

Mindful Monday 06/16/2025

Yesterday, June 15th was Father's Day. Father, a noun, a male human parent. He could be called many things – Dad, Daddy, Papa, Pa, Pops. He is traditionally the head of a household, the provider, someone who can fix anything, and a source of good advice and guidance. Some men step into the role of stepfather and fill the role of father to children from a mother's previous relationship. They are the patriarch of the family, a role which some men revere.

There were the Founding Fathers, the men who signed the Declaration of Independence. George Washington is called the "Father of our country" because he was the first president. There is a common saying, "Any man can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a Dad". Dads can have a highly influential role in the children's lives, but sadly in many cases, can have just the opposite effect.

Fathers play a vital role in our lives especially those in a close relationship with the Heavenly Father, God, the creator of heaven and earth. The Bible offers timeless wisdom and encouragement for fathers, helping them to lead, love and nurture their families. Joshua 25:15 states, "And if it seems evil unto to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord". Fathers bear the responsibility of leading their families in faith. Joshua's declaration is a powerful example of a father's commitment to serve God and influence his household to do the same. It challenges fathers to make God's service the priority.

1 Corinthians 13, 4-7 says, "Love is patient, love is kind, it always protects, always trust, always hopes and always preservers. It is not only addressed to fathers, but this also often quoted passage on love defines the kind of love fathers should exhibit toward their children.

Thank you, Dads, for all you do. Whether you are our biological, adopted or stepdad, we love you for all you have done and continue to do.

We are praying this week for the families touched by the tragedy in Minnesota. We are praying for members of our congregation who are dealing with health issues but are not listed here. We pray they will experience God's healing touch and sheltering arms as they deal with these challenges. On our prayer list this week are George Barlow, the Fink Family, Jerry & Bea Gilland, Judy Helm-Burns , David Ingram, Joanne Reiman, Bill and Sheri Roberts, and Floyd & Dona Seiberling.