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A Faithful Father

"His father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." - Luke 15:20

Jesus told this story so that we could learn more about his Father - the God of love, patience, and forgiveness. He's also the God who "so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son" (John 3:16). He's the heavenly Father filled with compassion for his lost children.

It's a loving father who'll provide an inheritance that is normally given only upon death. It's a patient father who watches for a wayward child to return home. It's a forgiving father who restores a son's dignity with a robe, ring, and sandals - signs of sonship, of belonging. It's a joy-filled father who celebrates with feasting and dancing.

God's love for us is demonstrated further as we see the father reaching out patiently to an angry older brother. He wants him to join the family party. After all, "this brother of yours was dead and is alive again." There's reason to celebrate - all the children are home!

Whether we've been lost or always at home, our heavenly Father delights in calling us his children. Our God is a faithful Father to his Son, Jesus, and to all the brothers and sisters invited to join the grand, eternal celebration of his love and forgiveness. Do you hear his call?

Happy Father's Day
Sunday, June 19th

Called Business Meeting on Sunday, **June 5th** during the morning worship service **to vote** on whether to be adopted by Hope Church of Danville, VA.

Absentee Ballots are available at the church office between 9am and 2pm, Monday thru Friday. All ballots must be returned back to the church office **no later than June 3rd.

Bible Scriptures That Are Perfect for the Summer

When the seasons change and the summer rolls around, it seems like a lot of change around us. People's attitude change, people get into shape, and smiles are floating in the air. The hot weather and happiness just seem to go together. The Bible provides heartwarming verses that are perfect for the start of summer.

If we had to draw summer with crayons on a piece of paper, it would be very bright and make you smile when you look at it. That is what the Bible does as well. No matter what season, day, time, or hour, the Bible always provides a positive message. Jesus and this time of the year seem to have a lot of things in common, and we should read His word to create a positive attitude for the start of the summer season. Take a look and consider these Bible verses:

- Psalm 74:17
- Judges 5:31
- Psalm 89:36
- Isaiah 1:30
- Deuteronomy 11:1
- Psalm 32:4
- Luke 21:30
- Matthew 24:32
- Proverbs 10:5
- Proverbs 6:6-8



happy birthday !!

6/8 - Darlene Bailey
6/22 - Kathy Shutt
6/23 - Mae Edwards
6/25 - Steve Wohlford

May Budget Report

Tithes/Offerings	= \$4,095.00
Expenses	= \$5,708.65
General Operating Balance as of 5/31/22	\$36,974.05

Our Christian love to the family of Bonnie Paschal. Bonnie passed away on May 19, 2022.

The Scars Are All Part of a Beautiful Story
"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."
Psalm 147:3

If you've ever been wounded, or have felt like you needed to hide the scars away from painful times in life, know that you're not alone. Even Jesus faced great insults, wounds, and pain more than we could ever imagine. And He carried His scars right back into that little room where He met his disciples after the Resurrection. Sometimes we have all wondered why He didn't choose to let the scars fade away. He'd gained victory over death. He'd made all things new. Yet He still had scars in his hands, and His side. (John 20:19-29)

Maybe He knew we'd need to be reminded of this truth throughout our own lives: His scars, and ours too, are all part of His beautiful story at work.

He redeems.
He heals.
He sets free.
He restores.
He gives great purpose even through seasons of brokenness and grief. And the scars are left to prove it.
We have victory through Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Don't ever doubt, He knows your way, He understands your pain. He promises to use your every scar and broken place to share his message of hope to a world that needs healing and grace.

You are held by a Mighty God, and He has good still in store....

Remember today: The scars are all part of your beautiful story. Don't hide them away. For they are the evidence that God heals and redeems. Choose to thank Him for every scar and painful experience that has allowed you to see His greater power and work shining through.

Some Famous Bible Fathers

God wants men today to be godly fathers and teach their children about Him. We ought to rise to the challenge as many fathers in the Bible did to train their children in the knowledge of God. We are given great examples in the Bible of men who did just that. There are also many examples of bad fathers. We can learn from these men so that we can avoid making the mistakes they did.

1. **Job** - Job was a wealthy man who owned land, cattle and crops. Besides the great riches of Job, he had many children - seven sons and three daughters. As a father, he grieved greatly when his children were killed in a storm. However, for his faithfulness to the Lord, God rewarded him with ten more children. In all, he had fourteen sons and six daughters. The book of Job tells of the events in Job's life.
2. **Isaac** - Isaac was the father of the twin boys named Esau and Jacob. Isaac learned much from his parents about trusting God and raising a family. Isaac's sons were very different from one another. One was a hunter and the other enjoyed being at home. Though Isaac was not a perfect father he instilled a knowledge of God and the promise of a Savior. Details of Isaac and his family are found in Genesis chapters 17 thru 49.
3. **Solomon** - Though the wisest man in history, Solomon was not always the best father. His sons turned away from him and God because of Solomon's horrible example as a father. Despite all this, Solomon used his great wisdom and the lessons he learned from God to pen the book of Proverbs. This is the greatest piece of literature for parents and children to read and learn about wisdom. You can read about Solomon in many of the Old Testament books including, 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings and 1 & 2 Chronicles.
4. **Zacharias** - In Luke chapter 1, we are told about the announcement of the birth of John the Baptist. John was an important person in God's plan to introduce the Savior to the world. An angel appeared to John's father Zacharias to announce the birth of John. Zacharias was made mute, and possibly deaf, until after the announcement when John was born. As a priest, Zacharias undoubtedly taught his son much about the coming Messiah. John was well prepared to be the forerunner for Jesus Christ.

Fathers Today - Take the challenge presented in the book of Proverbs to train your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Teach them about God while they are young. Help them learn godly wisdom while they are at home. Then when they are old they will look to God's Word as a guiding light in their life. If your children are already grown and out of the home you can still be a good grandfather or mentor to young people around you.