



Happy Father's Day

Today is a special day. It is Father's Day. I am sure that all of you gave your fathers a nice gift and a Father's Day card this morning. This is the day when we tell our father that we love him and say, "Thank you" for all of the things he does for us each day. Dads are so important in God's plan for the family.

PRAY

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank you for my earthly Dad. Help me this day to show my love and appreciation to him, and may I always remember to show my love for You, my Heavenly Father. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

But what about our Heavenly Father? Shouldn't we give Him something, too? But what in the world can we give God? I mean the whole world already belongs to Him. What do you get someone who already has everything?

Fortunately, the Bible tells us just what God wants. Deuteronomy 10:12 says, "...what does the Lord your God ask of you but to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and your soul."

You see, God wants us to love him and walk in all His ways, which means obeying all His commandments. Not just some of them. All of them. And if we give Him all of our heart, He'll be the happiest Father you can imagine.

So we don't have to send God a Father's Day card. We can say, "Happy Father's Day!" to Him simply by loving Him and obeying all His commandments.

That's something we should pray about: Father, thank you for my Dad. And thank you that you are the Father of us all. Help me to walk in all Your ways so as to always please You. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



Scripture: Acts 2:42-47

God uses his church to spread blessings.

What are some ways that you care for your friends? How do your friends care for you?

If you were in need, how do you think a good friend might help you?

In today's story we're going to hear about how the early church cared for each other during times of need.

We Pray that God would open your hearts to His word today and thank Him for the truth of our resurrected Saviour!

Have you ever experienced something so awesome that you just couldn't wait to tell someone else about it?

That's exactly what our story is about today! Our main point today is: God uses His church to spread blessings.

After Jesus rose from the dead and was taken up into Heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit to the disciples. For the first time, God's Spirit actually dwelt within people! **How amazing is that?!**

The disciples were so excited about Jesus that they couldn't wait to start sharing the good news.

Have you ever gotten good news that you wanted to share with others?

What good news did the disciples want to share?

They wanted to tell people about how Jesus died and rose from the dead to be the payment for sin. The disciples also wanted to share how Jesus wanted to

welcome others into God's Kingdom so they could experience a real relationship with God. That's definitely good news!

In the Bible, God's Word to us, we can read about the early church. It didn't look much like our church building today. Let's read from God's Word together, and as we read, listen for the description of the early church.

Acts 2: 42-47: “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers. Then fear came over everyone, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as anyone had a need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with a joyful and humble attitude, praising God and having favour with all the people. And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved.”

What did you hear about the church?

The early church wasn't about a building! It was all about a community of people who believed in and were following Jesus, a bit like today, we can't go to a church building because of lockdown, BUT we can have church together in our own homes, maybe we have church on line or maybe we have church as we sit together as a family.

The people loved God and they loved each other.

What are some ways that the people took care of one another?

What were some things that they did together when they gathered?

That reminds me of our main point: God uses His church to spread blessings.

God used the early church to spread blessings to others, so the church could continue to grow. The Bible tells us that more and more people were believing in Jesus every day! God uses the church today for the same purpose! God wants His people to love Him and share His love with other people.

What are some ways that we might spread blessings to other people? You can talk about these things with whoever you are having church with today.

Let's pray together now and ask God to show us ways each day to love others and spread blessings to them!

Pray

Thank You God for The Bible, which teaches me so much about You. Thank You that I can come and pray with You at any time, even when I am playing, knowing You will hear and answer, remembering that it is not always the answer we are looking for, but I will trust that You know what is best for me. Help me to be kind, generous and loving to my family and friends. Thank You for loving me and help me to stay close to You.

In Jesus Name I pray, Amen.

Review Questions

- What was the main point from our lesson?
- What was our story about?
- What do we learn about God from this story?
- What do we learn about how God wants us to live as followers of Jesus?
- How can we practice generosity this week?

Scattered Blessings

Do any of you have any trees in your garden? What happens to the trees in the Autumn? (*The leaves fall off.*)

At first it makes me sad to think of my beautiful trees losing all their leaves. But you know what else is happening. As the leaves fall, so do seeds that make it possible for new trees to grow. If my lovely tree never gave up its leaves, we wouldn't have any new trees that come up. Our giving is a lot like that tree in my garden. When we give, we scatter our blessings to others and in turn, those people are able to bless others.

You could draw a large tree with leaves or seeds on the ground around it. Write in the leaves/seeds gifts that God has given you so that you can bless others. God hasn't given us gifts so we will keep them to ourselves. We are to use everything God has given us to bring Him glory!

