

A banner with a teal background on the left and an orange background on the right, separated by a diagonal line. The text "happy father's day" is written in a white, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right, and is partially obscured by a colorful, abstract, brushstroke-like pattern that runs diagonally across the banner.

happy
father's day

My Hope and Prayer for Every Man

DEVOTIONAL | FATHER'S DAY | JUNE 15

"Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the Word only among Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the Good News about the Lord Jesus. The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. **He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord."**

RECEIVE

In **Acts 11:19–24**, Barnabas shows up in Antioch in a moment of spiritual momentum—not to take charge or gain credit, but to celebrate God's grace and encourage others to keep going. He is remembered not for status or success, but for who he was: "A good man, full of faith and the Holy Spirit."

This Father's Day, we honor and give thanks for the men in our lives—fathers, grandfathers, mentors, brothers and friends — who lead and love with gentleness and quietly but confidently point others to Jesus

REFLECT

1. Why might Barnabas have been considered “a good man, full of faith and the Holy Spirit”? Explore the following passages and list what Barnabas’ actions reveal about his character:

Acts 4:32–37 _____

Acts 9:26–28 _____

Acts 13:1–5 _____

2. Who has had a Barnabas-like influence in your life? Think of someone whose character and faith have sparked or shaped your own. What did they do that stuck with you?
3. What kind of spiritual legacy do you hope to leave behind? If someone wrote one sentence about your faith life, what would you want it to say?
4. What opportunities has God placed in your life that might allow you to “be sent off” on mission for His purposes, as Saul and Barnabas were in Acts 13? What gifts has He given you to put your faith into action?
5. Father’s Day can surface different emotions and memories for each of us. What does the word “father” stir up for you, and how has it shaped your perception of your Heavenly Father? Does your perception match the way God is described in Scripture? If not, what facets of God’s character do you need to focus on in the season ahead?

RESPOND

Take one or more of these steps this week:

- Name and thank someone who's been a Barnabas to you. Write a note, send a text, or tell them how they've made an impact.
- Encourage a man in your life who's walking the road of discipleship, fatherhood, mentoring, or spiritual leadership. Let him know you see God at work in him.
- Pray that God would reveal the areas of His character that you need to see more clearly — and the areas of your own character that need refining or pruning to make room for a heart "full of faith and the Holy Spirit."

BLESSING

God, help me to be like Barnabas — a person of great faith and courage, attuned to Your Holy Spirit. Help me to lead with love, speak Your Good News boldly, and encourage others to grow. On this Father's Day, heal what is broken, grow what is good, prune what needs pruning, and grant me fresh opportunities to serve You with my gifts. Fill me with Your Spirit so that my life points others to You. Amen.