

Bedford Presbyterian Church

105 West Main Street, Bedford, Virginia

From 1844 to 2024 (180 Years)

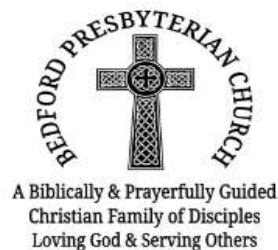


Week of June 16th

We will continue sending out this combination of the newsletter and bulletin to keep you up to date on announcements, prayers, needs and scheduled activities.

Included will be the usual newsletter information along with prayers, scripture and a sermon.

We hope that you can utilize this format to keep up to date while being away from actual services, meetings, activities and watching the online sermon.



*Bedford Presbyterian is a Biblically and
Prayerfully Guided Christian Family of
Disciples, Loving God and Serving Others*

The Approach to God

One: The Peace of Christ Be With You

All: And Also With You

Prelude

"This Is My Father's World"

Mark Hayes

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Come to God who loves us like a father.

All: See what love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.

One: Come to God whose arms are open and waiting.

All: We come to God who welcomes and forgives us.

One: Come to God who has chosen to live with us and in us.

All: We come to God who sees us as we really are and loves us anyway.

One: Come, praise our loving nurturing God!

Hymn

"Abba Father, We approach Thee"

James Deck

***Prayer of Confession:**

O God, Father that You are, You know what is best for us. Too often we choose our way rather than Yours. Have mercy upon us when we turn from You. Forgive us when we do not trust in Your fatherly love and direction for our lives. Have mercy upon us indeed and teach us anew how to follow You, Father that You are. We pray this through Your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon (responsive)**

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Through Jesus Christ we have been born again to new life.

***Gloria**

"Glory to the Father"

Rutledge

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Happy Father's Day

"Ode to Fathers"

Video

Hymn

"This Is My Father's World"

Tommy Walker

Sermon

Fathers Who Failed

Years ago a distraught father sat in my office and with tears running down his face asked, "Where did I fail her?" His daughter had run away from home and was nowhere to be found. Like so many other fathers who have faced similar situations, he felt like a failure. Perhaps you too have uttered these words when one of your children lost their way in life. If so, you are not alone. In fact, the Bible contains a number of accounts of fathers who failed. Their stories are reminders that we are not the first ones to utter those words. So this morning, let's take a look at four Biblical examples of fathers who failed.

The first one is Jacob, the father who played favorites. Genesis 37:3 states, "Now Israel (Jacob) loved Joseph more than any of his other children, because he was the son of his old age; and he made a richly ornamented robe for him." At this point in his life, Jacob was the father of eleven sons and at least one daughter. Joseph was his youngest son. So guess what? Jacob played favorites. He gave Joseph a fancy coat, one that had sleeves and which is often referred to as "the coat of many colors." That didn't sit well with the rest of Joseph's brothers, especially when Joseph told them about some dreams he had in which he was in a place of authority over them and, in fact, his entire family. They despised him. So when Joseph showed up one day where his brothers were watching over their father's flocks and herds, they wanted to kill him. Fortunately, they decided instead to sell him into slavery and I am confident that you know the rest of the story. Favoritism can be a big problem in anyone's family. One child is elevated to a position of prominence over the rest of the children. Sometimes it's an older brother or sister. Sometimes it's the youngest child who gets to do the kinds of things that were denied to the others. It can even happen in a school classroom. I suspect we've all known of someone who was the "teacher's pet." Fathers and indeed parents can fail and fail terribly when they play favorites.

The second father is Eli, the father who failed to discipline his sons. He was the high priest in charge of the Tabernacle at Shiloh, the place where the people of Israel brought their sacrifices and worshiped the Lord before the Temple was built in Jerusalem. He had two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who assisted him and they were unscrupulous. They stole the sacrifices that should have been reserved for the Lord as well as reveling in immorality. Unfortunately, Eli let them get away with this misbehavior. He told his sons to stop what they were doing, but he didn't stop them. He refused to discipline them. As a result this is what God said to Samuel, the young man who was later to become the last and greatest of Israel's judges, "For I told him (Eli) that I would judge his family forever because of the sin he knew about; his sons made themselves contemptible, and he failed to restrain them" (1 Samuel 3:13). Sure enough, not long thereafter, Hophni and Phinehas took the Ark of the Covenant, the golden chest which contained the Ten Commandments and carried it into battle against their enemies, the Philistines. Both of Eli's sons were killed and the Ark, the priceless treasure of Israel, was captured by the Philistines. Upon hearing this tragic news, Eli, now an old man, fell over and died. He and his family paid a terrible price because of his failure to properly discipline his sons. How many children in our own day and time have been visited by terrible tragedies because their parents failed to discipline them?

