FATHERS

If we try to answer the question, what does it take to be a good father? We might start with the dads or father figures in our lives that we are most familiar with. Perhaps you think of a father who was funny, hardworking, wise, or gentle. Traits like these leave a lasting mark. But the question of what it takes to be a good father goes deeper. To truly answer the question, we must go beyond memories and personality and ask, what truly defines a good father?

Fortunately, the Bible gives us some pretty clear definitions to help guide us. In **1 Timothy 5:8** Paul says, "But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." And in **Ephesians 6:4**, we find this challenge, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

From these verses, we understand that God expects specific things from a father. A good father provides for his family, guides them with discipline and instruction, and protects them emotionally and spiritually. But these aren't simply good ideas, or words of wisdom, they're sacred responsibilities. And yet, even the best of fathers fall short. Some try and fail. Others disappear entirely. Many carry regrets for the ways they couldn't measure up. That's the hard truth of earthly fatherhood. But there's another truth that brings hope: we all have access to a perfect Father.

Throughout the Bible, God reveals Himself not just as Creator and King, but as our Heavenly Father. And He doesn't just claim the title; He displays it perfectly. First of all, *God displays how He protects His children*. In **Exodus 14**, when the Israelites stood trapped at the Red Sea, pursued by Pharaoh's army, it was God who stood between them and danger. He parted the waters and made a way when there was no way. The same protection was provided to Israel is promised to us today as well.

2 Thessalonians **3:3** says, "But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one."

God also provides for His children. In Exodus 16, we find the Israelites wandering hungry in the wilderness, and the Lord provides them with manna from heaven, bread straight from the hand of God. Then, Jesus reminds us that we have that same divine care. In Matthew 6:31-32 we read, "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we

wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all."

In **Exodus 20**, we are able to see that *God sets rules for His family*, when He gave the Ten Commandments. Not to control or oppress, but to guide His people into freedom and faithfulness. He does the same today through His Word. **James 1:25** says, "But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Then, in **Exodus 32**, we see that *God disciplines His children*. After they had created and worshiped a golden calf, God disciplined Israel for their rebellion. Not because He had stopped loving them, but because of His love for them. Then, **Hebrews 12:9-10** says, "Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us, and we respected them. Shall we not be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness."

So, what does it take to be a good father? It's not about being perfect but about pursuing the example of our perfect Father in heaven. One who protects, provides, leads with wisdom, and disciplines in love. These are not just admirable traits; they reflect the very heart of God. And for every father who feels as if he's fallen short, let us also not forget that our Heavenly Father is also a Father of grace. He is able to forgive, restore, and strengthen us. So, whether you are a father, have a father, or are simply longing for one, you can find everything you need in Him. "Every good gift and every perfect gift are from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."(James 1:17)

BAPTIZED

Nonie Machunze was baptized on Tuesday evening during the Ladies Bible class. We rejoice with Nonie on her decision to follow Christ.

SYMPATHY

Our love and sympathy to Eric & Diana Stephenson on the passing of Eric's mother Gertrude Stephenson. She was 98 years young. Visitation and the funeral will be held in Salem Indiana. Please keep the family in your prayers.

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES Sunday Read – Joshua 20-21 Wednesday Read – Joshua 22

Questions for last week's reading of; Joshua 20-22.

Questions:

1. What is the purpose of the cities of refuge?

- 2. Name the cities of refuge.
- 3. How many cities with their suburbs did the Levites receive?
- 4. What does Joshua 21:45 say about God's promise to Israel?
- 5. What did the tribes of Reuben, and Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh build by the Jordan River?
- 6. What was the reaction of the rest of the tribes?

