

## THE DAD AWARDS

Hold a “Dad Awards” as a way for your family to celebrate Dad.

- Interview your kids to determine award categories: Favorite thing you like to do with Dad... Favorite thing that Dad does for you... What is Dad THE BEST at... etc.
- Turn their answers into 4-5 award categories, such as: Best Griller, Best Hugger, Bravest, etc.
- Write each category on a separate note card and put them in separate envelopes.

Have each child read the name of an award, announcing the winner, “And the winner is Dad.” Of course, Dad wins in every category! With every award, the “audience” responds with cheering, standing ovations, and thunderous applause. For the final award, present Dad with a “Best Dad in the Universe” trophy or sign, a handmade king’s crown, a special certificate created by the kids and/or his favorite dessert—served as you would for a king.

Close in a prayer to thank God for Dad. Sample prayer:

*“Lord, thank you for Dad. He is a wonderful gift to us. He works so hard for our family, and loves us so much. He is a great example of a person who loves and follows You. Draw him even closer to Yourself and bless him in all he does. Help us as a family to honor him every day. Amen.”*

### ADAPTED FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Encourage each child to write something to be shared with Dad (handwritten notes are best). Ideas for topics: A lesson Dad taught me that I will never forget, 10 things I love about Dad, My favorite memory with Dad, How God has used Dad to bless my life, etc.

Take turns reading what each of you has written, making time in between readings for laughter, tears and even comments from others that “echo” what has been read.

Prayer: Have someone close the time in prayer, thanking the Lord for blessing your lives through Dad, and asking Him to continue to bless his life with a closer walk with Himself, good health and a constant awareness of his children’s love. Ask Him to help you to honor Dad every day.

## OUR GREAT DAD!

Take some time to create a memorable gift to give to Dad. Talk about the many reasons you love him and what makes him so great! Spell out your Dad’s name or “DAD” and write characteristics about him that you love that begin with each letter. For example:

**M** *Model, Marvelous, Manly, Masculine, Muscle, Mentor*

**A** *Adventurous, Amazing, Admirable*

**S** *Silly, Support, Spectacular, Servant*

**O** *Optimistic, Outgoing*

**N** *Noble, Noteworthy, Nice*

**D** *Does so much for our family*

**A** *Always there for us, takes us on Adventures, Admirable*

**D** *Daily seeks the Lord*

## GOING FURTHER RESOURCES

You Have What it Takes by John Eldredge

Hero by Dr. Meg Meeker

Kingdom Man by Dr. Tony Evans

Dynamic Dads by Paul Pettit

She Calls me Daddy by Robert Wolgemuth

Raising a Modern-Day Knight by Robert Lewis



# FATHER'S DAY

AT HOME

## CELEBRATING DAD

Take this time to celebrate all the special dads that God has placed in your life. Use the ideas included in this guide to choose different ways you can honor and celebrate these special men.

THE RIGHTEOUS MAN WALKS  
IN HIS INTEGRITY; HIS CHILDREN  
ARE BLESSED AFTER HIM.  
PROVERBS 20:7

## BE A BLESSING

For many, Father's Day may be a more difficult time; often because of the loss of a dad/grandfather, a strained relationship with a father or the loss of a child. As we celebrate this special day, let's also be sensitive to those that might be hurting and look for ways to bless them.

- Send a card
- Buy a plant/tree in honor of their loved one that has passed away
- Take time to call or connect in person
- Say a prayer

## BLESSING NOTES FOR DAD

Write a blessing note to affirm the value of fatherhood for dad, grandfather or other significant men in your life. Use the samples below to give you ideas for your blessing notes.

**HUSBAND:** Tell him that you respect him and admire his masculine qualities—including hard work, character and the ways he gives of himself. Sample language...

You are a good man who tries to do the right thing in different situations and I want you to know how much I admire you for that. (Try to give a specific example.)  
We appreciate you and all you do.  
I am proud to call you my husband.

**DAD:** Express gratitude for the sacrifices he makes for you and how much you love and appreciate him. Sample language...

I am grateful for the time you spend with me and the fun we have together. You make our family so special.  
Thank you for being the best dad ever!

**GRANDFATHER:** Tell him the ways you admire and appreciate him and all that he does. Sample language...

Thank you for all that you do for our family and the way that you love us all so well. I treasure our special time together.  
I love you.

Choose a creative way to deliver the notes, such as... place in his shoes, in his car, send in the mail, tape on the mirror, etc.

## AFFIRMING DAD

We often assume that others know how much we appreciate and love them, but we rarely tell them. Capture the moment during Father's Day to affirm the dads that God has placed in your life.

### ADVANCE PREPARATION

- Give everyone who will participate some advance notice so they can prepare special words to share.
- If you wish, find a specific Bible verse to read or quote that you think would be an encouragement. Suggested verses: 1 Corinthians 16:13, Luke 10:27
- Before you affirm Dad, let him know that you want him to hear some things that you hope he will remember for years to come. Encourage him to enjoy it and know he is loved!

### AFFIRMATION TIME

- Start by stating how much the group values Dad and that you would like to take some time to share how much he means to each of you.
  - Take turns affirming and celebrating him. You can go in random order and can always go more than once. As others are sharing, someone may be reminded of additional things they treasure about Dad to add to any comments they may have prepared.
- Read any Bible verses chosen and let the group comment on why the passage relates to Dad.
- Finish the time of affirmation by praying together for Dad.
  - Thank the Lord for him and the many ways he blesses each one of you. Pray that the Lord would continue to bless him.