The third father is David, the father who broke the Lord's commandments. All of us are familiar with the story of David and Bathsheba. Instead of fulfilling his kingly duties, he let his eyes wander where they should not have gone. He committed adultery and when Bathsheba became pregnant he tried to cover up his crime by having her husband killed in battle. However, God knew what had happened and sent His prophet Nathan to confront the king with these words, "Why did you despise the Word of the LORD by doing what is evil in His eyes?" (1 Samuel 3:13). The Scriptures tell us that David had a heart for God, that he wanted to live a righteous life before the Lord. Nevertheless, he willfully broke two of the Lord's Ten Commandments and brought upon himself and his family the kind of discord and strife that nearly destroyed his kingship. David's bad behavior precipitated bad behavior among his sons, one of whom, Absalom, sought to rebel against him. How many times have fathers, and indeed parents, broken the

moral and spiritual standards which they had adopted as their own, only to see those same standards broken and abused by their children?

Finally, there is the story of Elimelech, the father who turned his back on God. Facing economic ruin the Scriptures tell us, “In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab” (Ruth 1:1). Instead of staying in the land that God had given to Israel and trusting in the Lord to send rain, he abandoned his inheritance and went to live in a foreign land and a notoriously wicked culture. He even allowed his two sons to marry foreign wives. For all intents and purposes he abandoned his faith and his relationship with God. Sadly, all too soon, both Elimelech and his two sons died and were buried in that foreign land. Today the same kind of thing happens much too often. After having grown up in the church and professed faith in Christ, fathers turn away from the Lord. They may not have moved to another country, but they have certainly adopted the customs of a different culture and sometimes the outcome is less than rewarding in the lives of their children.

Yes, there are times when we as fathers and, indeed, as parents fail. We can play favorites like Jacob. We can fail to properly discipline our children like Eli. We can break God’s moral standards like David. Worst of all when we face the trials and tribulations of life, we can turn our back on God and walk away. I suspect we’ve all seen situations like that. In fact, as we look back over our own lives, we may have been able to identify with one of these four Biblical examples. Like the man who sat in my office weeping over the disappearance of his daughter, we cry out, “Where did I fail my children?” It’s an anguished cry of despair that seems to negate the possibility that anything good can come out of our failures. It’s an admission of defeat and loss. Fortunately, it doesn’t have to end that way.

Paul Harvey, the famous radio news broadcaster often spoke about “the rest of the story.” Here it is. God can turn our failures into successes. He can turn our tragedies into triumphs. For just a moment let’s see how things turned out in the lives and the families of the four fathers we have mentioned this morning. Jacob’s family was restored. It took a while but Joseph forgave his brothers for what they had done. God had raised him up from slavery to become pharaoh’s chief administrator in Egypt. He provided a place for the entire family to all live together in peace and harmony. Speaking to his brothers Joseph said, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives” (Genesis 50:20). Eli lost two sons but he had been given a third child in the person of Samuel, an adopted son who had been given to him by Hannah years before. The Lord told Eli, “I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind” (1 Samuel 2:35). David’s first son by Bathsheba died, but the Scriptures tell us that David and Bathsheba were blessed with a second child. “She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon” (2 Samuel 12:24). It is also recorded that Nathan the prophet was instructed by the Lord to also name this child Jedidiah, which means “beloved by the LORD.” Finally, Elimelech did not live long enough to see any grandchildren, but he did acquire a daughter-in-law named Ruth, who entrusted her life into the care of the God of Israel. Returning with Naomi, her mother-in-law, to Bethlehem in Judea, she married a godly man named Boaz. When she gave birth to a son, the women in the village declared to Ruth’s mother-in-law, “Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel” (Ruth 4:14). That child became the ancestor of King David and is listed in the New Testament family line linked to the birth of Christ.

