

MINISTERING TO THE FATHERLESS AROUND FATHER'S DAY

8 SIMPLE IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS!

A GUIDE TO HELPING
FATHERLESS FAMILIES ON ONE
OF THEIR HARDEST DAYS:



BY

PASTOR SEAN & JACKIE TEIS



LIFE FACTORS FATHERLESS MINISTRIES
IS CELEBRATING 15 YEARS IN 2023!
lifefactors.org

WHO ARE WE?



Sean & Jackie Teis

Founders

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Since 2008 they have been focused on ministering to fatherless families.

Life Factors Ministries

Leading Fatherless Families to the Heavenly Father

🌐 lifefactors.org

Reaching fatherless families through spreading awareness, creating unique resources, speaking, partnering with local churches, and establishing local fatherless ministries!



GodismyDad.com

Website and Mobile App

🌐 GodismyDad.com

A ministry of Life Factors where we help fatherless families find security and worth in God through our resources, including our website and mobile app in the Apple and Google Play Stores.

I USED TO HATE FATHER'S DAY...

Father's Day was just a reminder that I didn't have a dad like most fatherless individuals. Until I was in the sixth grade, I would honor my grandfather on Father's Day because he helped raise me, but he died at the beginning of my sixth-grade year.

At church, they would honor all of the "good" dads, and they should, but that made it even harder.

Hardly anyone recognized my hurt on this day because most people couldn't understand. Then one year, things changed. When I was in junior high, my youth pastor came quickly to me after church as I was trying to exit the church as fast as possible. He knew that I was upset. He had empathy. His mom died when he was a teenager, so he could understand because Mother's Day probably brought similar feelings to him. My youth pastor invited us out for lunch with his family that day. That year my perspective on Father's Day started to change.

EVERY YEAR FATHER'S DAY IS A HARD TIME IN THE US FOR THE AROUND 10 MILLION SINGLE MOMS, THE AROUND 7 MILLION GRANDPARENTS RAISING THEIR GRANDCHILDREN, AND THE WELL OVER 20 MILLION FATHERLESS CHILDREN, TEENS, AND YOUNG ADULTS.

HOW WILL YOU OR YOUR CHURCH ENCOURAGE THEM?

When Father's Day comes around, most fatherless individuals are reminded of how they have nothing to celebrate. The advertisements are everywhere: "Celebrate your dad!", "Buy your dad this or give your dad that!" When you are fatherless, you do not have a dad to celebrate. You do not have a dad to make a meal for or to take out to eat. You do not have a dad to make a card for or to write a card for. You do not have a dad to tell how much you love and are thankful for him. This is hard. There is no way around it.

Father's Day is an annual reminder of rejection and sadness to many people. But your church can encourage the fatherless this Father's Day! Your church can share the love of Christ with the fatherless families in your circle of influence!

We hope this guide gives your church fresh ideas for ministering to the fatherless families around you this coming Father's Day!

-Pastor Sean Teis

8 SIMPLE IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS!

#1

GIVE THEM A NOTE

Let them know that you care and that you are there for them through a card or a text message.

BONUS: Consider adding in a small gift card for coffee, yogurt, or ice cream!

#2

GIVE THEM A GIFT

Give them a gift or a gift bag with items that will help them as a Christian such as: music, a devotional or book, a Bible, a journal, some God is my Dad shirts, wristbands, stickers, etc.

GodismyDad.com: visit our online store for some great books or God is my Dad gear!

#3

SPEND TIME WITH THEM

Have a dinner for the fatherless in your church, at a home, or take them out to eat. Make it special!

EXAMPLE: What we have done in the past is invite them out to an Italian restaurant and order pizza. It is then a nicer atmosphere, but pizza isn't that expensive. We would then give the teens and their moms gift bags filled with special items to encourage them (see #2 above). During the meal we tried not to make them feel awkward, so we would just hang out with them and let them know during the meal that we are there for them and that we care about them. To promote the meal we would personally invite them to it. *Consider making it intimate and not a public event to keep fatherless families from feeling awkward in signing up or coming to it.

