

FAITH • FATHERHOOD • FORGIVENESS

# THE HARVEST REPORT

OUR FIRST FIVE YEARS

# 2007-2011



LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER  
**JOHN SMITHBAKER**

**D**addy, *Don't Go!* It is the deep, soul-pleading cry of more than 25 million fatherless children in America. They are alone, scared, and confused. Sadly, our culture responds with a deaf ear or, worse yet, by telling them, “You don’t need a dad. You’ll get over it.” That’s a lie! I know, because I was one of those kids.

My father abandoned his family when my mom was pregnant with me and my sister was three years old. I have felt that loss my entire life—the pain manifesting itself in a relentless, self-destructive pursuit of perfection. I figured if I worked harder and was more accomplished, then my dad would pay attention to me and love me. Countless abandoned boys have followed a similar path. Millions of others have dealt with their pain by acting out through substance abuse, depression, rebellion, and lawlessness. Both paths typically lead to the same place—another generation of broken families and the continued cycle of abandonment. Souls, hearts, dreams, memories, hopes, lives, and families are critically broken and falling apart because fathers are leaving their homes and abandoning the God-ordained role as Pastor, Provider, and Protector of the family.

*Why doesn't my dad love me? What did I do wrong? Why did he throw me out like garbage?* Tormenting, unanswered questions fester deep within a fatherless boy’s heart, ultimately leading to a bitter pledge: “I will never, ever forgive him!” I remember making that pledge over and





*"Turning the hearts of fathers to their children and children to their fathers" (Malachi 4:5,6)*

over again. Then, when I was 40, while I was traveling down a dark road late one night, my Heavenly Father reached into my heart with His love and forgiveness, and rescued me from a lifetime of pain. He showed me that He is my Father who has always loved me... that I do have value...that I was made for a purpose. That night, I entered into a personal relationship with my Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, and I forgave my earthly dad. I felt like my soul could finally breathe. My abandonment wound could finally begin to heal.

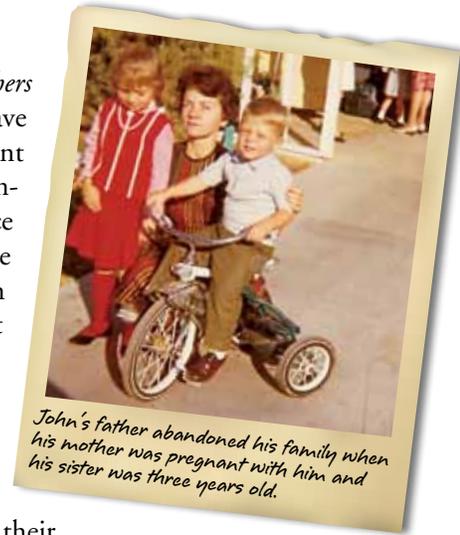
**Once abandoned... always loved.** This is the truth that I have learned through my life's journey. And I am convinced that God, in His sovereign plan, allowed me to experience this truth so that I could share it with hurting boys and help end the devastating cycle of father abandonment in our country. My intimate knowledge of the abandonment wound and the healing that comes only through God's forgiveness was instrumental in the design and launch of *Fathers in the Field*.

**> Fathers in the Field is a local church ministry built on three strong pillars: Fatherhood, Faith, and Forgiveness.**

Combining these mission pillars with blood-pumping outdoor adventure, *Fathers in the Field* equips and empowers avid outdoorsmen in Christian congregations to reach out to fatherless boys in their communities and introduce them to their Father in Heaven who will never leave or forsake them. By God's grace, these boys can finally experience the life-changing freedom of forgiveness—even forgiveness of the dads who abandoned them.

Since the launch of *Fathers in the Field* in 2005, we have been privileged to plant countless seeds. As we continue to sow, we also rejoice in the first fruits of the labor. As you journey with us through this Harvest Report, see first hand how God is at work in the hearts of fatherless boys across the United States.; in the lives of Christian men mentoring boys through their passion for the Lord and His Great Outdoors; in local congregations that are responding to the cries of the fatherless in their own communities; and in faithful financial supporters and prayer partners using their blessings to bless others and change lives.

Words cannot express my gratitude to the many who have helped, encouraged, supported, prayed, and led by example in expressing Jesus' love through this ministry. May God continue to encourage us all as we seek an eternal harvest that will glorify our Lord and Savior.

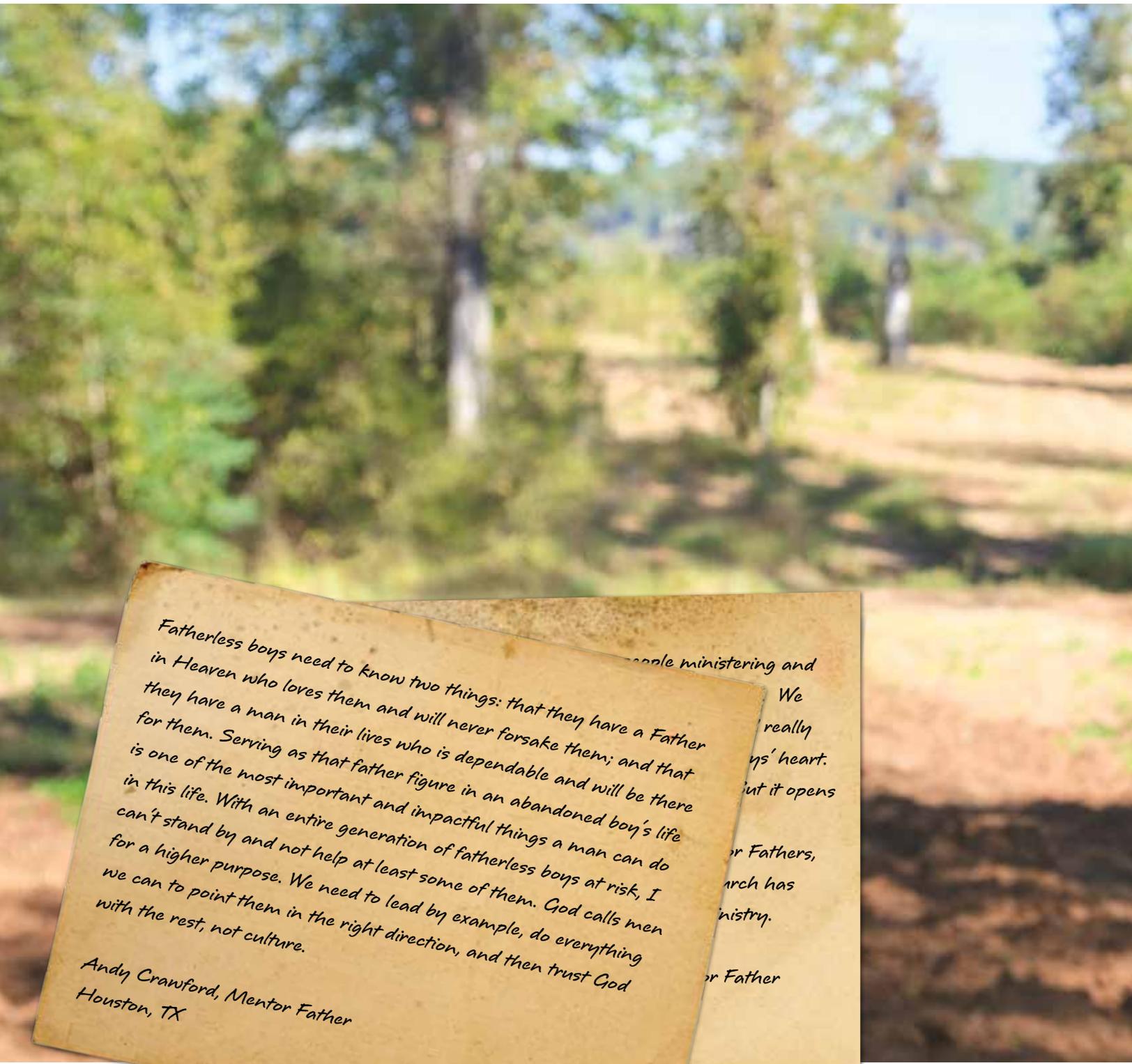
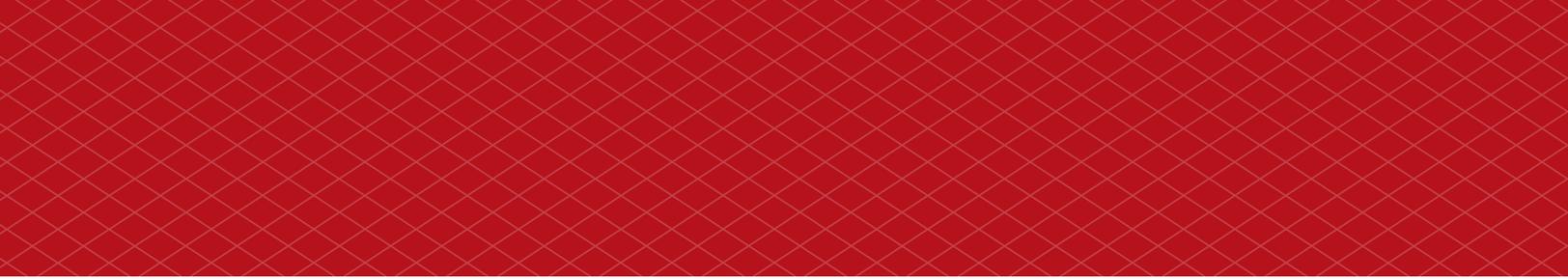


*John's father abandoned his family when his mother was pregnant with him and his sister was three years old.*

In His Service,

John Smithbaker, Founding Servant

FATHERHOOD	4	FAITH	12	FORGIVENESS	26	FitF Making Headlines	34
Pillar Message	7	Pillar Message	15	Pillar Message	29	Board Members/Staff	36
First Mom	8	Ezra & Bill	17	Curriculum	30	Harvest Snapshots	37
Keith & Taylor	9	Q&A: Chuck Cleavenger	19	Scott & Masen	31	Letter from Co-founder	38
Q&A: Ricky Leach	11	Ways to Give	20	Importance of Service	32		
		Our Donors	23	Q&A: Maudie	33		
		Harvest Map	24				



... people ministering and  
We  
really  
... boys' heart.  
... but it opens  
... or Fathers,  
... arch has  
... inistry.  
... or Father

Fatherless boys need to know two things: that they have a Father  
in Heaven who loves them and will never forsake them; and that  
they have a man in their lives who is dependable and will be there  
for them. Serving as that father figure in an abandoned boy's life  
is one of the most important and impactful things a man can do  
in this life. With an entire generation of fatherless boys at risk, I  
can't stand by and not help at least some of them. God calls men  
for a higher purpose. We need to lead by example, do everything  
we can to point them in the right direction, and then trust God  
with the rest, not culture.

Andy Crawford, Mentor Father  
Houston, TX

# FATHERHOOD

DEFEND THE CAUSE OF THE  
**FATHERLESS...**  
ISAIAH 1:17



*"Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow" (Isaiah 1:17)*



*From their Mentor Fathers, Field Buddies learn what it looks like to be a godly man and good father.*



## LISTENING TO THE HEARTBEAT OF GOD

### NEARLY 24 MILLION CHILDREN LIVE ABSENT FROM THEIR BIOLOGICAL FATHERS

CHILDREN FROM FATHERLESS HOMES ARE:

- At greater risk of hurting others...
  - 72% of adolescent murders are committed by fatherless children
  - 67% of state prison inmates come from fatherless homes
  - 70% of juveniles in reform institutions are fatherless
- At greater risk of hurting themselves...
  - 30% more likely to abuse drugs and/or alcohol
  - Twice as likely to drop out of school
  - Dramatically more likely to commit suicide
  - More likely to engage in early sexual activity

# FATHERHOOD

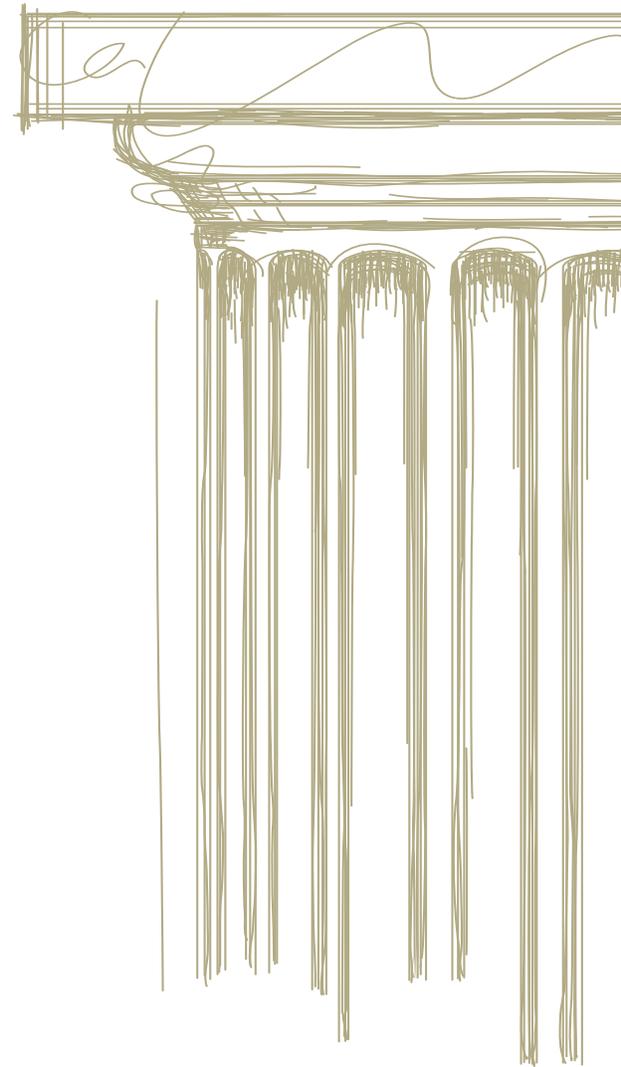
## A FOUNDATIONAL PILLAR OF FATHERS IN THE FIELD

**W**hat chance does an abandoned boy have in becoming a good father when the man who is supposed to model fatherhood for him deserts him? God gave us the family unit to serve as a fortress in a fallen world. A father's job is to man the fortress and protect and pastor his children. He is called to provide not only for his children's physical needs but also to meet their spiritual needs to know and fear the Lord. When a dad abandons that fortress, he leaves his family wide open for enemy attack that can create chaos for generations to come.

