

June 19, 2022

FAITHFUL FATHERS

When the Lord spoke to Moses from the burning bush, He described Himself as “the Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob” (Exodus 3:15). The Lord goes on to say that He is to be remembered as such throughout all generations. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were men of faith, and their descendants were able to rejoice in what God provided to them through those faithful men. Many of us are able to rejoice and give thanks because we enjoyed growing up in homes where our faithful fathers encouraged our faith by taking us to church, reading the Bible in our homes, and gathering our family for prayer.

As I became a father myself, I began to realize the many responsibilities of fatherhood. Children have physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs, and God has provided fathers to assist in providing for those needs. So as I thank God for faithful fathers, I also pray that He might be raising up and strengthening more men for this significant and joyful calling. As fathers, we have the joy of seeing our children grow and develop in this world, and we have the privilege of passing on to them faith that has been entrusted to us.

We also recognize the brokenness and hurt experienced in our world for those who have had difficult or broken relationships with their fathers. May we not forget the words of Psalm 27:10 which says, “For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in.”

In God’s great mercy, the great joy of many fathers is to see their children walking in the truth, clinging to Christ’s promises, and rejoicing in being a part of the family of God. In this world, part of what it means to have a father is to have a place—a home. A place where you are cared for and can feel welcome, a place where you belong. Let us rejoice that our place, the one God has for us, is in His house, as a part of His family. We belong with Him because His Son has brought about reconciliation and redemption for us on the Cross. May we always be thankful for our Heavenly Father and all the blessings our earthly fathers have brought to us.

Pr. Dennis Norby
AFLC Board of Publications and Parish Education
Valley City, North Dakota

AFLC Promotion for June is Parish Education