

# CHURCH CONNECTION

JUNE 2023



## A FATHER'S DAY GIFT

It comes around once each year, and moms and kids start scrambling for gift ideas for dear old Dad. Dads can be notoriously challenging when it comes to giving them gifts. But we suspect that the majority of dads are most grateful not for the gift but for the gift-givers, those wives and children who make their lives complete and bring joy and purpose to their days.

At this time of year, many are saying it and unfortunately too few are believing it: fathers are special people. Someone has observed that "[w]hat a father says to his children is not heard by the world, but will be heard for posterity." How true that is—and how important! The impact of fathers on their children and thereby on society must never be minimized. The words spoken privately to a child will have ramifications for years and years to come, as that child becomes a parent and passes on the word heard or the lesson taught.

If there's anything Wisconsin needs, it's fathers passing on to their children the right words and lessons. Obviously, to do that, fathers must be present. Consider these statistics: almost 34% of all children who live in long-term poverty come from families of never-married mothers. Children in divorced situations are between one and a half and two times more likely to engage in risky sexual behavior. The list of negative consequences stemming from the pandemic of fatherlessness is much longer, but the point is obvious. When fathers go missing, our precious children are the ultimate victims.

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STRENGTHENING,  
PRESERVING & PROMOTING  
MARRIAGE, FAMILY, LIFE &  
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

### Please Pray!

**Pray for the fathers in your church.** Pray they will guard their hearts and walk with God. Pray they will be wise and will be intentional in protecting their families from the attacks of Satan.

**Pray for your local elected officials and our statewide elected officials.**

**Pray for the safety of your law enforcement officers and their families.** Pray they will serve faithfully and well.

**Pray for revival in our country. The principles in II Chronicles 7:14 still apply today:** *"If my people, who are called by my name..."*

**Pray for LEAD Wisconsin. (July 16-21).** We need young men and women (age 19-25) to serve as counselors, as well as men and women (age 25+) who can serve as volunteers. Apply online at [leadwi.org](http://leadwi.org).

*"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."*

Hosea 4:6a



Dads who are present in their childrens' lives have a great responsibility to ensure the transmission of truth and values, of ethics and morality, and of dreams and hopes. To avoid generational shipwreck, we must inculcate the truth of Christianity, communicate the accurate history of our country, and focus on an appreciation for and a desire to protect freedom. Children don't understand these things intuitively. They must be taught and see them modeled by their parents, especially their dad.

In the financial world, generational transfer is often talked about. We need to apply the same concept to values. Fathers need to intentionally "transfer" to their own children what it means to be a Christian, what a real Christian looks like, how God has blessed America, and what Christians should do to be good citizens in our state and our nation. The principles we find in Deuteronomy 6:6-9 are as applicable today as they were thousands of years ago!

Good dads take seriously the biblical admonition to teach their children Scriptural and historical truth so that generations to come will also know it and, more importantly, live it. Without such intentionality, Christianity in America will become more and more emaciated, eventually ceasing to be salt and light to a needy culture.

Wisconsin Family Council agrees that fathers deserve their day. And we hope on Father's Day dads everywhere will look deeply into the trusting, sparkling eyes of their children, envision the generations yet to come and recognize that their best gift is one they give themselves: children who have a father who loves them enough to teach them biblical truth that they in turn, will teach their own children.

## WISDOM NEEDED!

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not: and it shall be given him," (James 1:5). What an incredible invitation from our good and gracious God. Do you lack wisdom? Don't we all?! Ask God for it, and the promise is "it shall be given." Having asked for wisdom, though, we don't just sit on our hands waiting for it to mystically arrive. We dig into God's Word. All the wisdom we will ever need has been recorded for us. In fact we are told that the inspired Word of God is able to completely equip us for "all good works" (II Tim. 3:16-17). That includes parenting! So dads—and moms—God is with you in this work of being a parent. Ask Him for Wisdom and then search His Word. One good place to start is Proverbs, but pay close attention also to I Corinthians 13 and Ephesians 5 and 6. May you know God's abundant grace as you lead your family.

Wisconsin Family Council (WFC) is a 501 (c)(3) organization that has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin since 1986. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers, and churches about the important legislative and cultural issues so they can be involved in strengthening, preserving, and promoting God's plan for marriage and family, the sanctity of human life, and religious freedom in our state.

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