Fatherly abandonment is generational. Abandoned boys are at high risk of becoming fathers who desert their own children. Simply put, it's all that they know. This cycle is perpetuated unless someone intervenes and trains a young boy how to be a responsible father and man of integrity. Certainly there have been countless mothers of abandoned boys who have done a stellar job in raising their boys. However, there is no replacement for a father in a boy's development.

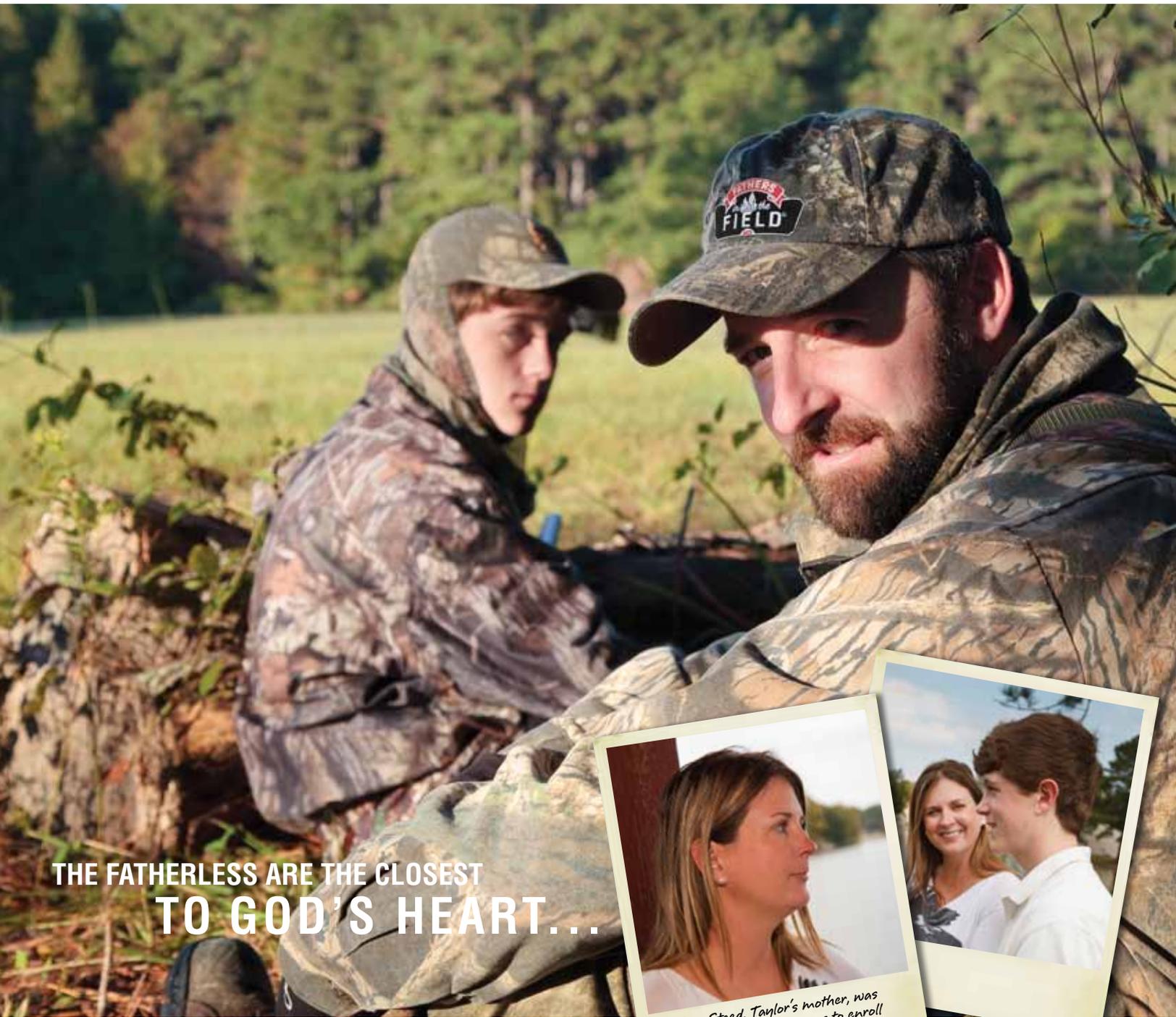
A foundational pillar of *Fathers in the Field* is FATHERHOOD. Mentor Fathers come alongside fatherless boys to bridge the gap between dysfunction and healthy fatherhood. From their Mentor Fathers, Field Buddies learn what it looks like to be godly men and good fathers. They also learn that they have a Heavenly Father who loves them and will never leave or forsake them...no matter how tough things get! This is the life-saving truth that rescues a boy from the abandonment wound and end the cycle of abandonment in his family, saving generations to come.

This is why *Fathers in the Field* exists—to give abandoned boys the hope and healing that they so desperately need, to end the cycle of abandonment that is destroying our families, and to restore true fatherhood in America.



fathersinthefield.com > 307-332-0901





## THE FATHERLESS ARE THE CLOSEST TO GOD'S HEART...



*Daphne Steed, Taylor's mother, was one of the first single moms to enroll her son in Fathers in the Field.*

### THE FIRST MOM

Daphne Steed, Taylor's mother, was one of the first single moms to enroll her boy in *Fathers in the Field*. She did so after realizing that she could not heal her son's wound of abandonment. "I tried to make it up to Taylor. But, the Lord finally let me see that's not something I can do. A mother is a mother. She can't be a father. I can't make it up to Taylor. But God can. He can heal and restore Taylor's heart. I believe He is doing that through Keith

Polk, who loves Taylor like his own son. Keith is teaching Taylor how to be a godly man, walking beside him and showing him that there are loving dads. Taylor is seeing how God can restore your life and your family. It has made all the difference in the world in my son's life. Taylor's biological dad was abandoned by his own father and he repeated the cycle. I think the cycle of abandonment will end with Taylor, whose fatherly model is now Keith."

~ Daphne Steed > Brandon, MS

# FATHERHOOD

## KEITH & TAYLOR BRANDON, MISSISSIPPI

**K** eith Polk, one of the first Fathers in the Field Mentor Fathers, recalls the moment when he knew he had made a heart connection with his Field Buddy, Taylor. “We were coming home from turkey hunting. I dropped him off and he turned and waved at me when he walked into the house. I was likely to explode with excitement!

Little things like that are important,” exclaims Keith, who, having mentored Taylor for numerous years, has learned to rejoice in the small victories of life with a fatherless boy.

“Taylor’s mom, Daphne, tells me that he used to be full of joy and laughter,” Keith says. “They would play catch together and have a great time. But as he got older, he started throwing the ball so hard that she couldn’t catch it anymore. The reality of his loss set in as he saw his friends out throwing the ball with their dads, while his dad was nowhere in sight. I think it was embarrassing and caused him to draw into a shell.”

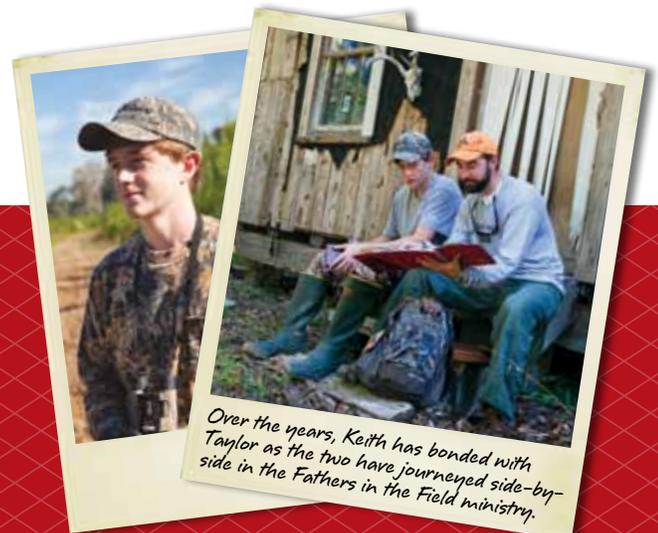
➤ **It’s worth it because it’s what God called me to do. And I get to see Taylor grow.**

Over the years, Keith has bonded with Taylor as the two have journeyed side by side through the *Fathers in the Field* curriculum, God’s Word, and outdoor adventures like hunting and fishing. “I would love to say that now he’s open with me about everything. But that’s just not the case,” Keith admits. “But we definitely have grown closer. The curriculum has been a really good platform for us to jump into conversations about God and being a godly man. And when we’re out hunting and fishing, you just never know what you might get from Taylor,” laughs Keith.

On one particular turkey hunt, Keith addressed the issue of baptism with Taylor. “It was raining, so we got into a shed and started talking. I knew he had trusted in Jesus Christ as his Savior (before he met Keith), but his mom had shared with me that he struggled with baptism. As shy and withdrawn as he is, I am sure his issue was publicly professing his faith in front of all those people,” Keith says. “We were sitting there and I just kind of round about brought it up. There wasn’t a lot of discussion, but apparently it was enough for him to chew on. Several months later, Taylor was baptized.”

Several years down the road and Keith sees another major stumbling block for Taylor—forgiveness of his dad. “I still see a lack of genuine joy in his life, and I don’t think that will come until he forgives his dad for abandoning him,” says Keith who has discussed it with Taylor. “I don’t know how it will happen, but I believe it will one day. For now, I wait on the Lord, knowing the seed has been planted.”

For Keith and Taylor the *Fathers in the Field* journey has been one marked by patience, hard-earned trust, and small victories. The wound of abandonment runs deep and mentoring a boy who bears it can be challenging. But as Keith concludes, the reward is far greater. “It’s worth it because it’s what God called me to do. And I get to see Taylor grow. One day, I believe I will see more than a wave when he turns around and walks away. But whether I do or not, I am obedient to the Lord. And, I have grown to love Taylor like a son. I mentor him now because I love him. I want to see him grow like I want to see my own son grow.”



Over the years, Keith has bonded with Taylor as the two have journeyed side-by-side in the *Fathers in the Field* ministry.



**YOU ARE NOT A MISTAKE.**  
**GOD CREATED YOU INTENTIONALLY AND FOR A GLORIOUS PURPOSE.**

### **JOURNEY GUIDE Y1**

The Lord's Prayer introduces fatherless boys to their Heavenly Father who loves them so much. It teaches them that they have been made for a wonderful purpose and that their full potential is realized through forgiveness of their earthly father.



# FATHERHOOD

## Q&A WITH RICKY LEACH MENTOR FATHER CASPER, WY

On March 10, 2011, Ricky Leach stood alongside his 11-year-old grandson, Caden, for one of the most important events of their lives—Christian baptism. For Ricky, it was a moment that brought healing to a long-gone childhood marked by father abandonment. For Caden, it was a moment that will hopefully bring healing to the remaining years of childhood that are threatened by father abandonment. Grandfather and grandson—both marked by the wound of fatherlessness, but both now claimed by the blood of Christ. Ricky Leach has since become a *Fathers in the Field* Mentor Father and talks about the power of the ministry.

### How did you become a *Fathers in the Field* Mentor Father?

I got to see the power of *Fathers in the Field* through my grandson, Caden. His father has not been a consistent presence in his life and it definitely has impacted him. He carries a wound of abandonment, which I recognize because my own dad left me when I was a boy and it messed me up for most of my life. In 2010, Caden's Mentor Father, Jerry, began working with him, and I was impressed. I was really glad to see the positive influence Jerry was having in Caden's life. I decided I could do the same thing in another boy's life. So I signed up through my church to be a *Fathers in the Field* Mentor Father.

