

God Of Our Fathers

LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: Father's Day

Scripture: Luke 11:11-13

Memory Verse: If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! - Luke 11:13

The Children's Sermon

Hey kids, guess what special day it is? That's right, it's Father's Day! Today is a super cool day because it's all about saying "Thank you" and "I love you" to dads, grandpas, and all the father figures in our lives. They do so much for us, like helping us tie our shoes, teaching us how to ride a bike, and giving the best bear hugs. So, today, we're going to talk about why Father's Day is so important and share some awesome Father's Day Scripture to help us understand better.

Father's Day is not just about giving cards and presents (though those are pretty fun, too). It's also about spending time together, sharing stories, and showing love. Just like how we have a heavenly Father who loves us a lot, our dads and father figures on Earth show us a little bit of that love every day in how they care for us.

Now, let's dive into some Father's Day Scripture that talks about the love and guidance fathers give. In the Bible, there's a verse that says, "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord." (Colossians 3:20) This means that listening to our

dads and doing what they say is not just good for us, but it also makes God happy because He knows they want the best for us.

Another cool Father's Day Scripture is, "The father of a righteous child has great joy; a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him." (Proverbs 23:24) This tells us that when we make good choices and are kind and wise, it makes our dads super happy. It's like when you finish a big puzzle or learn something new, and you see your dad smiling and proud. That's the joy this verse is talking about.

Fathers are like superheroes. They don't wear capes (well, most of the time), but they do lots of things to protect us, teach us, and make sure we're happy. They're the ones who check for monsters under the bed, fix the broken toy, and teach us how to be brave. And just like superheroes, sometimes they get tired too, because being a dad is a big job!

So, on Father's Day, we get to be their sidekicks. We can help them feel special by making them breakfast in bed, drawing them a picture, or just giving them a big hug and saying, "Thank you for everything you do!" It's our turn to make sure they know how much they are loved and appreciated.

Now, let's remember another Father's Day Scripture, "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." (Exodus 20:12) This is one of the Ten Commandments, and it's really important. It tells us that listening to and respecting our parents is something God wants us to do because it's good for us. It helps us grow up to be kind, respectful, and loving people.

Did you know that Father's Day is celebrated all around the world? It's true! People in different countries have their own ways of showing love to their dads, but the feeling is the same everywhere. It's all about making sure dads know how important they are and how much we need them.

Fathers teach us so many things, like how to be honest, how to share, and how to be strong. They also show us how to treat others with respect and kindness. And even when we make mistakes, they're there to help us learn and grow from them. That's why it's so important to listen to their advice and learn from their experiences.

Let's think about another Father's Day Scripture, "As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him." (Psalm 103:13) This verse reminds us that just like our dads are kind and forgiving to us, God is even more so. He loves us so much and is always ready to listen and help us when we need it.

So, kids, let's make this Father's Day extra special. Let's show our dads, grandpas, and all the father figures in our lives just how much we love and appreciate them. We can do this by being kind, helping out around the house, and maybe even learning a new Father's Day Scripture to share with them.

Remember, it's not just about the gifts or the cards. It's about the love we share and the time we spend together. So, let's make sure our dads know they're our heroes not just on Father's Day, but every day. And let's thank God for giving us such amazing dads and father figures who teach us, guide us, and love us always.

Happy Father's Day, everyone! Let's make it the best one yet, filled with love, laughter, and lots of fun memories. And don't forget to say a little prayer of thanks for all the dads out there and for our heavenly Father who loves us more than we can imagine.

Bible Memory Verse

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! - Luke 11:13

You Will Need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks
- Stickers (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the colored paper into large heart shapes, one for each child.
- Write the memory verse on a board or large piece of paper where all the children can see it.

Do This:

1. Give each child a heart-shaped piece of colored paper and access to markers or crayons. Explain that the heart represents God's love for us, and just like our earthly fathers give us good gifts, our Father in heaven gives us the best gift of all - the Holy Spirit.

2. Ask the children to decorate their hearts with drawings or stickers that remind them of good gifts they have received from their parents or guardians, symbolizing the good gifts God gives us.

3. Once they have finished decorating, help them write the memory verse on the back of their heart. Encourage them to take it home and place it somewhere they will see it every day as a reminder of God's great love and the wonderful gifts He gives us.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Paper and crayons/markers
- Small stones or pebbles
- A basket
- Printouts of Luke 11:11-13 (easy-to-read version)

Get Ready:

- Write each verse of Luke 11:11-13 on a separate piece of paper in large, readable print.
- Place the small stones or pebbles in the basket.
- Set up a "story circle" area where the children can sit comfortably and see the teacher.

Do this:

1. **Introduction:** Begin by asking the children what special things they do for Father's Day. Share briefly about how fathers or father figures often give us good gifts because they love us. Transition by saying, "In the Bible, Jesus talks about how our Heavenly Father gives good gifts too. Let's see what He says."

