

Father's Day Service Kit

Psalms 103 calls to worship, a household covenant reading from Joshua 24, and inserts on fatherhood and on the Father to the fatherless.

When to use it: Father's Day.

Order of service

1. Prelude / gathering music
2. Call to worship (Scripture below)
3. Opening hymn
4. Invocation
5. Prayer of confession and assurance of pardon
6. Responsive reading
7. Scripture reading
8. Sermon
9. Response — communion, offering, or prayer
10. Closing hymn
11. Benediction

Hymn suggestions (public domain)

- Faith of Our Fathers
- This Is My Father's World
- A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Suggested preaching text

Psalms 103:8-18 with Ephesians 6:1-4.

Calls to worship

Read one aloud to open the service. Short is better than long — the point is to turn the room toward God before anything else is said.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.

Psalm 103:13 (KJV)

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 95:6-7 (KJV)

This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24 (KJV)

Invocation

Father in heaven, thou art the pattern every earthly father was made to copy and the answer to every place they fell short. Bless the fathers here, strengthen the ones who are weary, and be a Father to those who never had one. Amen.

Prayer of confession

Lord, we confess the failures of our households — words spoken in anger, promises unkept, time never given. Forgive us, and let this be the week we begin again. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.

Psalm 103:13 (KJV)

Responsive reading

As for Me and My House

Leader reads the plain lines; the congregation reads the lines in bold. Print this page in the bulletin exactly as it appears here.

Leader: Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.
Psalm 103:13 (KJV)

People: **A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation.**
Psalm 68:5 (KJV)

Leader: And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
Ephesians 6:4 (KJV)

People: **And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house.**
Deuteronomy 6:7 (KJV)

All: **As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**
Joshua 24:15 (KJV)

Offering sentence

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (KJV)

Benediction

Speak the blessing over the congregation rather than praying it — the biblical pattern is a word given to the people, not a request made on their behalf.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will.

Hebrews 13:20-21 (KJV)

Bulletin inserts — cut along the dashed lines

Photocopy this page, cut on the dashed borders, and slip one into every bulletin or visitor pack. Free to reproduce for church use.

BULLETIN INSERT 1 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

For the fathers

And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4 (KJV)

Paul's instruction is two-sided: do not exasperate, and do bring them up in the Lord. Presence without instruction is not enough; instruction without warmth provokes. Both, together, over years.

BULLETIN INSERT 2 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

For those whose father is absent

As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Joshua 24:15 (KJV)

If Father's Day reminds you of an empty chair or a hard memory, Psalm 68:5 is for you: God is a father of the fatherless. The household you build can start a new line.

Service planning notes

Fill this in on the Thursday before and hand a copy to the musicians, the reader, and the sound desk.

Preacher

Sermon title and text

Reader / liturgist

Hymns

Communion / ordinance

Announcements

Notes

More free KJV resources for Sunday at biblesundays.com/sunday — sermon series plans, printables, hymn texts, and free Bible widgets for your church website.