### Tell us about your Field Buddy.

His name is JJ and he has had a pretty tough childhood. His mom is in prison and his dad isn't in the picture. He



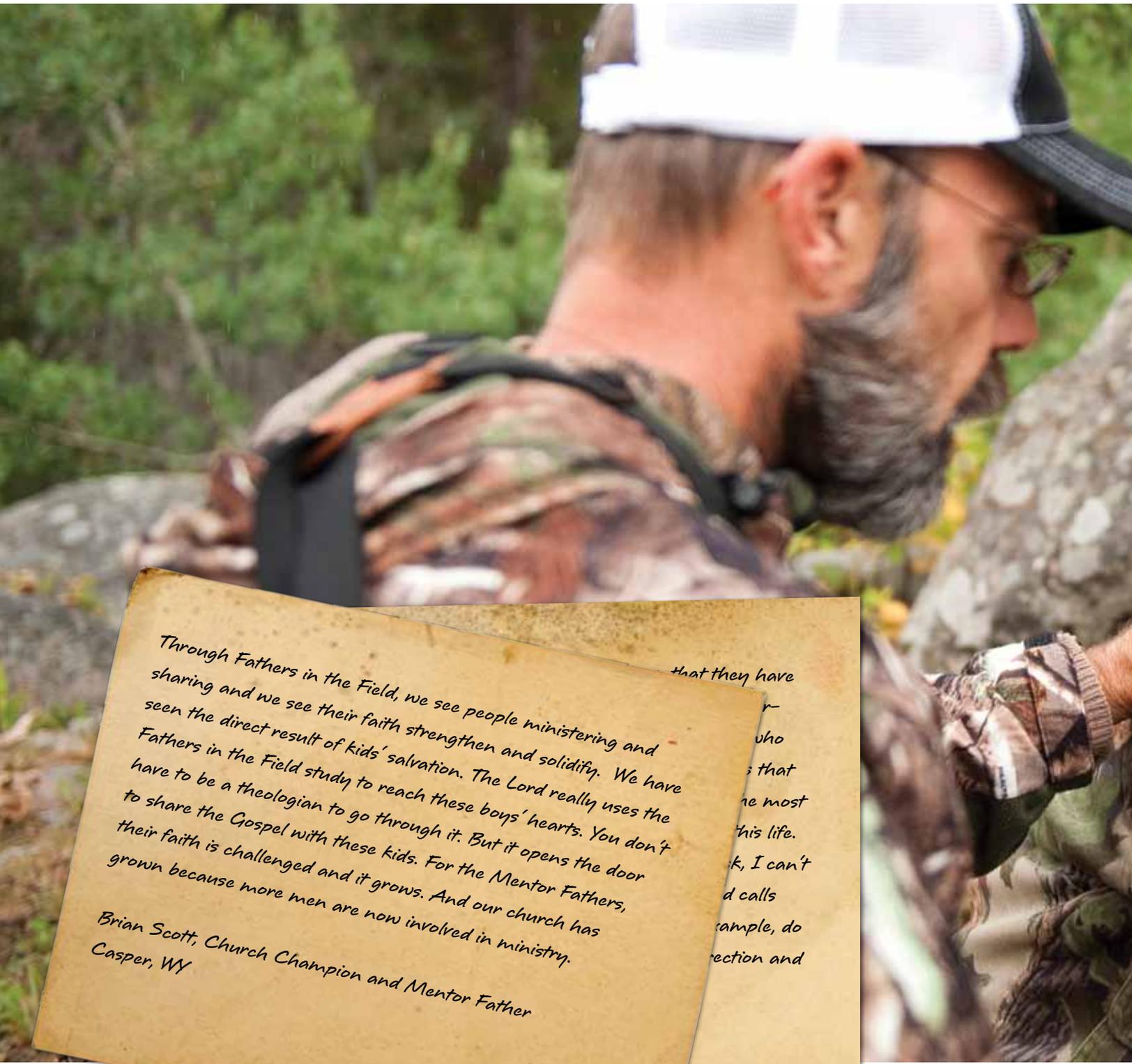
has never had a positive male influence in his life, and it shows. To be honest, I feel like I am WAY out of my element (or what used to be my element) as his Mentor Father, but we're having a great time. I never was much of a husband or a father for the first 20 years of my family. I am ashamed of that. But I know God can redeem it. With JJ, I may not be able to tell him all the right roads to take, but I can tell him the wrong roads. It's exciting to me to have the opportunity to help spare decades of pain for these boys.

### JJ and your grandson, Caden, both struggle with father abandonment. What is your hope for them?

I hope that they grow into good Christian men and decent fathers and husbands one day. I was about their age when I started getting out of control. So, I feel a sense of urgency for them now. I can recognize the abandonment wound in both of them. Both are reserved and cut off at times. You can just tell that they need a father in their lives. I hope that we, as Mentor Fathers, can be that difference in their lives. And, I hope that by realizing that they have a Father in Heaven who loves them, they will be able to grow up and make different choices than I did.



fathersinthefield.com > 307-332-0901



Through Fathers in the Field, we see people ministering and sharing and we see their faith strengthen and solidify. We have seen the direct result of kids' salvation. The Lord really uses the Fathers in the Field study to reach these boys' hearts. You don't have to be a theologian to go through it. But it opens the door to share the Gospel with these kids. For the Mentor Fathers, their faith is challenged and it grows. And our church has grown because more men are now involved in ministry.

Brian Scott, Church Champion and Mentor Father  
Casper, WY

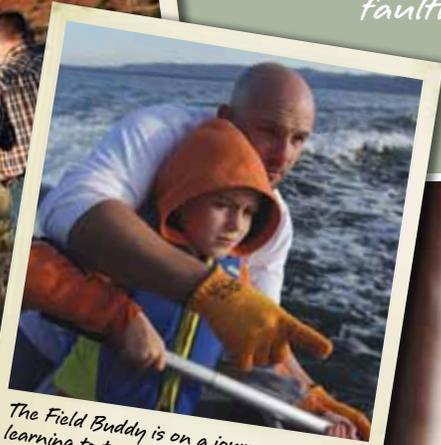
that they have  
r  
who  
s that  
ne most  
this life.  
k, I can't  
d calls  
ample, do  
ection and

# FAITH

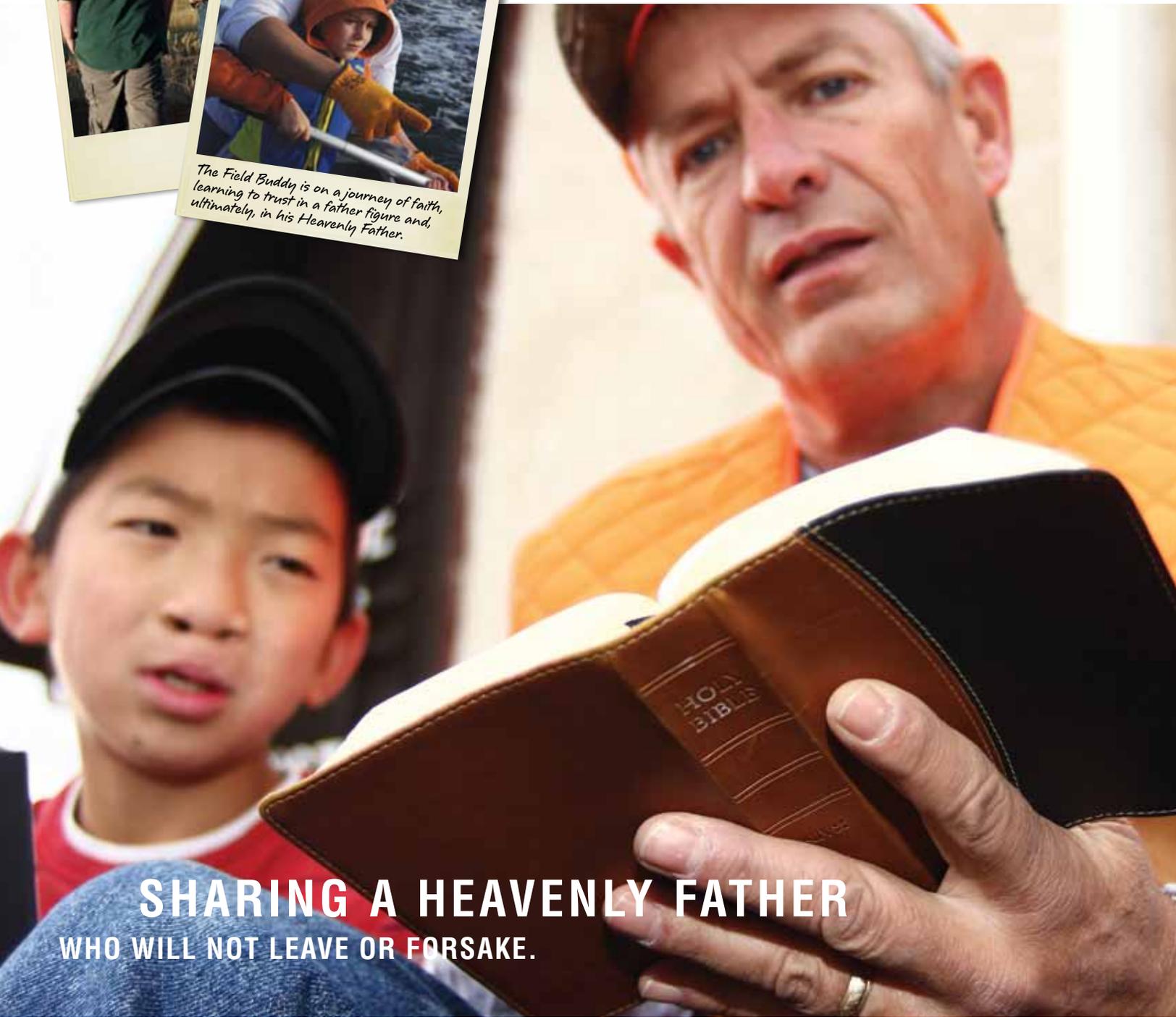
DEFEND THE CAUSE OF THE  
**FATHERLESS...**  
ISAIAH 1:17



*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after fatherless and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world... (James 1:27)*



*The Field Buddy is on a journey of faith, learning to trust in a father figure and, ultimately, in his Heavenly Father.*



**SHARING A HEAVENLY FATHER**  
WHO WILL NOT LEAVE OR FORSAKE.

# FAITH

## A FOUNDATIONAL PILLAR OF FATHERS IN THE FIELD

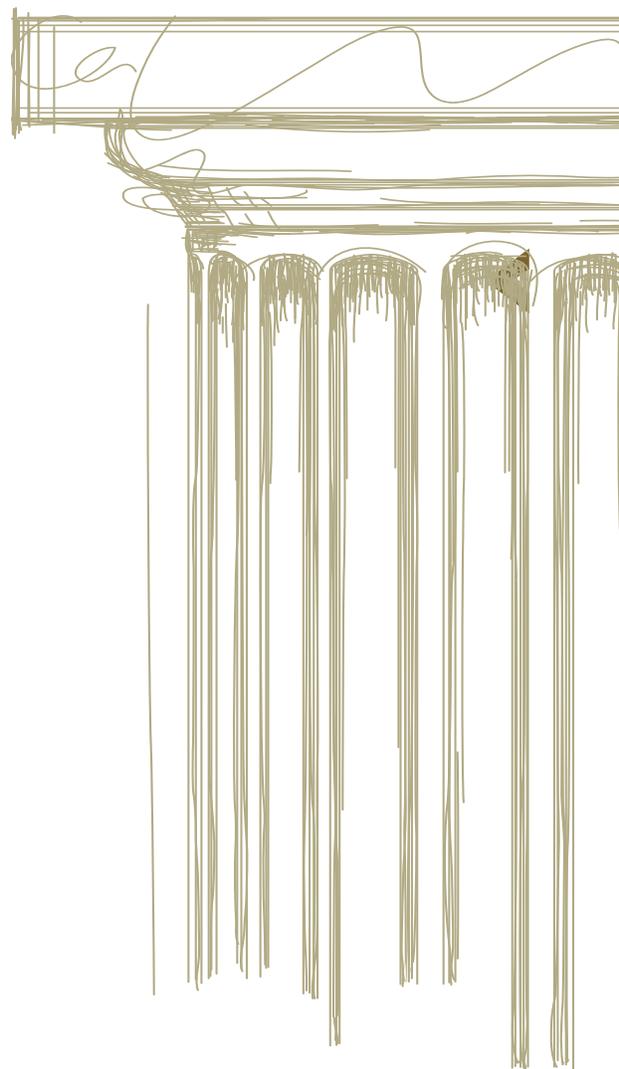
**T**he sense of abandonment strikes at the very core of the young boy's faith-center. So often he has been disappointed, lied to, or, worse, abused by his earthly dad. The result—a wound of abandonment deep within his heart that erodes his self-worth and disables him from trusting others in his life. If he has difficulty in trusting those he can see, how much more challenging is it for him to put his faith and trust in someone unseen, namely, God?

A foundational pillar of *Fathers in the Field* is FAITH in the Creator of the universe, who can reach inside a fatherless boy's heart and bring hope and healing from the decay of abandonment.

The Mentor Father is acting on his faith by standing in the gap in the life of an abandoned boy who desperately needs the love and guidance of a father. The Mentor Father has the privilege of restoring his Field Buddy's faith in men. He also has the opportunity to introduce his Field Buddy to his Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, who have promised to never abandon him.

The Field Buddy is on a journey of faith, learning to trust in a father figure and, ultimately, in his Heavenly Father. It is a difficult journey, but when a boy realizes that he has the unconditional love and forgiveness of his Heavenly Father, forgiveness of his earthly father and freedom from the relentless torment of abandonment is finally possible.

The donor is responding in faith by investing in *Fathers in the Field*. God gave the most valuable treasure He had—His very own Son—to pay the price for our sin and restore us to eternal fellowship with Him. Donors recognize what an incredible gift that is and respond by putting their own treasured resources toward the effort to defend the fatherless.



fathersinthefield.com > 307-332-0901





**YOU ARE NOT A MISTAKE.**  
GOD CREATED YOU INTENTIONALLY AND FOR A GLORIOUS PURPOSE.

### **JOURNEY GUIDE Y2**

The Ten Commandments. God lovingly shares with His children the path of joyful obedience. The Field Buddy's inability to perfectly keep these commandments points them to their need for a Savior.



## BILL & EZRA ASTORIA, OREGON

It was a glorious fall day off of the coast of Oregon—a bright blue sky, crisp autumn air salted with the ocean spray, and the excited sounds of young boys netting their first-ever catch of Dungeness crabs. “The boys loved it!” exclaims Bill Roady, who, along with three other Mentor Fathers, took their Field Buddies on a Saturday-morning adventure that yielded far more than that night’s dinner.

➤ **“This is about building relationships and trust,” says Bill, who distinctly remembers the day he met 8-year-old Ezra in early 2011.**

“It turns out that Ezra had been asking his mom if he was ever going to have a daddy, since he had never met his dad (Ezra was abandoned by his father at birth). His mom, Monica, responded in faith by telling him that God would put a godly man in his life if they started praying about it,” Bill says. Monica shared their prayer with friends who were involved with the *Fathers in the Field* ministry at Lighthouse Christian Church in Warrenton, Ore. They immediately thought of Bill, who, along with his wife, Shirley, was childless.

