

Upcoming Events

Father's Day: TODAY!

Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Hebrews class Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Honor Your Father and Mother

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” Ephesians 6:1-4

June Birthdays

9 Debbie Pescador 12 Celina Perales 19 Tamasi Letalu

June Anniversaries

5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman 9 Sue Tanner

11 Marcos & Celina Perales

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Fathers, We Thank You

Robert Guinn

A father is more than someone you are connected to by genetics. Having worked with a children's home and now serving as foster parents, my wife and I have had our eyes opened to the reality that many fathers are absent. Not everyone has the blessing of having a father in their life. Whether they are absent physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually, the negative impact can be seen on a child. So, I want to take a moment to thank the fathers that fulfill their Biblical roles within the family.

Thank you...

- For stressing the importance of God in the family (Psalm 127:1)
- For leading our families as Christ leads the church (Eph. 5:23)
- For providing for our families (1 Tim. 5:8)
- For cultivating a self-sacrificing love for our families (Eph. 5:25-33)
- For training our children (Prov. 22:6)
- For encouraging our children in God's way (Col. 3:21)
- For instructing and teaching our families in the Lord (Eph. 6:4)
- For showing compassion (Psalm 103:13)
- For talking about God's word (Deut. 6:6-9)
- For seeing our children as a blessing (Psalms 127:3-5)
- For choosing to serve the Lord with our families (Josh. 24:15)
- For fearing the Lord (Prov. 14:26)
- For walking in integrity (Prov. 20:7)
- For being willing to discipline (Prov. 13:24; 19:18)
- For encouraging our families to walk in truth (3 Jn 1:4)

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
Mike McKnight

Church of Christ
81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

You have made, and continue to make, a difference in the lives of our families and others by choosing the Lord as the centerpiece of our family. God bless you and help you lead our families in His ways.

Where Have All the Fathers Gone?

By Ron Bartanen

Where have all the fathers gone? Unless you have been out of the country the last few years you will probably agree with me when I say that the traditional and biblical standard for the “nuclear family” is being attacked. As defined by the Merriam Webster’s Deluxe Dictionary, such a family is described as “a family group that consists of father, mother and children.” You will have to search a long time to any more find family-shows on TV such as “Father Knows Best,” the “Donna Reed Show,” or our favorite, “The Beaver,” except on stations that specialize in re-runs of productions of the ‘40s and ‘50s. Small-children’s text books now refrain from depicting such families because such are unfamiliar to many children, especially to those with no father present. The single-parent household is becoming ever more common and acceptable.

As Biblical standards are being cast aside, the blessing of two parents in the rearing of children is becoming rarer and rarer. Children are routinely being born into the world to young women who consent to sexual relationships without the security of “holy matrimony.” Divorce statistics continue to mount, leaving mothers to raise children alone, or with little input by the fathers. Feminists maintain that a father is no longer needed, other than to be a sperm-donor, enabling them the freedom to have children without the further need for a male. Lesbian couples are trying to convince us that two women can raise children as effectively as a man and a woman together can. Statistics show that in 1960, 5 percent of America’s children were without two parents—a mother and a father. Twenty years later the number had risen to 18 percent; and by 2000, to 33 percent. That number now stands at 41 percent. While public welfare is a need in a humane society, some women admit that it is monetarily an advantage to remain on welfare as a single parent in preference to taking a low-paying job and hiring baby sitters. Some have discovered that they can

“make” even more money by having more children, allowing an automatic raise in benefits. A poll taken by the Los Angeles Times in 1985, asking whether poor women often have children to increase benefits, showed that while non-poor residents said “No”, 64 percent of those considered poor said “Yes”. With the redefinition of marriage to include same-sex couples, we can only expect the situation to worsen.

Are fathers needed? Obviously, God’s pattern from the beginning was that of a father, mother and children. To depart from it is at our peril. Let Isaac Shakur, the rapper who was killed, possibly in a gang-related murder, answer: “I know for a fact that had I had a father, I’d have some discipline. I’d have more confidence.... Your mother cannot calm you down the way a man can. Your mother can’t assure you the way a man can. My mother couldn’t show me where my manhood was. You need a man to teach you how to be a man.” He admitted to running with gangs to seek structure and protection. Not surprisingly, the Journal of Research on Adolescence revealed from a study that children who have never had a father available are the most likely to end up behind bars. It is predictable that as our nation continues to live in a world of “virtual reality” instead of facing the fact that God knows best, the situation will continue to deteriorate. And as the family-structure is destroyed, our blinded nation can only expect a similar fate. One day we will wake up and ask, “Where have all the fathers gone?”

Father’s Day Quote

- 4 years:** My Daddy can do anything!
- 7 years:** My Dad knows a lot... a whole lot.
- 8 years:** My father does not know quite everything.
- 12 years:** Oh well, naturally Father does not know that either.
- 14 years:** Oh, Father? He is hopelessly old-fashioned.
- 21 years:** Oh, that man-he is out of date!
- 25 years:** He knows a little bit about it, but not much.
- 30 years:** I must find out what Dad thinks about it.
- 35 years:** Before we decide, we will get Dad's idea first.
- 50 years:** What would Dad have thought about that?
- 60 years:** My Dad knew literally everything!
- 65 years:** I wish I could talk it over with Dad once more.