So you see, God can take our failures and redeem them in some wonderful ways. Even at times when we have failed our children, God can transform those failures and bring something good out of them. He’s done it time and time again. Indeed, that is what God did through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He took mankind’s rejection of Christ and the tragedy of the cross and made Him our “**Kinsman Redeemer.**”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn

"He Knows My Name"

Tommy Walker

Affirmation of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in His image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator...we deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem us. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Doxology

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hymn 34

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our Heavenly Father, creator and keeper of us all, thank You for our fathers. For those fathers still living, bless them today and bless us as we continue to enjoy their presence in our lives. Bless the gifts we bring this day and use them to show the world Your father's heart. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who came to show us what You are really like. Amen.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Worship Song**

"Your Desire"

Danny Byram

THE SENDING FORTH

Benediction

Postlude

"Postlude on an Old Irish Church Melody"

Stanford

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in thankfulness for all the wonderful things the Deacons do, Dot and Dick Kibbey

June 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 <i>Men's Breakfast</i>
2 <i>10 am Worship Communion Session</i>	3	4	5 <i>Something More, 3 pm</i>	6 <i>D-Day ringing of the bells 6:44pm</i>	7	8
9 <i>10 am Worship 5¢ a Meal BCM collection</i>	10	11	12 <i>Deacons 1pm Something More, 3pm</i>	13	14	15 <i>Bedford Hiking Club</i>
16 <i>10 am Worship Happy Father's Day</i>	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <i>10 am Worship Fellowship Picnic</i>	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 <i>10 am Worship</i>						

Joys- June 16th

- Joy-** Eunice Barnes looks forward to getting her "designer" cast off this week
- Joy-** Michelle Goode shared answered prayers from prayer list: the Groggins have moved to Assisted Care near their daughter and her friend Cynthia has recovered from broken ankle.
- Joy-** Ellen Foster thanked whoever picks out the photos for the video display monitors. Very beautiful.
- Joy-** Dave Stetson shared that Savannah came through surgery and may go home this week
- Joy-** Barbara Nichols thanked everyone for prayers for her daughter
- Joy-** Larry Compter shared several joys: safe trip, Aunt's 100th birthday and spending time with his brothers
- Joy-** Judy Harris was joyful that hospital stay reviewed she did not have stroke. Joy having her back in church.

Concerns- June 16th

- Avery:** Tinkie, hospice care
- Barefoot:** prayers for missionaries especially in Haiti
- Barnes:** Kim Hedrick- (friend) cancer
- Benton:** Judy (friend) son in critical condition
Linda- bad cough
- Boone:** Roslyn Reynolds, (friend) upcoming surgery
- Callahan:** Mary Jane (friend) in remission
Steve Chaffin (friend) blood clots
- Cram:** Winslow's-(friends of Sally) family & medical problems
Garrett Winslow – struggling, autism
Janice Campbell-(friend) under hospice care
Ryan- (grandson) searching for faith
Lory Graham- (friend) health issues, wife caretaker
Brenda Wilkerson- UVA seizures
- DeHart:** Dawn's mother gallbladder surgery
Michael Rutter- amputations
- DeWitt:** assistants husband broke leg using roto tiller
- Easter:** Ruby Key (friend) cancer
- Fleming:** Dominick (Ann Marie's brother) heart surgery successful recovery is continuing
- Foster:** Ron (brother-in-law) in home
Howard & Lynn (brother) difficulty with legs, wife dementia
Tom
Prayers for everyone on dialysis
Ellen, possible kidney transplant
- Gillespie:** Paul looking for job
- Goode:** Rodney & Connie Groggins (husband's cousins) Connie Alzheimer's, Rodney caregiver, health issues
- Goodman:** for those impacted by Midwest storms
- Grigg:** Beth Falwell- starting cancer treatments
Chris Mays- diabetic complications
- Grubb:** John suffering from bad cough
- Hann:** Alice's brother, congestive heart failure, cancer

