Standing FOR Fathers

Today is Father's Day! I'm going to do what we always do to honor fathers. In a minute, I am going to ask all our fathers to stand up no matter if you are here or watching online! And then, I want everyone to give these guys a hand wherever you are, either here or watching at home online. Everyone got that? Here we go ...

Will all the fathers please stand? Come on, everywhere; fathers stand up. If you are alone watching on the Internet, stand up. Right there, you get out of the recliner and stand up. OK, the rest of us, let's give these guys a hand.

I always think Father's Day is less celebrated than Mother's Day. One reason I think this way is that *every* study shows we spend more on Mother's Day than we do Father's Day. I am OK with putting the money on momma, but I believe we need to put some honor on daddy. Mom, we are going to give you the flowers. Dad, today we honor you!

I am not sure why Father's Day seems to be less celebrated, as fathers play a crucial role in providing a stable home environment. Studies show that when a home has a father in it, those in that home have a higher chance of success later in life. So, it's worth honoring our fathers by standing FOR fathers!

<u>Did you know that we have a Heavenly Father?</u> Paul used the term Abba Father in the book of Romans, which back then was a term of endearment used about a father. The modern-day equivalent of this today could 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! Check out all the ways we have for you to give either here or online. Thanks so much for your generosity. Then don't forget to honor your earthly father this Sunday!