

To the Jesus MeetUp Leader:

We suggest that you schedule a Father's Day Celebration at an alternative time of the week. If this is unavailable for you we will offer ideas down below.

84:3.6 The herdsman looked to his flocks for sustenance, ... In many backward tribes today, the men cook the meat, the women the vegetables, and when the primitive tribes of Australia are on the march, the women never attack game, while a man would not stoop to dig a root.

As we can see in this passage our ancient forefathers liked to cook meat. As we see today many men enjoy a good bar-b-que [BBQ] or grilling outside. May we pick up on this proclivity and celebrate our fathers with a party/food event that they can contribute to. Create a small group of Father's Day hosts who will accept the task of creating a fantastic Dad's Day BBQ. Allow this team the fun of developing their own ideas for what will work best. Ask them to include some fun father/child games for that valued 'shared experience' that we know men love so much. Only step in with your corrective ideas to the hosting group if something they plan simply will not be best. Otherwise, let them do it and then give public HIGH PRAISE. Watch what happens when they see you give over leadership to them with not only sanction, but encouragement and appreciation. FUN! [Be sure, as the leader, that you only allow things that will produce a successful event. The last thing you want is a failed gathering where your new leader hosting group will feel failure and defeat. If this happens they will usually never try again. It is a delicate dance between allowance and micro-managing, which most people do not enjoy. Ask your Jesus' Spirit for guidance.]

After the games and before the meal draw your group together for a sit-down talk. Consider this idea for how to lead a **Father's Day Appreciation** time.

Leader: [in your own words...and speak very slowly (!) as this may become quite tenderly emotional.] We have gathered today to praise our fathers as one big loving group. Fathers, you are an irreplaceable group of men with power from on high to affect great truth, beauty and goodness within your own families. You fathers provide leadership for your families. You employ logic yet you choose to lovingly listen when a family member has an issue and needs help. You are the gentle, yet big arms that embrace a mother when she feels undone and spent. You become her hero. You take the time to minister love, patience and kindness when a child struggles. You apply logic when emotions may run high. In this, you become that strong tower of strength so needed when the answers seem vague and distant. You are the bedrock of your family. You lead. You guide. You coach. And most important of all --- you SERVE. You are invaluable, irreplaceable and you have a one-and-only unique position on the planet as a father to our next generation. Thank you for being the amazing fathers that you are.

Leader: Question to all of you fathers. Let us see how many children you all have. [Begin by asking all to stand when their number of children has been stated. As you begin with "Who has one child?" all fathers will stand. As you raise the number fathers begin to sit down leaving you in the end with the father with the most children. In America everyone would laugh if a bouquet of bacon is then brought out and handed to this father as a 'trophy'. This is cultural for Americans but you, in other countries, can have this similar fun with your men.]

Leader: “All fathers please stand again. [they stand] All children stand and take the hand of your father as we pray. Let us all reach out in our minds to our great Paradise Father and Jesus, His Son.” [Continue to pray your own prayer of dedication for our fathers who provide so much for all of us. List as many things out as you can think of].

Leader: “Children – look into the eyes of your father and repeat after me. Fathers, please respond after me.”

Children: “Thank you, father, for bringing my life into being. [pause] Without you I would not be here.”

Father: “I love you.”

Children: “Thank you, father, for helping me to grow.”

Father: “I am proud of you.”

Children: “Thank you father, for allowing me to fail sometimes and then try again.”

Father: “I believe in you.”

Leader: “And thank you, our Great Paradise Father for bringing us all into this gift of our human life. We know full well that you love us. Hear our hearts full with appreciation that you constantly help us to spiritually grow. We feel deep in our souls your amazing love for us. And Father, thank you for allowing us to fail sometimes as we then stand up to try again. As you believe in us we step out to try and be better like you, even to become perfect as you are perfect, over time.”

All say together: “Paradise Father – thank you.”

Now would be a good time to sing a favored Lovesong to our one true God.

[If you have musicians or taped music be sure to have previously planned for this part of the meeting. Sing more songs if your group enjoys this. Consider having one person give a solo, or read a poem or give a testimony. This could be pre-planned by your hosting group as well.]

Continue the party until all go home. Hopefully, your hosting group has organized a clean-up crew to help make light hands for all who work.

Added note: If a separate meeting time is not available for your Jesus MeetUp then here is an alternative idea. Do the BBQ/food part before your regular meeting at an earlier start time. Add the **Father’s Day Appreciation** time at the end of your meeting. If no one has children then skip that part. However, you might keep in the part where fathers are recognized for how many children they have.

Here are some **Ideas for Father/Son** shared experience time. These can be done at any time the dads/children want to do them.

## **10 Engaging Father Son Activities To Build A Closer Bond**

### **1. Spend A Day Fishing**

### **2. Build A Pinewood Derby Car and drive it together**

### **3. Go On A Weekend Camping Trip**

### **4. Get a haircut together**

**5. Cook Together**

**6. Go To A Sporting Event or create one in your neighborhood**

**7. Gardening together**

**8. Build A Model Rocket and maybe send it up**

**9. Play Video Or Board Games**

**10. Play Catch**

## **Conclusion**

These are only 10 father son activities that will encourage more love and bonding and a closer relationship between father and son. There are countless father son activities that will encourage this and build trust in these relationships. The limit is only your imagination. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to bonding; the important thing is to enjoy each other's company in whichever activity you undertake.

For any questions please feel free to reach out to us at [www.goddiscovered.net](http://www.goddiscovered.net). We are happy to serve you.