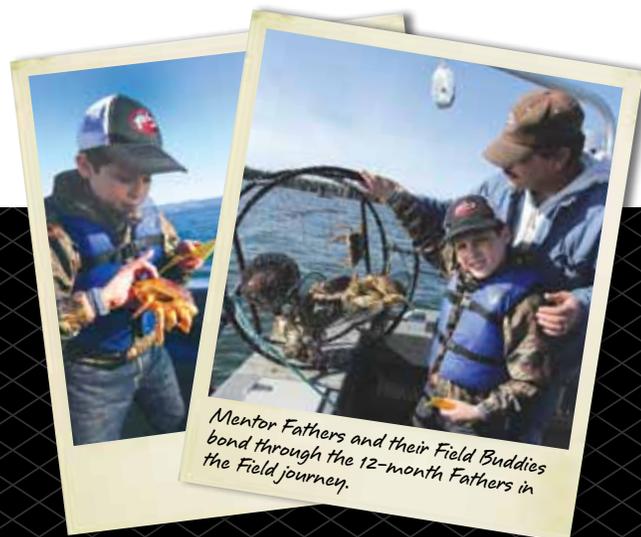
The next week, Monica and Ezra attended Lighthouse Christian Church and someone pointed Bill out to Ezra. “He came right up to me, looked straight up at me, and said, ‘Are you going to teach me how to shoot a rifle?’” Bill laughs. “My heart just melted.”

Ezra instantly took to Bill, eagerly anticipating each of their get-togethers and rarely leaving Bill’s side on their outings. “He won’t play with the other kids because he is so paranoid of being left. He’s getting better as he begins to trust me. But he really does have a fear that I’m going to take off,” Bill says, who knows that in the early part of their relationship the primary goal is to earn Ezra’s trust. As he does so, Bill is hopeful that he will be able to help Ezra heal his wound of abandonment.

“I have asked him how he feels about his dad,” Bill says. Ezra’s reply: “Oh yeah, I’ve forgiven him. It’s his loss, not mine.” But Bill is certain that the boy is only masking his true pain. “To have real healing, you can’t bury your feelings,” Bill says. “You have to expose them and ask Jesus to help heal them. You have to recognize that you are wounded and then ask Jesus to heal that wound. I am confident that Ezra has a lot of healing to do.”

Through spending time together, building a trusting relationship, and studying God’s Word about forgiveness, Bill prays that one day Ezra will truly forgive his dad and experience freedom from his abandonment wound. In the meantime, the two are enjoying the blessing of a relationship that neither has ever had. “Ezra’s fatherless but I’m childless. It’s as much of a blessing for me as it is for him,” Bill says. “Through *Fathers in the Field*, I have had the opportunity to share my skills and knowledge that I wouldn’t otherwise have the opportunity to pass along to a son.”

On their crabbing expedition, Bill remarked to Ezra, “I think it really stinks that your dad left you.” Ezra’s response: “Yeah, but God blessed me by putting you in my life.”



Mentor Fathers and their Field Buddies bond through the 12-month *Fathers in the Field* journey.



*Please do not hesitate to give generously to Fathers in the Field. A whole generation of fatherless boys and the millions they can impact positively are depending on us.*

*Chuck Cleavenger*

## Q&A WITH LYLE "CHUCK" CLEAVENGER, DONOR

The Bible tells us that God loves a cheerful giver. We at *Fathers in the Field* do, too! And no one reflects that attitude more delightfully than Lyle "Chuck" Cleavenger, one of the ministry's first donors. In fact, God seemed to put Chuck in our ministry path long before *Fathers in the Field* was ever created. Some 30 years ago, Chuck began mentoring a young Scott MacNaughton, teaching him about the great outdoors and serving as a fatherly role model to Scott. Chuck's influence set Scott on the path that would ultimately lead to the start of *Fathers in the Field*, which Scott co-founded with John Smithbaker in 2005. Today, Chuck is not only a dear friend but also a treasured donor to the ministry. He and his wife, Frances, are the first donors to include *Fathers in the Field* in their estate plan.

### Why did you and your wife decide to include *Fathers in the Field* in your estate plan?

We have been so blessed by God's faithfulness to us and His provision for our lives way beyond our needs. When we heard about *Fathers in the Field*, we knew immediately that that is where we wanted to place God's resources that He lent to us. The ministry's mission to lead fatherless boys into a personal relationship with the Heavenly Father through His Son, Jesus Christ, is very exciting to us. Also, Frances and I have enjoyed the outdoors all our lives, and we were so enthusiastic about *Fathers in the Field's* secondary goal of introducing fatherless boys to God's Great Outdoors. It is an opportunity they might

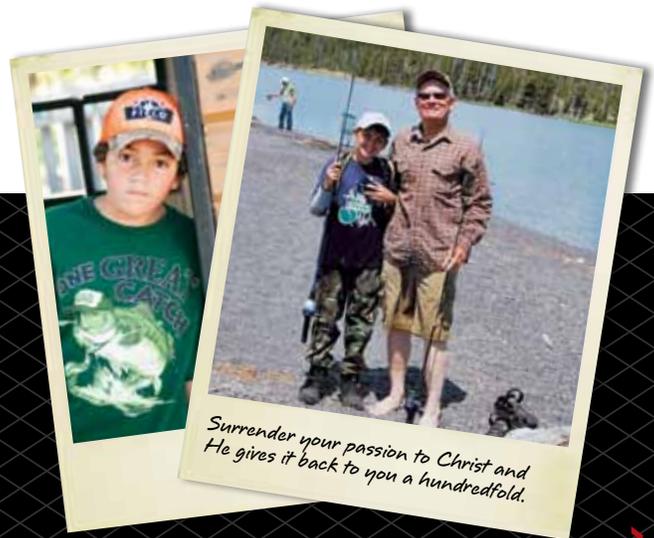
not have had without this ministry. It is such a worthy ministry, and we wanted to help ensure that it becomes stronger and more effective in reaching troubled kids.

### So many fathers have left a legacy of abandonment to their children. How do you believe that one person can alter the legacy of abandonment in America?

In my 84 years of life, I have seen how a little positive influence from a caring adult can help steer a troubled young person in the right direction. That's what a mentor father can do in a fatherless boy's life. Through his trusting relationship with an abandoned boy, a Mentor Father can be the catalyst that changes not only that boy's life and eternal destiny but also the destiny of generations to come. A Mentor Father can help an abandoned boy grow into a loving Christian husband, father, grandfather, and positive role model in our society. With the love of a Mentor Father, that one boy could grow up to change our whole nation for the better.

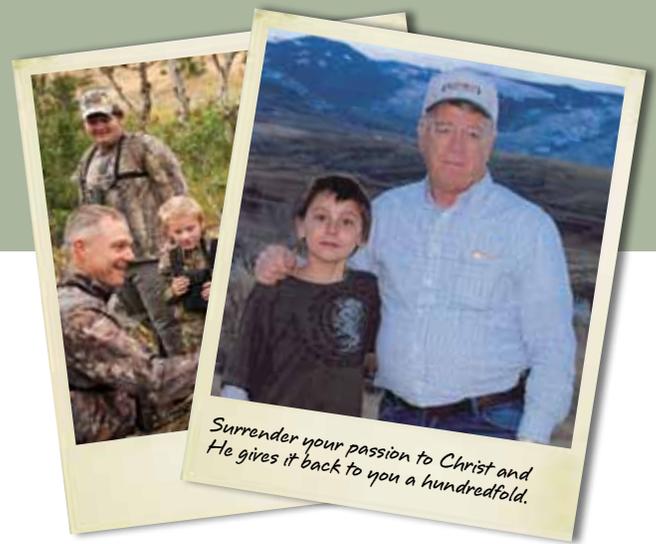
### What do you want to say to others who are considering making a similar gift to the ministry?

I completely trust the founders of *Fathers in the Field* and am so impressed with the thoughtfulness and care that they have used in developing this ministry. They believe in excellence for the glory of God. It shows in the quality of materials that they produce and the impressive program that they have developed to help churches start their own local outreach to fatherless boys. Please do not hesitate to give generously to *Fathers in the Field*. A whole generation of fatherless boys and the millions they can impact positively are depending on us.



*Surrender your passion to Christ and He gives it back to you a hundredfold.*

*The #1 Societal Issue facing America:  
A lost Generation of Boys*



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

God's Word tells us that true religion is demonstrated by caring for the fatherless and widows (James 1:27). And the reality is, ministering to the fatherless in our nation today is a task of biblical proportions—we cannot do it without the Lord, and no local church can meet the demand alone. This national crisis requires the concerted efforts of Christian congregations, individuals, foundations, and corporations—through their personal involvement in mentoring, through their generous giving, and through their faithful prayers. Here is how you can join the effort.

### Defend the cause of the fatherless with your time...

- As the Church Champion who organizes and facilitates the *Fathers in the Field* program within your church.
- As a Mentor Father who comes alongside a fatherless boy (Field Buddy), introducing him to his Heavenly Father, who will never leave or forsake him, leading him through the *Fathers in the Field* biblical curriculum, participating in outdoor adventure with his Field Buddy, and modeling for him what it means to be a godly man and father.

### Defend the cause of the fatherless with your financial resources...

- By making a tax-deductible contribution to the national ministry.
- By contributing to the local church costs of mentoring a fatherless boy.
- By including *Fathers in the Field* in your estate planning.

### Defend the cause of the fatherless with your prayers...

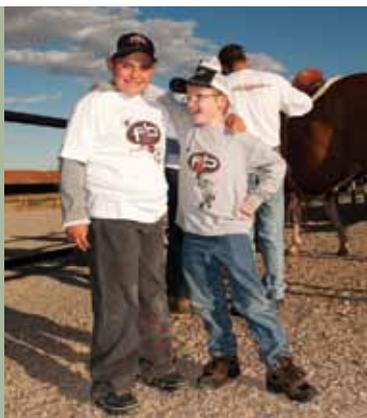
- By praying specifically for the Mentor Fathers and Field Buddies in your church.
- By praying for God's wisdom and direction for the leaders of the *Fathers in the Field* ministry.
- By signing up to receive *Field Notes*, the online newsletter for *Fathers in the Field*, which includes regular updates and issues for prayer.

## JOIN GOD'S MISSION FOR THE FATHERLESS

Your gift can be the cornerstone of a strong foundation for *Fathers in the Field*. To discuss your role in the *Fathers in the Field* ministry, please contact John Smithbaker, founding servant, or Scott MacNaughton, co-founder. Either will be happy to visit with you in person or speak to you on the telephone.

John Smithbaker  
307-332-0901 • [jsmithbaker@fathersinthefield.com](mailto:jsmithbaker@fathersinthefield.com)

Scott MacNaughton  
307-332-0901 • [smacnaughton@fathersinthefield.com](mailto:smacnaughton@fathersinthefield.com)



# FAITH

## WE ARE ALL CALLED

In addition to naming opportunities, *Fathers in the Field* gratefully acknowledges its donors through prayer, personal appreciation, and membership in the Harvest of Friends. Membership is based on the cumulative total of all gifts and pledges of cash and property, including matching gifts and corporate contributions arranged by the donor.

Since the *Fathers in the Field* ministry is a spiritual program to care for the fatherless and widows, it is appropriate that our recognition levels are designated by Scripture.

### LEVEL OF GIVING

Mentor Partners	James 1:27	Up to \$2,500
Defenders of the Fatherless	Isaiah 1:17	\$2,500 to \$15,000
Founding Fathers	Deuteronomy 6:4-7	\$15,000 to \$50,000
Kingdom Builders	Ezekiel 22:30	\$50,000 to \$100,000
Covenant Keepers	Jeremiah 31:33	\$100,000 to \$250,000
Generation to Generation	Jeremiah 5:28	\$250,000 to \$500,000
Malachi's Promise	Malachi 4:5-6	\$500,000 to \$1,000,000
*National Mentoring Center and Outdoor Complex Fund	Psalm 127:1	\$1,000,000 & above

*\*Pray with us that God might provide a place where Mentor Fathers can be inspired and Field Buddies can come and enjoy God's Great Outdoors.*

## FOUNDATION GIFTS

Foundations are set up by individuals and companies who have been blessed financially way beyond their own personal needs. What a tribute it is to those individuals and companies when they embrace the vision to support critical ministries like *Fathers in the Field* out of their God-given abundance.



*"It will come as no surprise to those who know me that I love God's Great Outdoors. Our company's passion in supplying the best-possible products to outdoorsmen has made it fun going to work over the past several decades. But I want you to know that my family's deepest passion and greatest joy is being able to support Christian ministries like Fathers in the Field that share the heavenly Father's love to those in greatest need.*

*My family and I have supported Fathers in the Field from its inception because we believe in the mission to provide Christian mentoring to young men whose fathers are not present in their lives to positively guide them. So many of the problems in our society can be traced to the lack of a loving father figure in men's lives. This is one ministry producing fruit that will affect generations to come.*

- Bob Hodgdon, Hodgdon Powder Company and Hodgdon Family Foundation, Donor

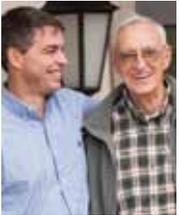
fathersinthefield.com > 307-332-0901





## INDIVIDUAL GIFTS

Individual donors are the heart and soul of *Fathers in the Field*. They provide the breadth and depth of *Fathers in the Field* and are the key to reaching more and more fatherless boys across this country. It is so encouraging to us when more and more individuals join *Fathers in the Field* in their financial and prayerful support.



