

A TIME FOR REFLECTION – [Pastor Gene Henderson]

When it comes to fathers, I was blessed with one of the great ones. Not perfect, just way closer than most. Leaving me with a fierce determination to, as he put it, “*improve the family in my generation*”. The prevalent attitude in America for the past decade or more has been that men in general and fathers in particular are the problem in our society, not the solution. Appropriate criticism notwithstanding, God does not agree. No now, not ever. Not in America. Nowhere in the world. Men still comprise 50% of the human race, and fathers still matter.

For the past 30 years or so fatherhood has been maligned and even debunked. Dads have been dismissed. Sometimes as irrelevant. Sometimes as unnecessary. Sometimes as sub-standard. Consequently, the American society has actively sought to redefine “*family*”. With good reason. A lot of children have grown up in single parent homes and most of those single parents have been mothers. Should we diminish or demean the efforts, the sacrifices of all those mothers? Should we de-value the children who grew up in family units led by mothers, aunts, uncles and grandparents? **Of course not!**

But we did not come to church to assign blame to one gender or to denigrate dads on Father’s Day. Sociologically we have work to do and we will never find a better place to start than in **honoring fathers**. That starts with recognition of a father’s value. In spite of what we noted in the paragraph above – all of which is true – across our country, fatherhood is fast becoming one of the emerging fields of study. The data confirms what most people would agree is common sense. Listen to an expert say what you already know. “*When fathers are actively involved with their children, children do better...research suggests that fathers are important for a child’s development.*” That’s from [Paul Amato](#), a sociologist who studies parent-child relationships at Pennsylvania State University. Most of us – without the Ph.D. – would have said the very same thing. But somehow the weight of research and the voice of academics is catching the attention of the nation.

So, we have a decision to make. Shall we throw stones at “*dead beat dads*”, and excommunicate the male gender from the family unit, or shall we honor fathers as we honor mothers? God weighed in on that in Exodus 20:12. “*Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.*” Note that God did not include any qualifiers or caveats. Some fathers have been terrible or just plain absent. But **fatherhood** does not rise or fall on the actions of those who have failed to stand to their responsibilities.

Take time today, and in the days ahead, to honor fatherhood. If you cannot connect with your dad – for whatever reason – choose a father figure and appropriately express your honor for their service to family and children. You may not have had a good father. You may not even know your father. But someone stepped into your life at one time or another and influenced you. **Let’s all join together and create a circle of honor around fathers.**

Welcome!

June 17, 2018



“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way.”

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity In Prayer: 6:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;

Kid’s Club & Youth

Prayer ½ hour before services



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Evening Prayer – we will begin our hour of prayer again this coming Sunday. Join us as we ask God for direction and revival.

Wednesday Bible Study – Romans and Kid's Club

Snacks For Children – There is a basket in the foyer for donations of snacks for Children's Church and Wednesday night Kid's Club.

Ladies Bible Study – this Thursday morning at 10:00 and in the evening at 7:00. The study will be on "Uninvited" by Lysa TerKeurst. Come and learn while fellowshiping.

Missionary Letters – there are new missionary letters on our bulletin boards in the foyer.

Rev. Bill Pier Jr., Campus
Pastor

Rev. Arthur Henderson –
Pastor

Pastor's cell phone:
518.567.9788

Location: 292 Hays Rd, East
Greenbush, NY 12061

Mail: PO Box 105, East
Greenbush, NY 12061

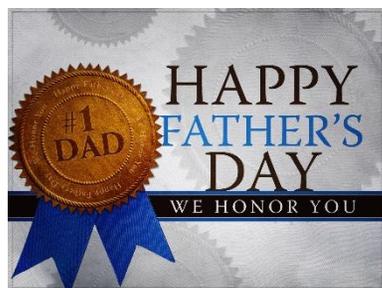
Office Telephone:
518.479.3439

Email:

pastorpier@newlifeaogeg.org

Webpage:

<http://www.newlifeaogeg.org>



SERMON NOTES

A FEW GOOD MEN

TEXT: Ezekiel 22:30; Proverbs 20:7

You will not be a good _____ until you are a good _____.

I. **MEN WHO HAVE LEARNED TO _____ [ON THE LORD]** – Proverbs 3:5-6

A. **For _____** – Ephesians 2:8-9; Matthew 18:3

B. **For _____** – Isaiah 40:30-31; Psalm 147:10

C. **For _____** – Philippians 4:19

D. **For _____ (Reasoning / Wisdom)** – James 1:5; Romans 10:13

II. **MEN WHO HAVE LEARNED TO _____**

A. **Their _____** – Galatians 5:16-17; 2:20

B. **Their _____** – Ephesians 5:23; I Samuel 3:13; I Kings 1:5-6

C. **The _____ (to Jesus)** – Hosea 6:7; Romans 5:12, 18-19; 1 Corinthians 15:22

III. **MEN WHO HAVE LEARNED TO _____**

A. **The _____ (the Lord)** – 1 Corinthians 13:1-3; 16:22

B. **Their _____**

C. **The _____ (the Church)** –

Ephesians 5:25; Revelation 3:9; Isaiah 43:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:9; Matthew 12:50; John 15:5; Acts 2:41, 47; Ezekiel 22:30