**Blessing Every Day**

**A Blessing for Father’s Day**

A project from the Mission Theology Advisory Group



The Mission Theology Advisory Group is an ecumenical group formed in partnership between Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and the Church of England We provide resources in the areas of Spirituality, Theology, Reconciliation, Evangelism and Mission.

This resource belongs to our Spirituality series. Please print and share.

More information from [www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/deeper-god-mission-theology](http://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/deeper-god-mission-theology)

 <https://ctbi.org.uk/mission-theology-advisory-group-resources/>

Father’s Day appears in the UK calendar in June and seems to have been introduced to complement Mother’s Day (or Mothering Sunday) as a celebration of parenthood.

Cards for Father’s Day often have jokey themes about golf, technology, football, beer, cars, DIY, or how much money children cost. It can be more difficult to think more deeply about and to express a father-child relationship and to find a way to give thanks for fathers.

Christian faith often looks to St Joseph as a model of fatherhood, the person who trusted in God to help him find a way to take care of his family. Without Joseph, Jesus and his mother Mary might not have survived at all, yet so little is said about him in the New Testament. But in the gospels people talk about Jesus as Joseph the carpenter’s son. They know about the family, their history, and their place in the community. It is from this family and from the care of Joseph following God’s will, that Jesus emerges.

Yet Jesus says we can speak to God with the same intimacy and love we might give to our parents. God is not a distant, indifferent power, but one who reaches out to us in loving tenderness. Through Jesus we can meet the fatherhood of God, the one who longs to gather us under his wings to keep us safe.

So Father’s Day can have a greater spiritual significance than just a card about hobbies. To have a loving father is a marvellous gift, because that love can help us understand more of the loving purposes of God. And because not everyone is lucky enough to experience paternal love and care, it is important to cherish such love in our lives.

# A Blessing for Father’s Day

Loving God,

Jesus called you Abba, Father,

We are asked to call on you

For love, protection, care and guidance

Whenever we pray.

Today we give thanks for loving fathers

And ask your blessing on fathers everywhere.

May we never take love and care for granted

And always be grateful for those who

Give us life.

Amen