

How Much Do We Spend on Father's Day?

Today is Father's Day! Let's hear it for all the dads! So, after church rush out and call your dad.

I looked up what we spend on Father's Day here in the U.S. What I found was that we really don't spend as much on poor 'ol dad as we do dear mom. **In fact we spend 41% more on average on Mother's Day as we do on Father's Day!** On average Americans said they planned to spend about \$169 on Mother's Day compared to about \$120 for Father's Day, according to the National Retail Federation.

Time Magazine ran an article about this where they interviewed dads about what they really wanted for Father's Day. Here are a few of my favorite quotes:

“What I'd really like for Father's Day is a day to go fishing — without the kids.” — Steve, a father of 8-year-old twin boys (his request was followed up by his wife's comment, “Well that's not going to happen.”)

“My favorite Father's Day gifts? By far handmade coupons for things like chores, raking the leaves or washing my car; or hugs or going to a Giant's game with me.” — Robert, father of two children, now adults

“Yes, I want to be acknowledged on Father's Day. I don't really care about a gift, but if my kid wasn't thoughtful enough to remember Father's Day, it would mean I'd done a bad job as a father.” — Chris, father of two teenagers

“What I want for Father's Day is for my kid to get a job and get out of the house.” — Howard, who has a 28-year-old son still living at home

Here is the important thing to remember, whatever the gift our goal should be to honor our fathers. Did you know that we have a heavenly Father? In fact Paul used the term Abba Father in the book of Romans and that term can be translated daddy! Think about that. We get to call the creator of the universe daddy!

So here is my point as we prepare for the offering. While we work to honor our earthly fathers doesn't it make sense to honor our heavenly Father? One way you can do that is through your generous gifts to our church. Proverbs 3:9,10 says, Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; ¹⁰ then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.” Let's honor our heavenly Father today with a great offering! Then don't forget to honor your earthly father this Sunday!