who feels alone or by helping someone who needs it. When we do kind things for others, we are being little helpers for God, showing His love to the world.

God also gives us families, friends, and people in our churches or communities who can help us feel loved and cared for. He knows that having people around us who love us is like having a big, warm hug that doesn't end. That's another way He is a Father to the Fatherless, by making sure we all have someone to care for us.

And you know, even when things seem really hard or when we feel very alone, God's love is like a light in the darkness. It shines bright and shows us the way. He is always there, holding our hand and walking with us, every step of the way.

So, what can we do to help share God's love? We can be kind, we can listen to our friends when they're sad, and we can share what we have with those who need it. Every time we do something good, it's like we're giving a big, happy smile from God to someone else.

Remember, no matter where we go or what happens, God's love for us is forever and for always. He is truly a Father to the Fatherless, a superhero dad who's always there, always loving, and always caring. And that's the most amazing thing of all.

So, let's close our eyes for a little moment and say a small prayer together. "Dear God, thank you for being like a daddy to everyone, especially those who feel alone. Help us to share Your love and be kind to others. Amen."

Thank you for listening, little friends. Remember, God's love is always with you, like the best daddy in the whole wide world.

## Bible Memory Verse

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

You Will Need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers or crayons

Get Ready:

- Cut the colored paper into house shapes before the class.
- Write 'Psalms 68:5' on each house shape in advance.

Do This:

1. Give each child a house shape and ask them to decorate it with markers or crayons, illustrating what they think a 'holy dwelling' looks like.
2. While they work, discuss what it means for God to be a 'father to the fatherless' and a 'defender of widows.' Encourage them to think about how they can show God's love to others.
3. Once they finish decorating, have them glue their house onto a larger piece of paper and write one way they can help someone in need this week, inspired by the verse. Display these in the classroom as a reminder of their commitment.

## Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Bibles
- Large poster board
- Markers, crayons, and colored pencils
- Photos of students' fathers or father figures (optional)
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Construction paper

Get Ready:

- Prepare a large poster board with the title "Our Heavenly Father and Our Earthly Fathers" at the top.
- Cut out cloud shapes from construction paper for each child.

- Set up a table with markers, crayons, colored pencils, glue sticks, and scissors.

Do this:

1. Start by reading Psalms 68:5 together as a class. Discuss what it means for God to be a "father to the fatherless" and a "defender of widows." Highlight God's role as a caregiver and protector.
2. Ask each student to think about ways their father or a father figure reflects the qualities of God mentioned in Psalms 68:5. If a student does not have a father or father figure, encourage them to think about how God has been like a father to them.
3. Give each student a cloud shape cut from construction paper. On one side, have them write or draw how God is a father to them, focusing on the attributes mentioned in Psalms 68:5. On the other side, have them write or draw how their earthly father or father figure reflects those same qualities.
4. Once everyone is done, allow students to share their clouds with the class if they feel comfortable. Discuss the similarities between our heavenly Father and our earthly fathers or father figures.
5. Use the glue sticks to attach each cloud to the large poster board. Arrange the clouds around the title "Our Heavenly Father and Our Earthly Fathers."
6. Display the poster in your Sunday School room or another visible area in the church as a Father's Day tribute and a reminder of God's role in our lives.

## Snack Activity: Heavenly Father's Day Treats

You'll Need:

- Graham crackers
- White frosting
- Blue food coloring
- Mini marshmallows

- Pretzel sticks
- Paper plates
- Plastic knives

Get Ready: Mix a few drops of blue food coloring into the white frosting until you achieve a sky blue color.

Do this:

1. Spread the sky blue frosting over a graham cracker using a plastic knife to represent the sky. Psalms 68:5 tells us about God being a father to the fatherless and a defender of widows, which shows His protective and caring nature, much like the sky covers and protects the earth.
2. Arrange mini marshmallows at the top of the frosted graham cracker to represent clouds, reminding us of the heavens where God resides and watches over us.
3. Break pretzel sticks in half and place them in pairs on the plate to form 'open arms'. This symbolizes God's welcoming nature and His readiness to embrace us in times of need.
4. Share your Heavenly Father's Day Treat with someone, telling them about the love and care our Heavenly Father provides, as described in Psalms 68:5.

## Game Activity: Father's Day Fortress

You'll Need:

- A large open space (indoor or outdoor)
- Chalk or tape (for marking areas)
- Small balls or bean bags
- Paper and pens
- A Bible

Get Ready: Use the chalk or tape to mark out a large area as the 'fortress'. Inside this area, mark a smaller 'safe zone'. Prepare a list of questions or statements related to Psalms 68:5 and fatherhood in the Bible. Distribute paper and pens to each participant.

Do this:

1. Gather the children and explain that Psalms 68:5 describes God as a 'father to the fatherless' and a 'defender of widows'. This game will help them understand the protective and caring nature of God.
2. Children start outside the fortress. When you read a statement or question about fatherhood from the Bible, they must try to run into the safe zone without being tagged by the 'defender' (a teacher or volunteer acting as God's protective nature).
3. Before running, each child must write down one way they can show love or respect to their earthly father or a father figure, inspired by the qualities of God they've learned. They share this with the group if they safely make it to the safe zone.
4. The game continues with different statements or questions, allowing children to think about the role of fathers and God's role as a father to all. The aim is to foster appreciation and understanding of fatherly love, both divine and human.

## Craft Activity: Heavenly Father's Day Card

You'll Need:

- Construction paper (various colors)
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Stickers or decorative items (optional)

Get Ready: Choose a piece of construction paper for the card base. Fold it in half to create a card shape.

Do this:

1. On the front cover of the card, write 'Happy Father's Day to Our Heavenly Father' using markers or crayons. Decorate around the words with stickers or drawings that represent love, care, and protection.
2. Inside the card on the left side, write Psalms 68:5, 'A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.' Encourage the children to decorate around the scripture with drawings or symbols that represent God's love and care.
3. On the right side of the inside, have the children write a personal prayer or message to God, thanking Him for His fatherly love and care. They can also draw a picture of themselves with God or illustrate a scene that reflects the verse.
4. Once the card is complete, gather the children to share their cards with the class, explaining their drawings and messages. Conclude the activity with a group prayer, thanking God for being the ultimate Father to all.

## Prayer Activity: Father's Day Prayer Kites

You'll Need:

- Construction paper or lightweight kite paper
- Markers, crayons, or paint
- String, yarn, or ribbon
- A stick or dowel for the kite frame
- Tape or glue



Get Ready: Read Psalms 68:5 together and discuss what it means to have God as a father to the fatherless and a defender of widows. Talk about the importance of fathers and father figures in our lives.

Do this:

1. Each child will create a kite using the materials provided. They can decorate their kites with drawings, words, or symbols that remind them of God's love and protection, similar to a father's care.
2. On one side of their kite, have them write a prayer or a message to God, thanking Him for being the ultimate Father and for the father figures they have in their lives. Encourage them to reflect on Psalms 68:5 as they write their prayers.
3. Once the kites are finished, if weather and space permit, go outside to fly the kites. As the kites soar, remind the children that just like their kites are lifted by the wind, our prayers are lifted to God who is always watching over us, just like a caring father.