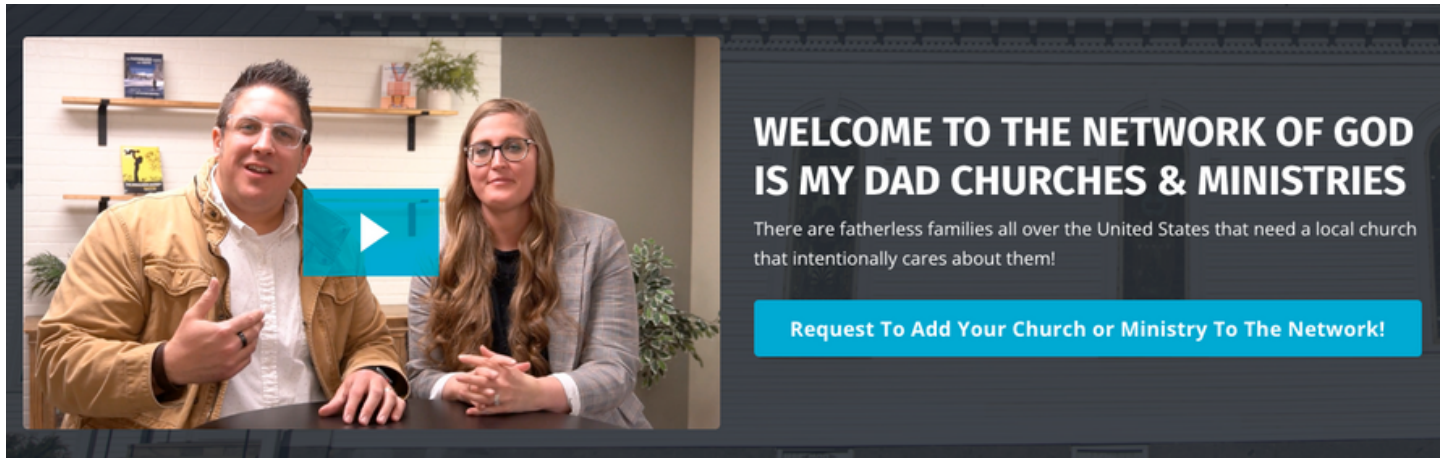
#4

REFER THEM TO GOD IS MY DAD

Tell them about our FREE mobile app and website! We have a ton of awesome content with much more on the way! Get plugged into this resource that will help guide them on their journey on Father's Day and going forward!

GodismyDad.com: Find stories, videos, articles, and devotionals to evangelize & disciple the fatherless! Visit the Apple or Google Play Store to download our mobile app!

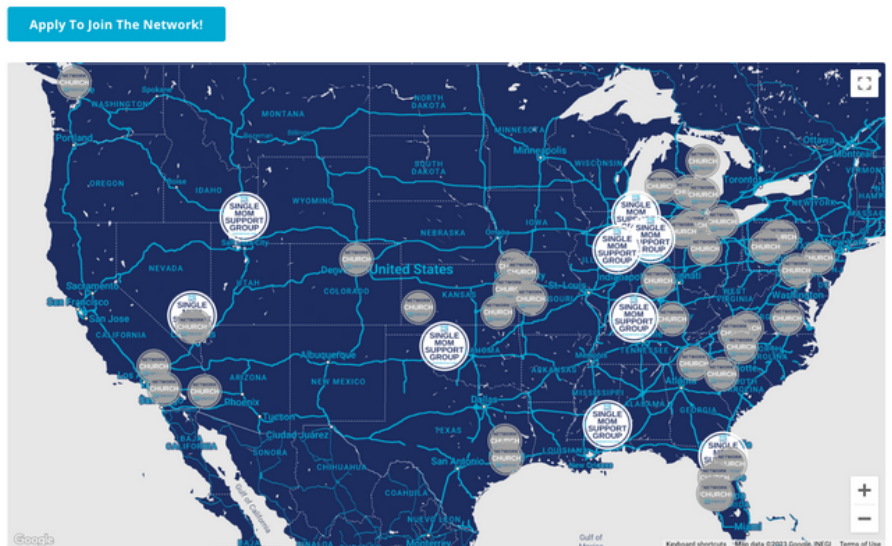
APPLY TO JOIN THE NETWORK OF GOD IS MY DAD CHURCHES & MINISTRIES OR START A SINGLE-MOM SUPPORT GROUP/MINISTRY TODAY!