*"I walk by young men who look lost and directionless and lonely, and I think 'that could be me.' I see boys fishing by themselves and think, 'I never experienced that. I always had a dad by me...' When you see kids who don't know an earthly father, it draws you to them in a very different way. It pushes you to care for them. My wife, Sarah, and I recognize the incredible gift that God gave us, and we are delighted to be part of an effort to bring similar hope and fatherly love to abandoned boys."*

- Troy Duble, Donor

## ESTATE GIFTS

Many individuals find great joy in leaving a legacy gift through their estate, knowing that they are providing the best opportunity for *Fathers in the Field* to reach more and more abandoned boys long after they are gone. Moreover, they are often able to give substantially more to *Fathers in the Field* through their estate than through their yearly budgets when they were alive.



*"Ken and Diane were faithful to instruct their children to trust in the Lord regarding all things that pertain to life and godliness; this included finances! They were always mindful to sow their seed 'on good ground' (Mark 4:8). This is the very reason their tithes and offerings go to support Fathers in the Field. Effectively sharing the Word of God is very dear to Ken and Diane, and Fathers in the Field has tangible evidence that it is 'good ground' that bears much fruit."*

- Ken and Diane Martinsen Family Trust, Donor

## CORPORATE GIFTS

When companies give of their profits back to God's Kingdom work, it multiplies the eternal impact that that company can have on a community and on a nation. May God raise up hundreds of companies in support of *Fathers in the Field* who will embrace that vision as one of their core values.



*"We are excited about the healing this new program can provide for fatherless boys. We are always looking for ways to improve the lives of people in our communities. Fathers in the Field allows neighbors to assist neighbors."*

- Fremont Motor Company, Chuck and Cathy Guschewsky, Donor

## OUR DONORS

In sincere appreciation of our many benefactors and with joyful thanksgiving to God for his abundant blessings, we acknowledge the following individuals and organizations that have financially support *Fathers in the Field*.

### Mentor Partners

*James 1:27*

Up to \$2,500

Allegiance, Inc.  
 Jerry and Sherry Antolik  
 Alan and Trudy Arnold  
 Blake and Denis Autry  
 Bill and Cheryl Bartlett  
 Aaron and Tiffany Beaugh  
 R.L. and M.K. Beasley  
 Chris Berg  
 Raymond and Helen Bertalon  
 Patricia Bertossi  
 John and Sharon Birbari  
 Ryan and Jessica Blake  
 Jennie Mae Bonham  
 Nathan and Jerrica Brasington  
 Bill and Dottie Bregar  
 Allen and Cindy Brown  
 Russell L. Brown  
 Denver Bryan  
 Tom Buchanan  
 Roger and Ingrid Buchmeier  
 Robert and Elaine Cannon  
 David and Kathleen Chaffee  
 Cochcton Assembly Of God  
 Mike and Vonnie Cole  
 Scott and Deborah Colyer  
 William R. Cornell  
 Cornerstone Community Fellowship  
 Paul and Julie Cornia  
 Covenant Presbyterian Church  
 Thomas Cox  
 Connie Craft  
 Don and Pat Crook  
 Ron and Aleece Decker  
 Kelly and Connie Dehnert  
 Barbara Dickinson  
 Glenn and Patricia Dobbs  
 Terry and Linda Dudley  
 Richard and Deborah Ellis  
 Emmanuel Bible Church  
 Epsilon Sigma Alpha - No. 587  
 Evangelical Free Church Of Lander  
 Evanston Alliance Church  
 First Baptist Church, Jackson, MS  
 First Missionary Baptist Church  
 Iris Foster  
 Todd and Gail Foster  
 Jamie and Amy Frazier  
 Pastor Bill and Loretta Gieck  
 Kale and Carol Girish  
 Charles and Cyd Goodrich  
 Jack and Marty Gordon  
 Todd Grable

Don and Wilma Graham  
 Clint and Sandra Guymon  
 Mark and Jeannie Halseide  
 Mary Halsey  
 Clark and Cathy Hanson  
 Nick and Marie Hasselfeldt  
 Jere and Jill Hudak  
 In Memory of Monsey Harold Bryant  
 In Memory of Roma Jean Means  
 In Memory of Dan Thompson  
 In Memory of Ray Virden  
 Bruce and Peggy Johnson  
 Adam and Mary Jones  
 Bob Jones  
 Derek and Ineke Jones  
 JRT Enterprises, Inc.  
 Thrish and Carol Kale  
 Maudie Kenney  
 Mitch Kezar  
 Jeff and Christy Kimber  
 Lenieal and Linda Kimmel  
 Jack and Mary Jane King  
 Kits Brokerage Inc  
 Thomas and Sara Koshko  
 Michael and Naomi Liesch  
 Andy and Janelle MacNaughton  
 Neil Maine  
 Marcia Malmberg  
 John and Kelly Marstaeller  
 Daniel and Jana McCarron  
 Clair and Audrey McNutt  
 Bill and Dianna McNutt  
 Thomas and Susan McNutt  
 Ernest and Cindy Mecca  
 Donald and Diane Morrow  
 Jack and Peggy Muller  
 North Hills Presbyterian Church  
 One Shot Antelope Hunt Foundation  
 Jeff and Julia Patrick  
 Pindale Bible Church  
 Bill and Bonnie Plowman  
 Michael and Marianne Pryor  
 Tonja M Quintana  
 Rain For Rent  
 Jason and Tanya Redman  
 John and Lynn Reitz  
 Lori and Eric Ridgeway  
 Wanda Scarborough  
 David Schuster  
 Albert and Janet Seamands  
 Tom and Dee Shaffer  
 Scott D Shane  
 Michael and Kathy Shaw  
 Wayne and Linda Sheets  
 Craig and Carmen Showalter

Dusan Smetana  
 Bucky and Neva Singleton  
 Clemeth and Gloria Skiles  
 Larry and Sara Soukup  
 Paul and Suzee Stafford  
 Sunnyside Southern Baptist Church  
 Josiah and Lindsey Swinborne  
 Michael and Linda Tams  
 The Valtim Company  
 Karen Thompson  
 Myra Thompson  
 Robert K Thornton  
 Randy L Tiley  
 Darrel L Trembly  
 Chris Trumble  
 Deanna Trumble  
 U.S. Energy Corp  
 Raymond and Dorothy Virden  
 Adron Walker  
 Dan and Stacy Waller  
 Bryan and Sally Wells  
 Howard and Marilyn Wenberg  
 Westside Church SBC  
 Wind River Community Church  
 Kristen Youmans  
 R.A. and A.M. York  
 Ruth Zebroski  
 Jack H Zimmer

### Defenders of the Fatherless

*Isaiah 1:17*

\$2,500 to \$15,000

Anonymous (1)  
 Charles and Barbara Amadio  
 Doug Becker  
 Dallas and Jane Bissell  
 Bruce Brodfuhrer  
 Roy and Rheda Brown  
 Mark and Ann Caldwell  
 Kristy Cardinal  
 Raymond Carlson  
 Robert and Suzanne Chansky  
 Karen Christensen  
 Demdaco  
 Troy and Sarah Duble  
 Allen and Sharon Duble  
 Doug and Juanita Duncan  
 Dick and Patricia Ellis  
 Joshua and Krystle Friesen  
 Harrington Family Fund  
 Robin and Cynthia Jahnke  
 Roy and Carol Kraft  
 James and Jessica MacNaughton  
 Rich and Kym Mann  
 Robert Marcario

McKee Marburger, & Fagnant  
 Gregg and Karen Meyer  
 Ernie and Judee Moreno  
 Robert and Virginia Nagy  
 Neil and Kathleen Nielson  
 Roger Ott  
 Gene and Lynn Schmidt  
 Dan and Marilyn Schurg  
 Beynon St. John  
 Howard and Julie Tripp  
 Vernis and Susan Tromble  
 Wyoming Game and Fish Commission  
 Dennis and Barbara Zafft

### Founding Fathers

*Deuteronomy 6:4-7*

\$15,000 to \$50,000

Anonymous (2)  
 Shane Ellison  
 Daniels Fund  
 Rosalee George  
 Chuck and Cathy Guschewsky  
 Jerry and Shirley Heckart  
 Scott and Gail MacNaughton  
 Neiman Enterprises, Inc.  
 Richardson Family Foundation  
 Derrick Roberts  
 Mike and Pam Schmid  
 Jim and Dani Schaefer  
 Scott Schultz, Scent Blocker  
 Spiritual Outdoor Adventure  
 The Hodgdon Family Fund

### Kingdom Builders

*Ezekiel 22:30*

\$50,000 to \$100,000

Ken and Diane Martinsen Revocable Trust  
 Midway USA

### Covenant Keepers

*Jeremiah 31:33*

\$100,000 to \$250,000

Brunton Outdoor, Inc.  
 Marc and Sherri Pierce  
 Kyle and Ashley Weaver

### Generation to Generation

*Jeremiah 5:28*

\$250,000 to \$500,000

John and Tracey Smithbaker

### Malachi's Promise

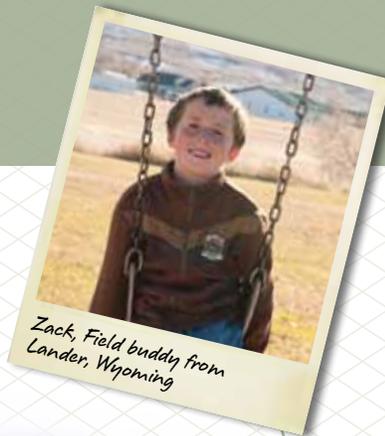
*Malachi 4:5-6*

\$500,000 and above

Anonymous

**FIELD BUDDY** "Dear *Father in the Field* Guy, "I joyned to learn about God and to become a young man. Mom that that *Fathers in the Field* would do that so she put us in it. I wanted to be putin it so that's why she did. Thank you for being my mentr father to teech me about God and how to hunt and fish."

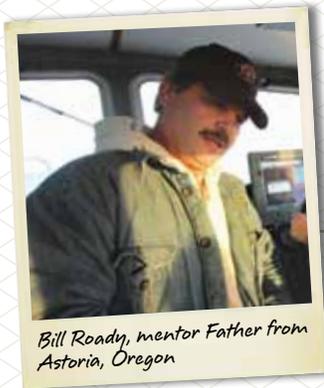
Zack, 9 Years Old, Field Buddy, Lander, WY



Zack, Field buddy from Lander, Wyoming



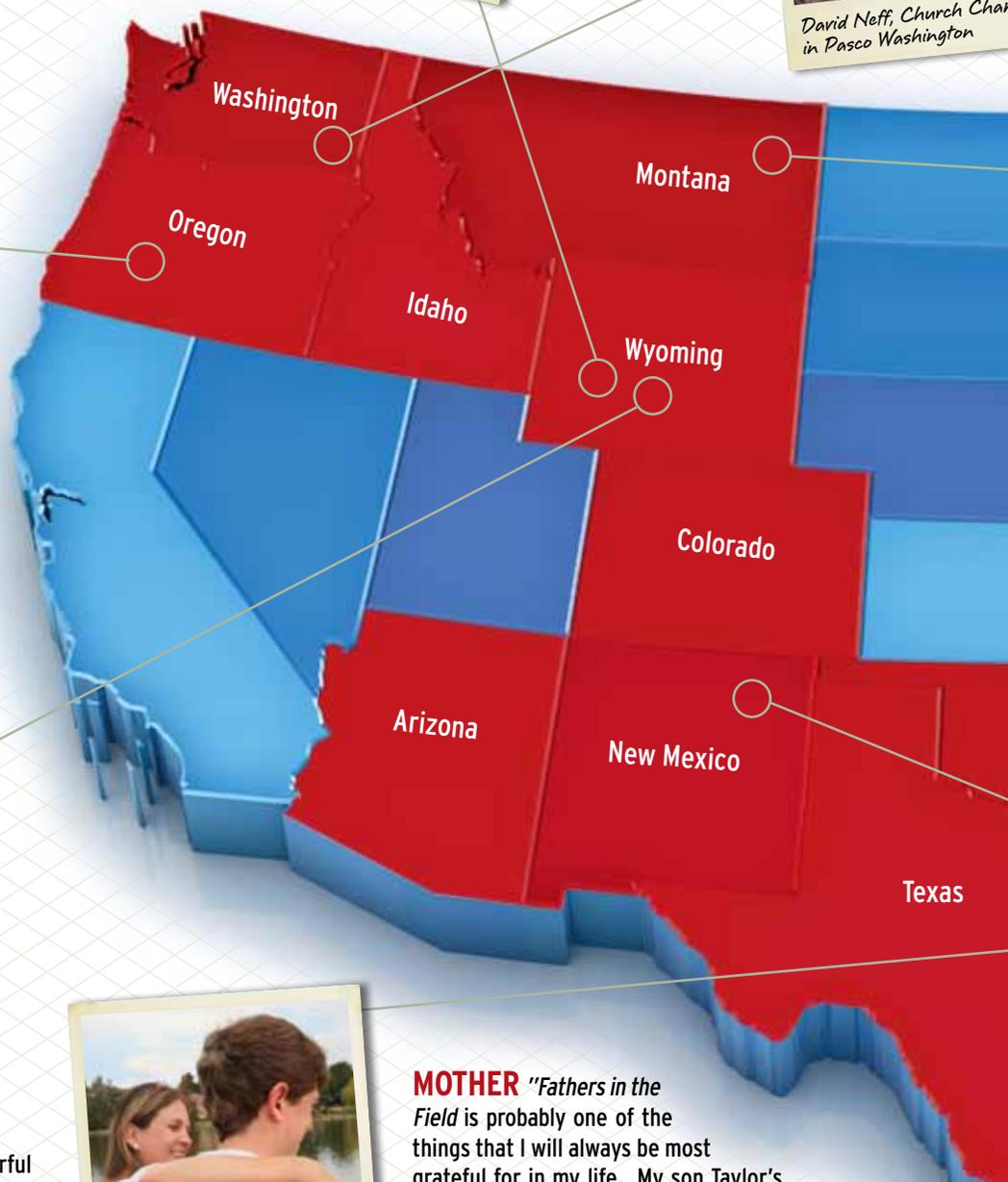
David Neff, Church Char in Pasco Washington



Bill Roady, mentor Father from Astoria, Oregon

**MENTOR FATHER** "Every time I pick Ezra up he runs up to meet me and has a big smile and is eager to go. You can tell he is just waiting for the next time to get together and do something. *Fathers in the Field* is as much a blessing to the Mentor Father as it is to the Field Buddy. You see how God can use you to help a boy. And, it's a lot of fun!