UPCOMING EVENTS

* 4:15 Singing class every Sunday* Truth Seekers every Sunday @ 5pm June 15 - Father's Day June 19 – Senior Group -5pm June 24 – Ladies Bible Class – 6:30pm June 29 – Fifth Sunday Singing-evening service July 6 – 1st Sunday Singing – Nashville Road @ 2:30

<u>VBS 2025</u>

July 16-19:Wed – Fri 6-8 pm & Sat 4pm

The theme for this year's VBS is "Dream." We will be focusing on the story of Joseph, from his time of receiving the coat of many colors, to what he revealed to his brothers in Egypt. There will be an adult class following the same theme. Every evening the children will go downstairs and experience an Egyptian marketplace. **Saturday, July 19th** VBS will meet at 4pm and after class at 5:30 pm there will be a potluck cookout and games. Please make plans to come and bring your friends and family.

ORDER OF SERVICES SUNDAY June 15, 2025 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song Leader	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer	Tony Butler
Auditorium Lesson	Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome	Ben Hutson
Scripture Reading.	Jason Sever
Song Leader	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer	Jim Cherry
Lord's Supper	Jonathan Senn
Servers	M. Ellis; J. Johnson; J. Crawford
	G. Messer; D. Thompson; B. Smith
Sermon	Āndrew Spivey
Closing Prayer	Tim Strickland

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome	Ben Hutson
Song Leader	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer	Bob Brown
Sermon	Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper	Garrett Rowlett
Closing Prayer	Tim Cummins

WEDNESDAY June 18, 2025 7:00 PM

Welcome	Ben Hutson
Song Leader	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer	Bob Sever
Lesson	Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer	David Johnson
Ushers for MayA. Communion Care for June	•
Door Greeters – West Door East Door Visitor's Desk Volunteer	B/M Smith

IF YOU CANNOT SERV	/E, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill	615-289-9935
Church Office	615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ 1883 Nashville Pike Gallatin, TN 37066 Web Site: nashvilleroadcoc.org E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

<u>SICK LIST</u>

Larry Hammock, uncle of Andrew Spivey will be undergoing chemo & radiation treatments. Wayne Hunt, cousin of Tim Cummins, had a bone marrow transplant. Chuck Tooley, father of Zach Tooley, home with health issues. Roscoe Smith, father of Brent Smith has started his treatments for cancer. Larry Bailey, son of Tina Bailey had his last radiation treatment.

PRAYER LIST

Jack & Anita Cato; Bobbie Stephens; Wanda Seals; Lena Baggett; Stella Messer; Hugh Fulford; Maddie Andrews; Mary Spivey; Ottis & Maxine Cothron; Shauna Lockett; Jean Knowles; Zach Toolev: Mary Ann Reinhart: Sandi Jones: Pat Watson: Frances Catron; Jackie Williams; Pat Crump; Nancy Maxey; Ethan Huffard son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby; Heather Lemley daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley; Jean McCurdy mother of Olivia Nelsen; Ariel Clift, niece of Tarina Brown; Elaine Reynolds, friend of Christie Coleman; Alan Greene, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; Vycki Puckett, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; Ty Tyler son of Ann Tyler; Ida Lou Sherrill, mother of Alex Sherrill; Taylor Lackford, niece of Brenda Veale; Dustin Lackford, nephew of Brenda Veale; Larry Conley, friend of Wanda Proctor; Harold Cole, friend of Lena Baggett: Bobbie Carter, sister of Janice Johnson: Walter Wooten, brother of Wanda Sherrill; Aza Topik, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals.

<u>SHUT-INS</u> Jean Deaton, Mary Spivey

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study	
Morning Worship	
Sunday Evening	72
Wednesday Evening	68
Contribution	\$7,554.00
Youth Group Account	\$7,856.00

Elders		
Tony Butler		
Jim Cherry		
David Johnson	615-300-9084	
Alex Sherrill		
David Thompson	615-598-6621	

Deacons Carl Newby Jonathan Senn Brent Smith Eric Stephenson Adam Williamson



Phone (615) 452-3431

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Web Site: <u>www.nashvilleroad.org</u> Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

> ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister

Vol. 77 No. 24