2. **Reading & Discussion:** Hand out the printouts of Luke 11:11-13 to the children. Read the verses together as a group. After reading, discuss the verses in simple terms. Ask questions like, "What do you think Jesus means by 'good gifts'?" and "How do you feel knowing God wants to give you good things?"

3. **Interactive Activity - 'Gifts from Our Heavenly Father':** Explain to the children that they will be doing a special activity to help remember that God gives us good gifts, just like earthly fathers do. Each child will get a turn to come up to the basket and pick a stone. After picking a stone, they will think of one good gift (it can be anything - love, joy, family, etc.) that God has given them and share it with the group. After sharing, they can draw a picture on their paper of that gift or write the word if they prefer.

4. **Closing:** Gather the children back in the story circle with their drawings. Highlight how all these good gifts come from God, our Heavenly Father, who loves us even more than anyone else. Close with a short prayer, thanking God for His good gifts and asking Him to help us see His love in everything around us. Encourage the children to give their drawing as a Father's Day gift to their dads or a special father figure in their lives, telling them about the good gifts God gives us.

Snack Activity: Heavenly Father's Fish Sandwich

You'll Need:

- Bread (whole grain or white)
- Tuna (canned in water)
- Mayonnaise
- Celery (optional)
- Cheese slices
- Cookie cutter (fish shape)

- Plastic knives
- Plates

Get Ready: Mix the tuna with a spoonful of mayonnaise in a bowl. If you like, add finely chopped celery for extra crunch. Spread out all materials on a clean table where each child can reach them.

Do this:

1. Use the plastic knife to spread the tuna mix onto a slice of bread. If using, place a slice of cheese on top of the tuna.
2. Cover with another slice of bread and press down gently.
3. Use the fish-shaped cookie cutter to cut out the sandwich. Enjoy your Heavenly Father's Fish Sandwich as you talk about how our Heavenly Father gives us good gifts, just like loving fathers do on Earth, reflecting on Luke 11:11-13.

Game Activity: Gifts for the Good Father

You'll Need:

- A large printout of a tree with branches (but no leaves)
- Paper leaves (enough for each child to have several)
- Pens or markers
- Tape or glue

Get Ready: Before the class, hang the large tree printout on a wall accessible to the children. Write a gift (e.g., love, joy, peace, patience) on each paper leaf based on the fruits of the Spirit, which are good gifts from our Heavenly Father, similar to the good gifts earthly fathers give, as mentioned in Luke 11:11-13.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that just as they receive good gifts from their earthly fathers, our Heavenly Father gives us even greater gifts, like love, joy, and peace. Read Luke 11:11-13 to them, emphasizing the good gifts we receive from God.
2. Ask each child to think of a good gift they have received from their father or a father figure and a gift they believe comes from God. Have them write or draw these gifts on the paper leaves.
3. Let each child come up and stick their leaves on the tree. As they do, they can share what they wrote and why they think it's a good gift. This creates a 'Good Gifts Tree' that visually reminds them of the love and care from their earthly fathers and their Heavenly Father.

Craft Activity: Heavenly Father's Gifts Bag

You'll Need:

- Plain paper gift bags (one per child)
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Stickers related to good gifts (like fruits, bread, fish, or hearts)
- Bible verse cards with Luke 11:11-13 printed on them
- Glue sticks

Get Ready: Before class, print or write out Luke 11:11-13 on small cards, one for each child. Prepare a sample gift bag to show as an example.

Do this:

1. Start by explaining the Scripture: 'In Luke 11:11-13, Jesus tells us that if we, as humans, know how to give good gifts to our children, how much more will our Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him! Today, we're making Heavenly

Father's Gifts Bags to celebrate Father's Day and remember the greatest gift our Heavenly Father gives us.'

2. Give each child a plain paper gift bag and the art supplies. Let them decorate their bags with markers, crayons, or colored pencils, and use the stickers to symbolize the good gifts the Heavenly Father gives us, like love, joy, peace, and the Holy Spirit.

3. Once the bags are decorated, help the children glue the Bible verse card onto one side of their bag. Encourage them to share their bags with their fathers or a special person in their life as a Father's Day gift, explaining the meaning of the verse and how it teaches us about the goodness of God, our Heavenly Father.

Prayer Activity: Heavenly Father's Love

You'll Need:

- Colored paper
- Markers or crayons
- A Bible

Get Ready: Read Luke 11:11-13 to understand how God's love for us is like the best father ever.

Do this:

1. Start by asking the children to sit in a circle. Share with them that today is a special day to remember how much our fathers and our Heavenly Father love us. Explain that just like our dads give us good gifts, God gives us the best gift of all - the Holy Spirit.

2. Hand out pieces of colored paper and markers or crayons to each child. Ask them to draw or write a prayer to God, thanking Him for being the best father. Encourage them to think about the things they would ask for from a father who always wants to give them good gifts.

3. Once everyone is done, invite the children to share their prayers with the group if they feel comfortable. Then, gather the prayers and create a 'Prayer Wall' or 'Prayer Book' to display in your Sunday School room as a reminder of God's endless love and gifts to us.