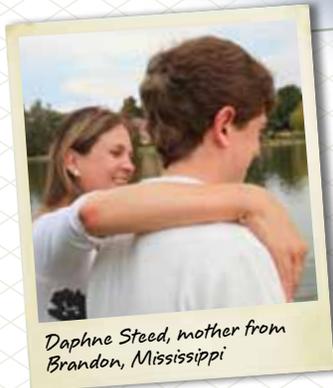
Bill Roady, Mentor Father, Astoria, OR



Maudie Kenney, widow from Lander, Wyoming.

**WIDOW** "*Fathers in the Field* has been a wonderful ministry to me. The boys and their Mentor Fathers come and clean out the weeds in my garden, and I can't tell you what a blessing that is to me... I hope they leave feeling accomplished and confident that they have cared about someone else."

Maudie Kenney, Lander, WY



Daphne Steed, mother from Brandon, Mississippi

**MOTHER** "*Fathers in the Field* is probably one of the things that I will always be most grateful for in my life. My son Taylor's Mentor Father, Keith, is teaching Taylor how to be a godly man. Keith is such a precious daddy and wonderful husband in his family. Taylor sees that. Keith is one of those men that you would love for your son to turn into."

Daphne Steed, Brandon, MS

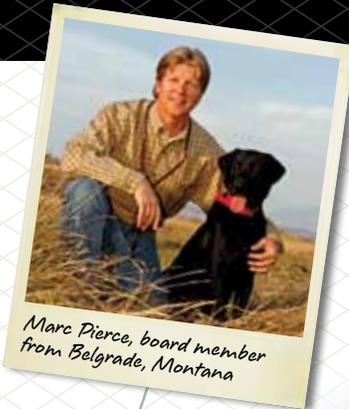
Red states indicate where *Fathers in the Field* is active as of December 2011.

# FAITH



**CHURCH CHAMPION** "The Fathers In The Field ministry is a great organization, giving time to the future leaders of our great nation. When young men are not given a strong Christian male, role model to follow, they will find a poor model to follow. Teaching young men the importance of following Christ and contributing to the community while enjoying the great outdoors - this is an organization that I am glad to be a part of."

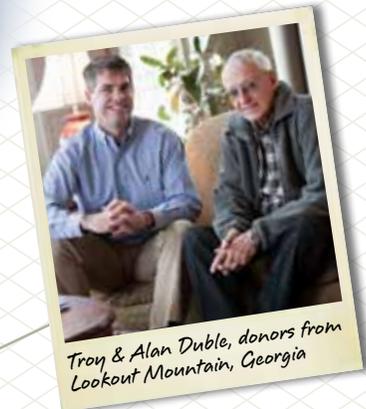
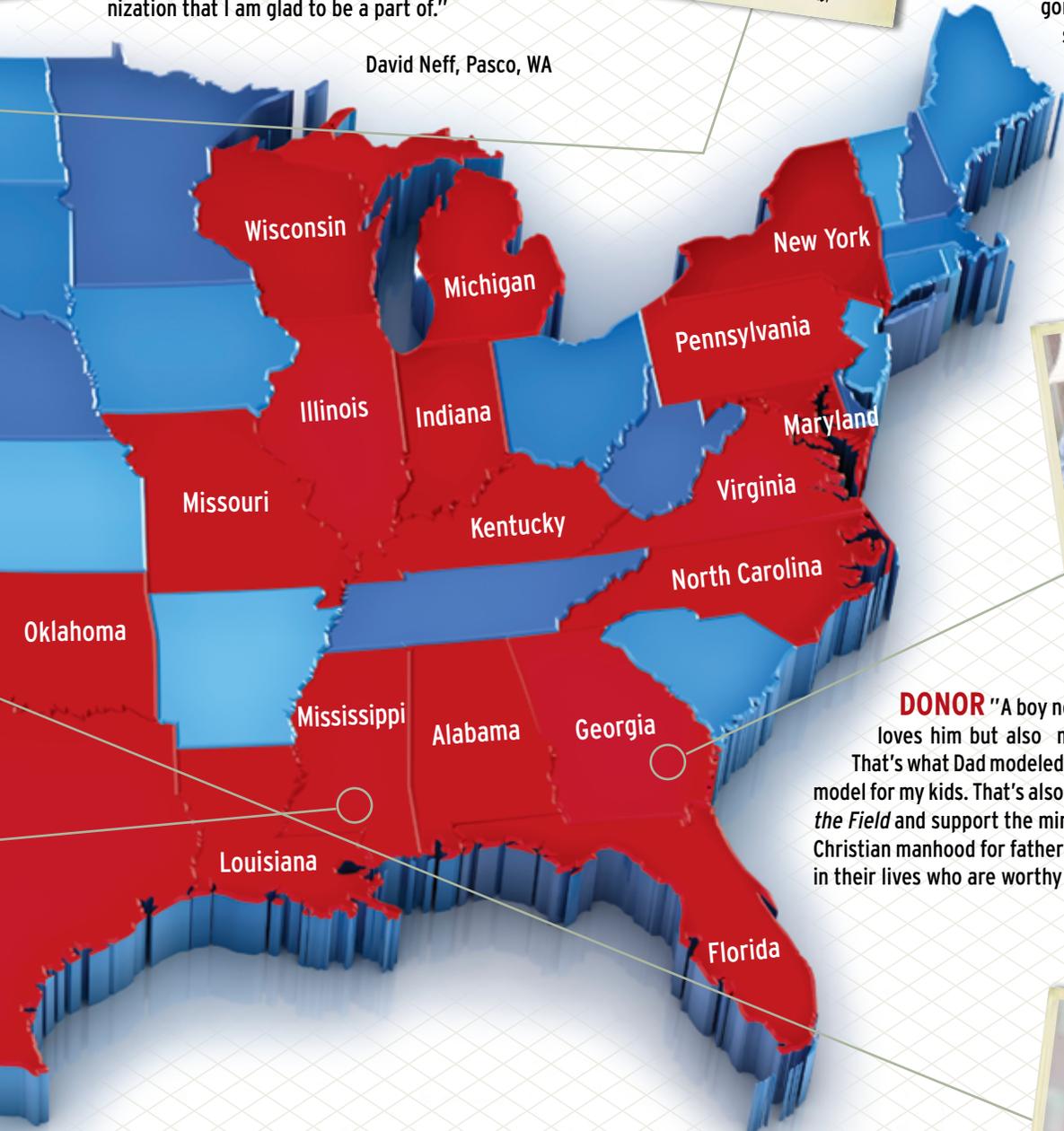
David Neff, Pasco, WA



Marc Pierce, board member from Belgrade, Montana

**BOARD MEMBER** "My hope is that within a few years *Fathers in the Field* will be an established ministry in thousands of churches across the country where there are avid outdoorsmen who love the Lord. But whether we're in 1,000 or 10,000 churches, there is no way that it is not going to work and be significant! If we save one boy, then this was worth the journey."

Marc Pierce, Board Member, Belgrade, MT



Troy & Alan Duble, donors from Lookout Mountain, Georgia

**DONOR** "A boy needs a father in his life who not only loves him but also models Christian manhood for him. That's what Dad modeled for me and that's what I now try and model for my kids. That's also why I believe so deeply in *Fathers in the Field* and support the ministry. Mentor Fathers are modeling Christian manhood for fatherless boys. These kids now have men in their lives who are worthy of copying. That's a beautiful gift."

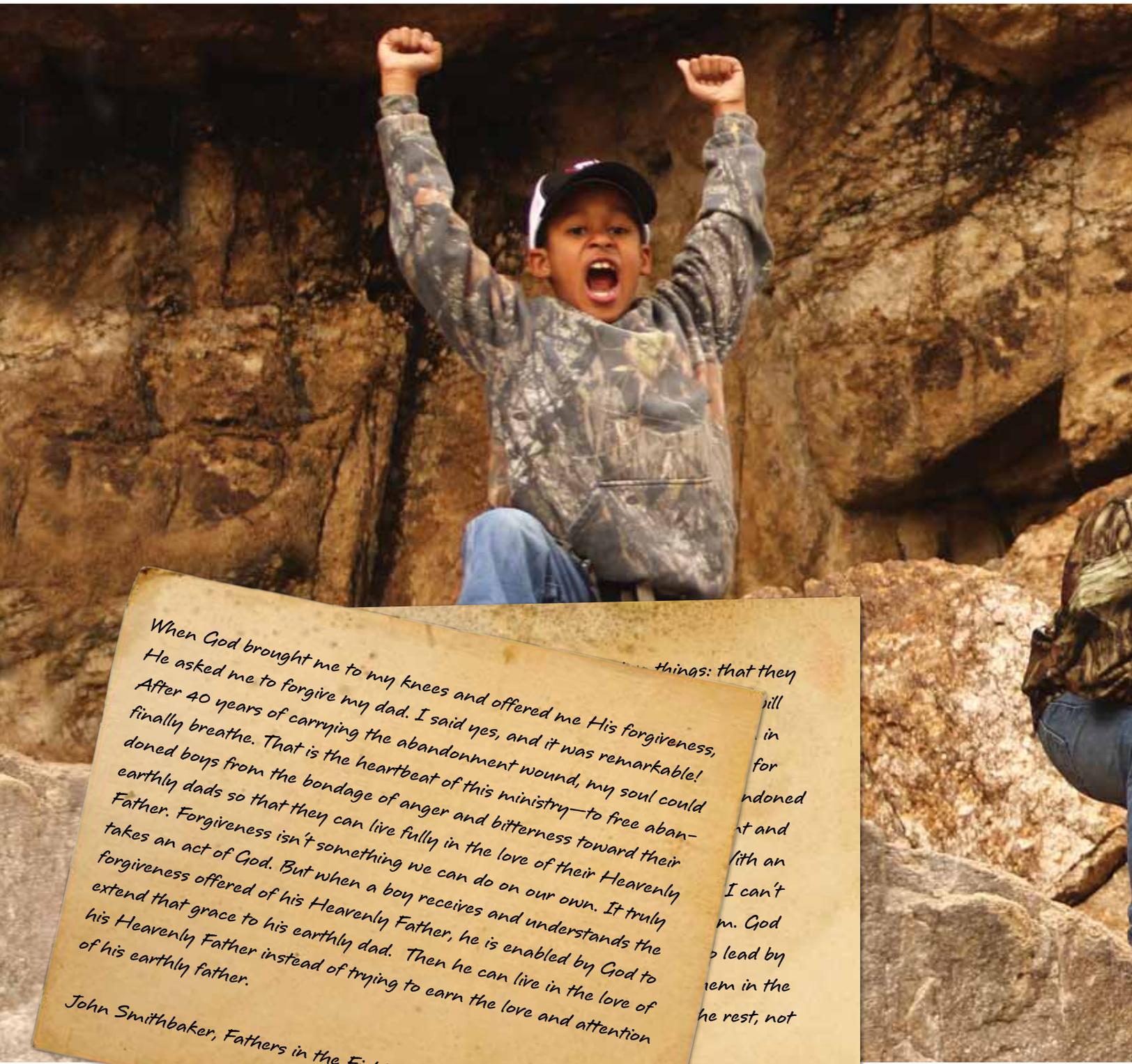
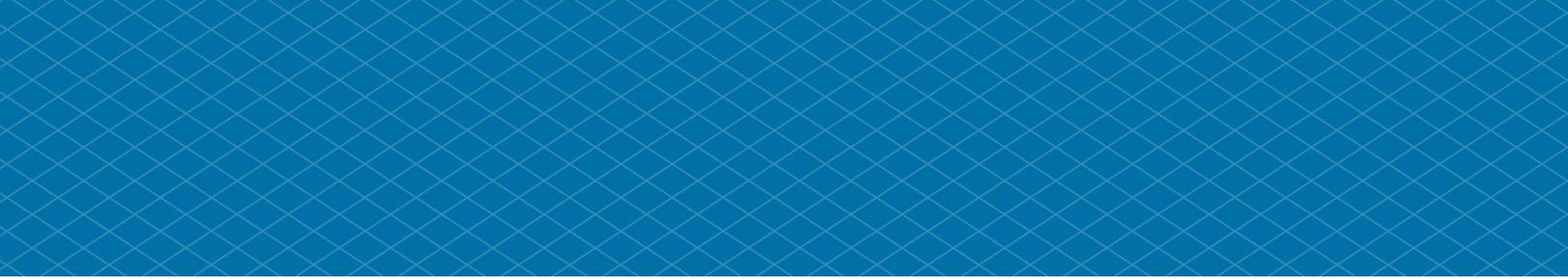
Troy Duble, Donor, Lookout Mt., GA

**PASTOR** "Those boys who lack fathers, purpose, and vision for their lives fall into hopelessness and then they make mistakes. My heart is to be part of an effort in our community in which we awaken the hearts of fathers in Deming. That is why I am so excited about Fathers in the Field. It is a great way for churches to reach out to fatherless boys in the community."

