

A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson edited by Pastor Pier]

You have two fathers.

You already knew that, but it's good to be reminded. For a couple of reasons.

1. Your earthly father may have been absent, dysfunctional, hurtful or spiritually twisted. You didn't deserve that. You know that now, but the brain of a child doesn't. So, all you could do was try to survive with no model for making good choices. Not an easy road.
2. Your Heavenly Father was never absent, dysfunctional, hurtful or twisted. But if you grew up wondering where He was, believing that either He did not exist or did not care. That also is a very rough road. The fact that you are reading this indicates that you have been introduced to your Heavenly Father and have (hopefully) come to appreciate His enduring, unrelenting love.

Not all human fathers were absentee or dysfunctional. And fatherhood remains one of the greatest privileges and joys of life on Earth. Unfortunately, when it comes up short in a society or a culture, that society struggles to maintain its balance and its vitality. Because where do the youth of that culture turn to learn about responsibility, respect, work ethic, leadership, loyalty, courage, self-sacrifice and self-esteem? Will they find that in their mothers? Sometimes. But it's still a significant loss. Where will all the young men learn what it means to be a good man, to find their place in the world, and to make the world a better place?

Societies become unhinged – usually they implode – without the model and the influence of strong, good men. This is the power and the significance of fatherhood.

Thankfully, we have two fathers. For some of us, we follow a great tradition. For some of us, we *start* a tradition. For all of us, we have reason to be grateful. Take a moment today, right here in your Heavenly Father's house, to whisper your appreciation, your respect and your commitment.

Happy Father's Day.

Happy Father's Day!

June 19, 2022



"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 – 7:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;

Youth & Kid's Club

Prayer ½ hour before services

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sunday Evening Prayer – 6 to 7 PM.

Wednesday Bible Study – John 17. Come as we learn how Jesus prays for His own.

Kid's Club & Youth in the basement, learning about the Lord.

Pray For America – June 5th through July 4th. 30 days to unite in prayer with believer across the nation! Please use the flyer on the table in the foyer to guide your plea.

Clean Church – Clean Property: Please help us keep the church and property clean by placing all garbage including gum in a trash can. Thank you!

Men's Ministry – breakfast, July 2nd at 8:00 in the morning at the Schodack Diner, the corner of Routes 9 & 20 in Castleton. All are invited.

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SERMON NOTES – REV. GENE HENDERSON

_____ of Persia – An Unusual _____

1. Fathers _____
 - a. To be a _____
 - b. To _____
 - c. To _____
 - d. To _____

2. Fathers _____
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

3. Fathers _____ children
 - a. To _____
 - b. To see their _____
 - c. To see _____

Takeaways:

Never _____ ...

- _____ . Life can feel random. Unfair. Frightening. It's easy to conclude that it's all chance and coincidence.
- _____ . Not just a biological progenitor. Fathers come in unusual circumstances.
- _____
_____. Such children can change the world.