LOCAL CHURCHES CAN BRING HOPE!

Let's bridge the gap between fatherless families and the Heavenly Father together! Sadly, these families often feel neglected by local churches. By joining the Network of God is my Dad Churches and Ministries, your church or ministry will be put in our "Find a Church" directory for fatherless families all over. We will also provide resources to help in the evangelism and discipleship of these families when they arrive at your church or ministry!

We need at least one church in every County in the United States. Will you be a church for your County? A similar map will be on GodismyDad.com to help fatherless families find churches and ministries in their local area that care about them! It is time for us to let these families know that people around them care deeply about them!



APPLY TODAY TO JOIN THE NETWORK OR START A SINGLE MOM SUPPORT GROUP/MINISTRY

To learn more about joining the God is my Dad Church & Ministries Network or about starting a group, including pricing and viewing a sample video curriculum lesson, visit lifefactors.org today!

#5

BEGIN MENTOR- ING THEM

What a great time to begin mentoring a fatherless individual in your circle of influence, they need you! We have overcomplicated mentoring. It doesn't have to be complicated. Just begin spending time with them in some capacity. You can spend time with them in person or digitally!

- **In Person:** Safely spend time with a fatherless child, teen, or young adult. Take them places with your family. Invite them into your life and be a part of their life by attending their school and significant events such as their awards, recitals, sports games, etc. Make sure to never be alone with them for their safety and for yours. There are many ways you can make this happen! If you are striving to live for God let them see you as an example in your everyday life. Don't make everything about them being fatherless, but do have hard conversations with them about their dad and about their life. Treat them like you would a friend, a son or daughter, or a brother or sister. This in person relationship is often very beneficial to the fatherless, but also for you as well.
- **Digitally:** Before Covid-19 we were already headed toward a digital age, but the pandemic seems to have fast-tracked it! If you can't mentor in person at all or all of the time consider spending time regularly with a fatherless individual through a digital platform such as Zoom, Facetime or Facebook Messenger. There are creative ways you can "hangout" digitally playing games, doing a Bible study, etc. Be creative and make it happen! Going digital may be a safer option these days anyways!

DON'T WAIT: During this Father's Day pray about how you will begin, make a plan, and share your intentions with the fatherless individuals and/or their parents if they are a minor.

#6

HELP THEIR MOMS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS

Ask them if there are any needs they have and try to help fulfill one or a few of them!

POSSIBLE WAYS TO HELP: The BEST WAY is to start a single mom support group! Some other ideas include yard work, car maintenance or repairs, groceries, tutoring their children, a meal for their family on Father's Day, occasional childcare, home repairs, etc. Learn more about starting a single mom support group: <https://www.lifefactors.org/start-a-single-mom-support-group>

#7

MAKE NOTES A HABIT

Begin regularly encouraging these families through text messages, notes, etc. Letting them know weekly, monthly, or quarterly that you and your church are praying for them and that you care for them. Try to remember important dates such as birthdays, deaths (if their dad passed away), etc. Be creative and do what you are able, but just do something for the fatherless!

#8

BE CLEVER

This list is not all inclusive. Be creative! There are many other things that you could do! Do what you are able, but make sure to do something for the fatherless families in your church and community this Father's Day!



NEXT STEPS



Thank you!

We don't want anything to keep your church or ministry from becoming more fatherless family ministry focused! Please contact us ASAP with any questions!



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