Pastor Cesar Chavez, Deming, NM



Pastor Cesar Chavez, from Deming, New Mexico



When God brought me to my knees and offered me His forgiveness, He asked me to forgive my dad. I said yes, and it was remarkable! After 40 years of carrying the abandonment wound, my soul could finally breathe. That is the heartbeat of this ministry—to free abandoned boys from the bondage of anger and bitterness toward their earthly dads so that they can live fully in the love of their Heavenly Father. Forgiveness isn't something we can do on our own. It truly takes an act of God. But when a boy receives and understands the forgiveness offered of his Heavenly Father, he is enabled by God to extend that grace to his earthly dad. Then he can live in the love of his Heavenly Father instead of trying to earn the love and attention of his earthly father.

John Smithbaker, Fathers in the Field Founder

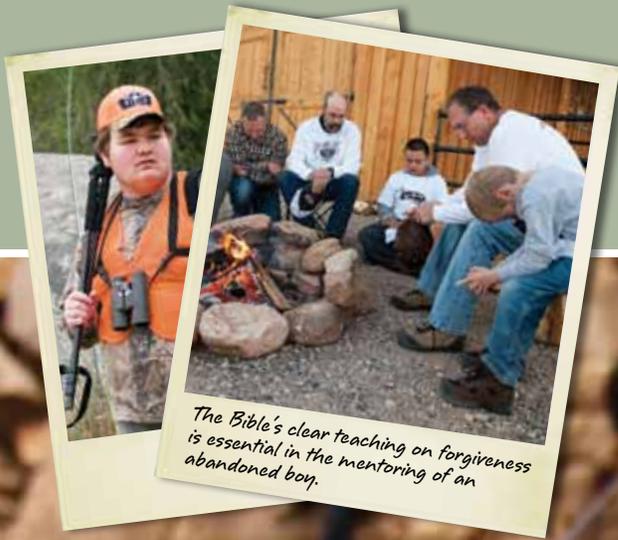
things: that they  
will  
in  
for  
andoned  
t and  
lith an  
I can't  
m. God  
to lead by  
them in the  
he rest, not

# FORGIVENESS

DEFEND THE CAUSE OF THE  
**FATHERLESS...**  
ISAIAH 1:17



*"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."  
(Mark 11:25)*



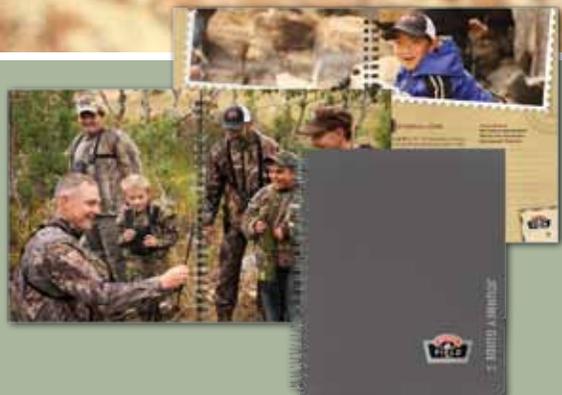
*The Bible's clear teaching on forgiveness is essential in the mentoring of an abandoned boy.*



## LISTENING TO THE HEARTBEAT OF GOD

### JOURNEY GUIDE Y3

The Forgiveness Letter challenges the Field Buddy to begin the God-enabled journey of forgiving his earthly father for abandoning him by helping him to write and send a letter of forgiveness to his father.



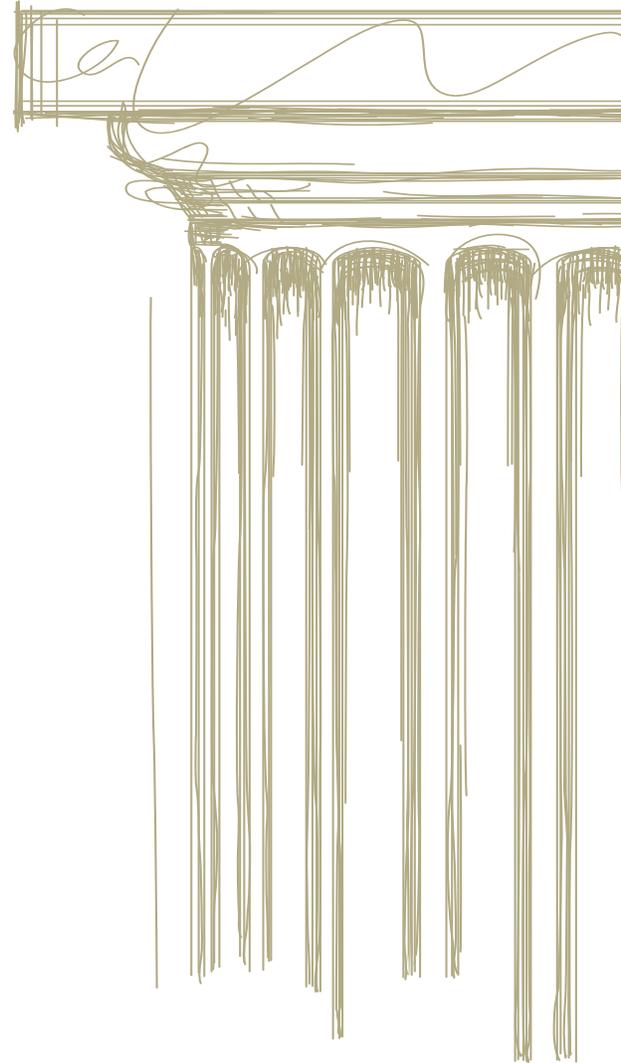
# FORGIVENESS

## A FOUNDATIONAL PILLAR OF *FATHERS IN THE FIELD*

It is extraordinarily difficult for a boy to forgive a father who has abandoned him. The father abandonment wound is among the deepest and most insidious of wounds—unseen from the outside but a gaping, festering hole on the inside of a boy’s heart. As a youngster, he longs for a father who truly cares about him. But as he matures, that unfulfilled longing often develops into deep-seeded anger and rage that leads to self-destruction. Our society responds to an abandoned boy’s pain with silence or, worse yet, by telling him, “Get over it. You don’t need a father. You are better off without a dad.” Nothing could be further from the truth.

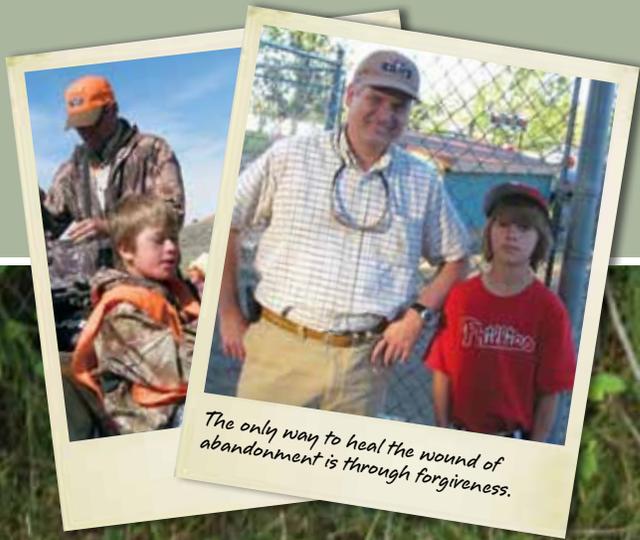
A foundational pillar of *Fathers in the Field* is FORGIVENESS. The Bible’s clear teaching on forgiveness is essential in the mentoring of an abandoned boy. Without forgiveness of their earthly dads, fatherless boys cannot find true freedom—freedom from the destructive, anger-filled behavior that results from the abandonment wound. That stored-up bitterness can only be resolved as the boy comes to understand the forgiveness that he, himself receives through Jesus Christ’s death on the cross for his sins. As Christ’s forgiveness is understood personally, the fatherless boy is challenged to begin the healing process of extending forgiveness to his own father.

We tell boys, “What your father did was terribly wrong...it will matter greatly in your life...but you must, with Jesus’ help, forgive your earthly father.” When a boy hears this counter cultural message, his first response will be, “Never! Why should I forgive him?” It is the answer to this question that sets *Fathers in the Field* apart from other mentoring programs. To a hurting young boy we say: “Forgive your dad because your Father in Heaven forgives you, loves you, and wants you to know freedom like you’ve never known before.”



fathersinthefield.com > 307-332-0901





*The only way to heal the wound of abandonment is through forgiveness.*



## THE FATHERLESS ARE THE CLOSEST TO GOD'S HEART...

### CURRICULUM

One of the key missing elements in nearly every mentoring program is the lack of a curriculum to help guide the conversations and activities between the mentor and young person. What do I talk about? What is the plan when we get together? What is the purpose of our meetings? All these questions and uncertainties that adults have about mentoring often discourage them from ever volunteering as a mentor.

Fathers in the Field recognizes this need and provides a compelling, biblically-based outdoor-centered curriculum for the Mentor Father's use. Our three years of curriculum feature the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments and the Forgiveness Letter. Each year the curriculum progressively addresses the wound of abandonment and how the healing forgiveness of Jesus Christ can give the fatherless boy the courage and strength to forgive his earthly father.

# FORGIVENESS

## MASEN & SCOTT LANDER, WYOMING

**M**asen's father abandoned him for a life of crime that ultimately led to prison. Growing up having never met his dad, Masen carried a wound of abandonment that was not visible on the outside but gnawed at him on the inside—producing anger and resentment and convincing him that he was not worthy of a father's love.

In 2006, 9-year-old Masen was enrolled in *Fathers in the Field* by his grandmother. The boy was teamed up with his Mentor Father, Scott MacNaughton, who knew first hand the heart-wrenching pain caused by father abandonment. Scott's own dad left him and his family when Scott was in his late teens. "I'm thankful that my dad was in my home growing up," Scott says. "But ultimately, he still abandoned me. And it doesn't matter at what age that happens. That always leaves a wound that requires healing and forgiveness."

As a young adult, Scott was able to forgive his dad and experience a kind of freedom that he had not known before. "Through forgiveness of your dad, you can find freedom from malice, bitterness, and anger," Scott says. "What a relief it is when all of that junk is replaced with mercy."

Scott desperately wanted that same kind of relief for Masen. About six months into his first year with the boy, Scott asked Masen if he could forgive his dad for abandoning him. Masen emphatically and angrily responded, "NEVER, NEVER, EVER!"

Over the next couple of months, as Masen and Scott spent more time exploring God's creation and the forgiveness

that He offers through His Son, Jesus Christ, the boy's heart began to soften. Then one Sunday morning, "NEVER, NEVER, EVER" arrived.

**Masen told Scott that he had prayed for forgiveness from his Heavenly Father and for salvation through Jesus Christ. He went on to say that he had forgiven his dad, too.**

To say the least, Scott was blown away! But the story doesn't end there. Two weeks later, Masen got a surprise letter from his father in prison. His dad wanted to see him. Just months earlier, such news would have infuriated this hurting boy. But now, with his wound of abandonment beginning to heal, Masen welcomed the opportunity to visit his dad, tell him he forgave him, and share with him the freedom that he had found in Jesus Christ.

Today, Masen still does not have a relationship with his dad. Further, he has yet to hear his dad say, "I'm sorry, son." Scott understands the pain of that. He, too, is still waiting for an apology from his dad. "The reality is a lot of these boys will never hear their dad apologize for leaving them. But forgiveness can't be based on that," Scott reminds Masen and the other boys (and men) he ministers to through *Fathers in the Field*. "We have to keep looking back to Jesus for His healing forgiveness. We have to say, 'I am ready and willing to forgive and that forgiveness can only come from Jesus' forgiveness of me.'"

What is most important is that Masen knows he has a Father in Heaven who loves him and will never leave or forsake him. Through his faith, his relationship with Scott, and the journey they are on together with *Fathers in the Field*, Masen is growing into the young man he never imagined he could be.

fathersinthefield.com > 307-332-0901





**YOU ARE NOT A MISTAKE.**  
**GOD CREATED YOU INTENTIONALLY AND FOR A GLORIOUS PURPOSE.**

### **THE IMPORTANCE OF SERVICE**

Jesus Christ's teaching on being a servant can best be summarized in His statement in Matthew 20:28 where he said, "For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many." Of course, He practiced what He preached on servant hood, most notably when He washed his disciples' feet on the eve of His crucifixion and ultimately by laying down His life for His children on the cross. Helping a fatherless boy learn to serve others is therefore

a critical element in their development in becoming a true disciple of Jesus Christ. The monthly widow's service project is much more than just doing a good deed. It helps to create a sense of worth and accomplishment in these boys as they see firsthand the benefit of their work and appreciation from the widow. It is essential that fatherless boys begin to take his eyes off of themselves and their circumstances as they develop a sense of compassion for others.

# FORGIVENESS

## Q&A

**MAUDIE KENNEY  
WIDOW  
LANDER, WY**

Fatherless boys reason that if their own dad threw them away, they must have no value. *Fathers in the Field* includes service to widows to strengthen boys' self-esteem and help them realize that their Father in Heaven values them and has a purpose for their lives—a purpose that blesses others and honors God.

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after the fatherless and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. *-James 1:27*

As the boys see the positive impact that they can have on others and recognize that they are valued, they develop the self-esteem needed to ultimately confront and forgive their earthly fathers, just as their Father in Heaven has forgiven them.

Maudie Kenney was one of the first widows involved with the *Fathers in the Field* program. Over the years, she has delighted in seeing first hand how the ministry has helped her and the boys.

### **Tell us about your relationship with *Fathers in the Field*.**

*Fathers in the Field* has been a wonderful ministry to me. The boys and their Mentor Fathers come and clean out the weeds in my backyard, and I can't tell you what a blessing that is to me.