Heinrich: Steven - (grandson) autoimmune disorder
Barbara Lore- (Helen's sister) heart problems
Mauser: Joyce Reese- (friend) health problems
Steven-(son's boss) going blind
Barbara (Al's sister) intense headaches
Gayle- doing better
McManis; Charlotte
Monk: Libby's mother, Mary Duncan, Bedford Nursing Home Oak
Morris: all law enforcement, firefighters and all other first responders
Forensic scientists who deal with crime
Rev. Pam Ledbetter
James Morgan (cousins husband) spot on lung
Narwid: Ed- not doing well
Nichols: Vicky (daughter) fell, broke shoulder
Riley: Christine stroke, Elks home
Scheurer: Jim Hedrick- (friend) cancer
Bob Lindell-(friend) prostate cancer
Sonny (son) doing well
Smith: Dorothy Smith- (John's mother) that she comes to the Lord
Stetson: Nick, Tiffany, Savannah- Savannah, back in hospital
Stevens: Jackie Landis- heart problems
Deputy Chief Matt Scott, surgery went well
Webb: prayers for Shawn's great aunt
Weeks: Edith, home, continued healing

Prayers for our nation and our President

Prayers for healing the divisive spirit among our leaders/nation

Russian invasion ends and not resort to nuclear weapons.

Prayers for new residents to come to worship with us

Prayers for Ukraine

Pray for World Peace

Prayers for Israel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Activities for week of June 16th

Sunday: 10 am Worship

Sunday: June 23rd

10 am Worship

Fellowship Picnic

June Birthdays

Hugh Saunders - 19

Betty Salley – 25

June Anniversaries

Jim and Joy Barefoot - 21

David & Kathy Grigg - 21

Philip & Sherry Parker - 28

A Whale of a Tale

Beginning next Sunday, we will be taking a trip with the Old Testament prophet Jonah. During the four weeks of this sermon series, we'll join him in a number of adventures, including a three day stay in the belly of a great big fish.

June Fellowship Picnic at the Van Dykes

Rain or shine on Sunday, June 23rd following the Worship Service, Nancy and Paul will be hosting a summer at the lake picnic at their residence, 1108 Benni Ct., Moneta (see below for directions).

Wear your casual attire to church and then come on down, either individually or by carpool. The trip takes about 30 minutes. Nancy will be here to greet you at the front door when you arrive. Enjoy each other's fellowship while the food on the grill is prepared.

The main course is a very special Smith's all beef, natural casing hot dog. It is a classic food from a small manufacturer in Nancy's hometown of Erie PA. Nancy will be making a Coney Island sauce, a secret recipe that she obtained from an Erie restaurant as a hotdog topping. Hamburgers are also great with the secret sauce and will be provided. In addition, they will be providing the rolls, condiments, potato chips, paper plates, utensils, and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, including serving ware.

There is a wide variety of activities available. These include:

- Swimming or floating (bring your swimsuit, towel and a float, if you wish).
- Boating with a sailboat, a rowboat, a kayak and a paddle boat available. Rev. Parker is also bringing his sailboat and will be taking people out. Swimsuit required.
- Or, lounging on the patio or boat dock.
- There will be boat excursions available for one-hour rides on the lake in groups of six, available on the hour from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Captain Vic, a Virginia Dare boat captain will be providing this for us using his SeaRay. We have covered his fee. Tips for Captain Vic are at your discretion. Sign-up sheet is available at the church office or in the sanctuary on Sundays.
- In the unfortunate event that it rains, we will be indoors for a more traditional fellowship.

We recommend a good sun hat, sunglasses and suntan lotion. Our property faces the afternoon sun.

Contact information:

- Nancy cell: 336-816-0025, email: nancy.s.van.dyke@gmail.com
- Paul cell: 540-676-1651, email: paul.van.dyke.jr@gmail.com

Directions:

1. Take 122 South to White House Road (where the Downtown Moneta shopping center is.)
2. Turn Left onto White House Road.
3. Travel 6 miles to Airport Road and turn right onto it.
4. After 1 mile turn left on Buccaneer Road.
5. Stay on Buccaneer for 1.3 miles passing the airport on Buccaneer
6. Turn right on Cutlass Road — there is a sign for the 40 Acres development at this corner. Note: do not turn on the first Cutlass sign you see, before the airport. That way is unimproved and is not recommended unless you have 4-wheel drive. The entire trip is on paved roads.
7. Turn left on Benni Ct. Our home is the blue/gray house at the end of the cul-de-sac.
8. We have a large driveway that can accommodate many cars. This is recommended for those where walking is an issue. Once it is full, you can park on the left side of Benni Ct (the wider shoulder).