I love flowers. I think it brightens the day to see a beautiful flower. But now that I am no longer able to take care of the yard myself, the weeds and grass grow up over my flowers. So, the boys and men from *Fathers in the Field* come and clear out the garden. The boys are working together with their Mentor Fathers, and it seems important to them. And it's important to me. I get to see my peonies again!

### **Do you believe that widows should receive special care?**

Yes, and God does, too. Many widows in Jesus' time had no support and no way to care for themselves. Jesus saw their difficulty and He had compassion on them. *Fathers in the Field* is showing that same compassion. I am blessed to have family and church members who help care for me. But not all widows are that fortunate. And even though I have a lot of help, I still have a hard time getting some things done...like my garden. *Fathers in the Field* blesses me by helping with my garden, and I am very grateful.

### **What kind of an impact do you see that *Fathers in the Field* has on the boys who are serving you?**

*Fathers in the Field* teaches boys to appreciate people when they are older and to feel good about serving them. I remember this one boy who came one time and just sat beside, me and we had the nicest chat. I couldn't believe it! We visited as if we were the same age.

I also know how important it is for a boy's self-confidence to have a caring father in his life. Boys need a male influence—someone who they know is interested in them and cares how they grow up. My sons had that with their dad. I hurt for these boys that they don't have that and am glad to see their Mentor Fathers working with them. I hope they leave feeling accomplished and confident that they are important and have cared about someone else.



fathersinthefield.com > 307-332-0901

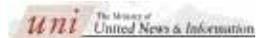
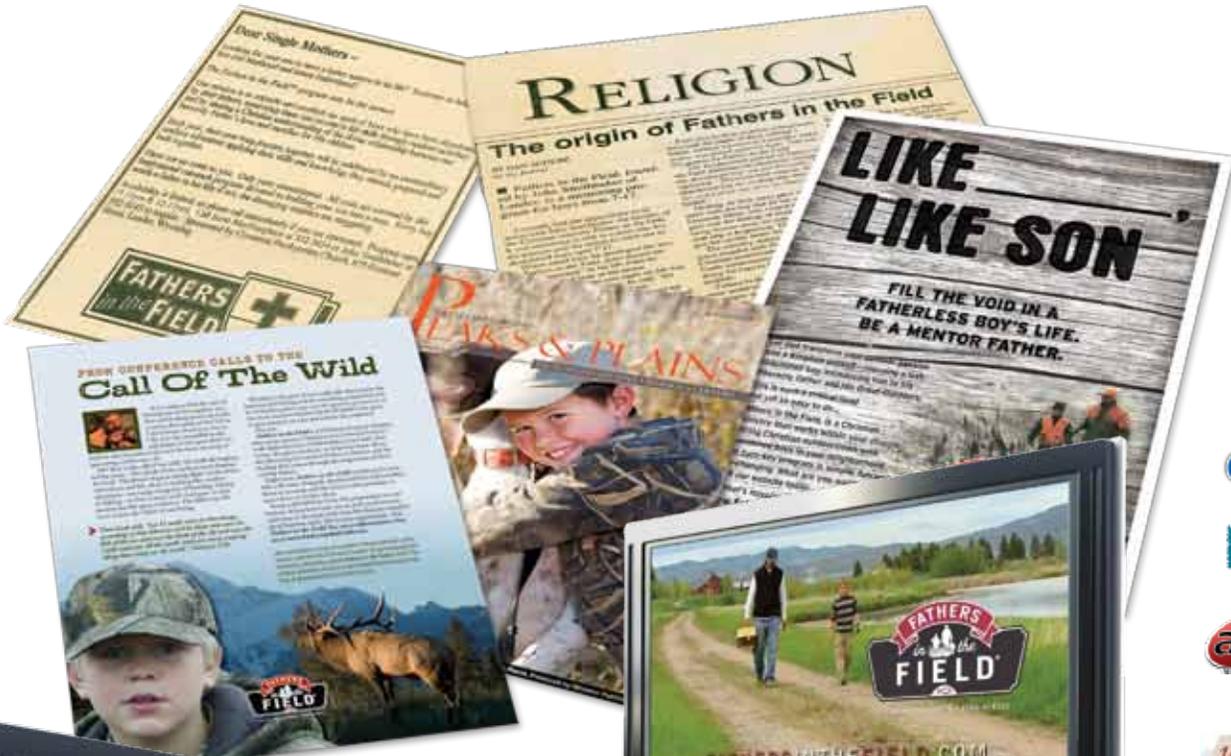


Since its inception, the Fathers in the Field message has been shared with millions through exceptional national and local media attention, including:

- At least seven national broadcasting networks: The Outdoor Channel, TBN, Focus on the Family, Salem Radio Network, USA Radio Network, American Family Radio, Associated Press Radio, United News and Information
- At least six national magazines: *Time*, *New Man*, *Real Hunting*, *On Target*, *Significant Living*, *Peaks and Plains*
- Annual Father's Day coverage by numerous local newspapers in Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, New Mexico, and Georgia
- Online coverage including OneNewsNow.com and the Purpose Driven blog Body Parts



# MAKING HEADLINES



*We are changing the hearts and lives of fatherless boys, one boy at a time.*

*Stand in the gap where fathers have abandoned their posts. Our boys need you to mentor them into godly manhood.*

In addition to visiting hundreds of churches and participating in dozens of conference events across the United States, *Fathers in the Field* has had the privilege of sharing its message with millions through widespread local and national media coverage.

"We are changing the hearts and lives of fatherless boys, one boy at a time. But we are also aggressively seeking to

reverse the devastating trend of fatherlessness in America. Our message to fathers: Stay in the home and be the Pastor, Protector, and Provider that God calls you to be. And to godly men in our churches: Stand in the gap where fathers have abandoned their posts. Our boys need you to mentor them into godly manhood."



## THANK YOU

With your encouragement, prayer support, and financial help over the past five years we have seen God bless this ministry in wonderful ways. Thank you so much for believing in the urgency of *Fathers in the Field* and for entrusting us with your God-given resources. With your continued support, God will enable *Fathers in the Field* to rescue thousands more fatherless children over the next five years all across this great land.

# FITF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF



**Marc Pierce**  
*Board Member,  
Church Champion,  
Mentor Father*

Marc is the president and co-founder of Big Sky Carvers and is the co-founder of Warm Springs TV Productions. As an avid outdoorsman and recognized leader, Marc has served many years on other national boards including Ducks Unlimited and Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership. His heart for the fatherless is witnessed in his personal life and in his advocacy for the fatherless in our culture. Marc lives in Manhattan, Mont. with his wife, Sherrie, his four children, and two bird dogs.



**Kyle Weaver**  
*Board Member*

Kyle is the Managing director of field operations of the National Rifle Association. With 17 years of experience working extensively with charitable fundraising, major gifts, and national volunteer management, Kyle knows what it takes to build a strong foundation in order to serve the fatherless across this country. Kyle knows first hand the pain of an absent father and serves to share the healing power of a Heavenly Father. Kyle lives in Ashburn, Va. with his wife, Ashley, and his three daughters.



**John Smithbaker**  
*Board Member,  
President*

In addition to serving as a volunteer president, founder and a Mentor Father for the Wyoming-based Ministry headquarters, John has led the Brunton Outdoor Group as CEO for 15 years along with other leadership positions. His personal and professional experience has helped the ministry to be built around key father-abandonment factors and solid business structures for long-term viability. John resides in Lander, Wyo., with his wife, Tracey, and their three children.



**Scott MacNaughton**  
*VP of Church  
Outreach, Mentor  
Father*

As the pastor of the founding church, Scott began working with John in the ministry five years ago as co-founder. In 2008, sensing the strong call of God to "look after the fatherless in their distress," Scott stepped out of the pulpit to spearhead the national expansion of this critical ministry to the fatherless through local churches. He and his wife, Gail, have four children, two grandchildren, two dogs, one cat, and too many horses. All these animals, along with Scott and Gail, call Lander, Wyo. their home.



**Kristen Youmans**  
*Public Relations  
& Marketing*

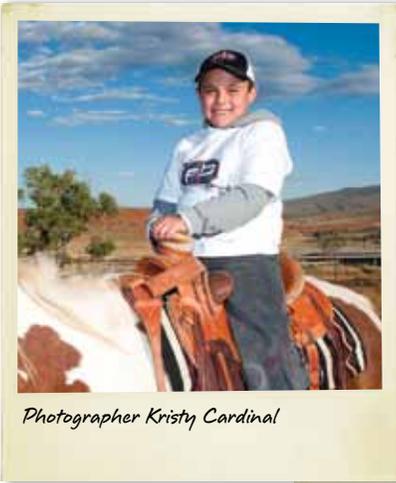
As a Bible-centered communications professional, Kristen has spent the past 10 years helping Christian organizations develop and deliver compelling messages that are relevant and still maintain biblical integrity. Kristen is passionate about the Lord, His Word, and telling His stories. She says that it has been her "joy" to tell the *Fathers in the Field* story since 2008. Raised in Casper, Wyo., Kristen now resides in Dallas, Texas, where she recently earned her masters of theology at Dallas Theological Seminary.



**Tracey Smithbaker**  
*Administration*

Tracey has the most important job in the whole ministry—caring for her husband, John, and their three children, whose ages range from 9 to 16. After getting them off to work and school each day, Tracey works hard at getting the *Fathers in the Field* office to run smoothly and efficiently. In her "spare" time, Tracey can often be seen riding her bicycle on a mountain road in the foothills of the majestic Wind River Mountains of Wyoming.

# HARVEST SNAPSHOTS



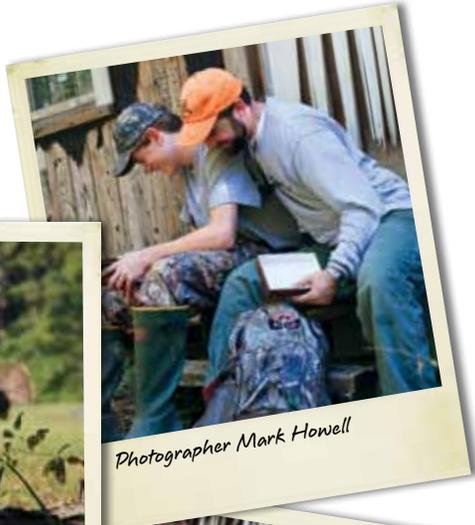
Photographer Kristy Cardinal



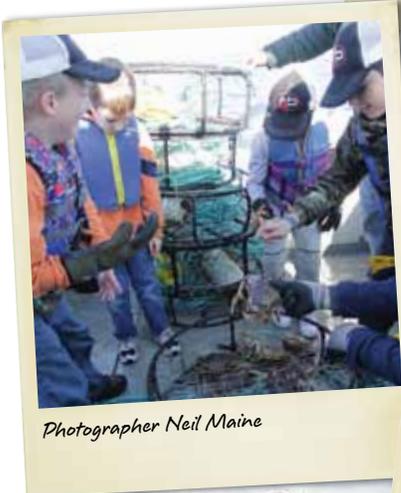
Photographer Kristy Cardinal



Photographer Mark Howell



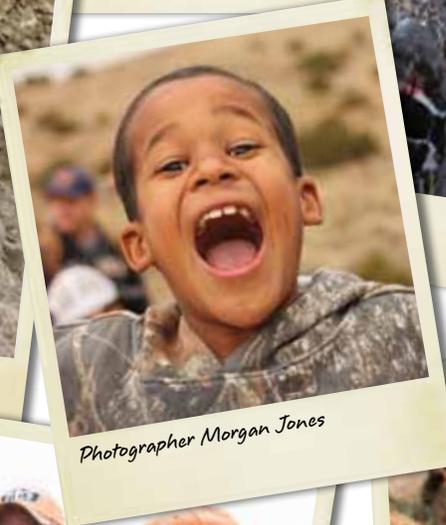
Photographer Mark Howell



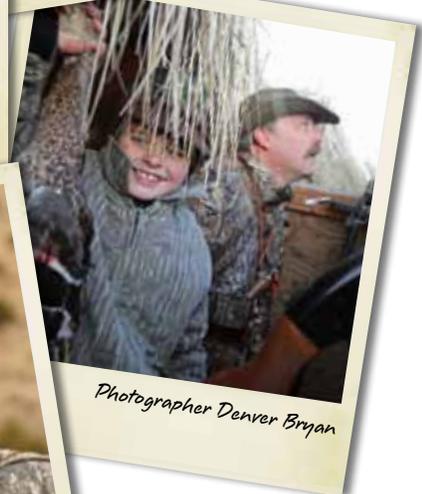
Photographer Neil Maine



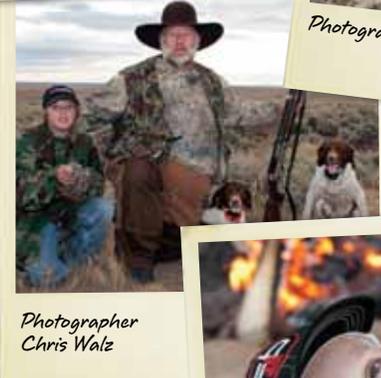
Photographer Lee Kjos



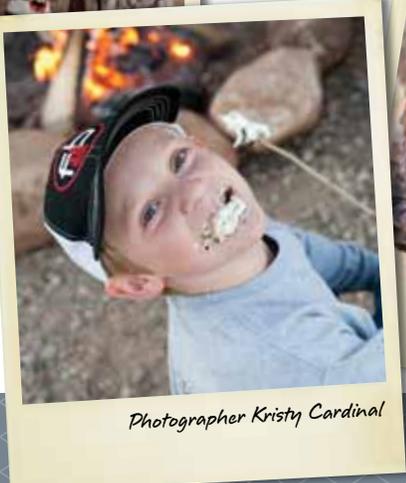
Photographer Morgan Jones



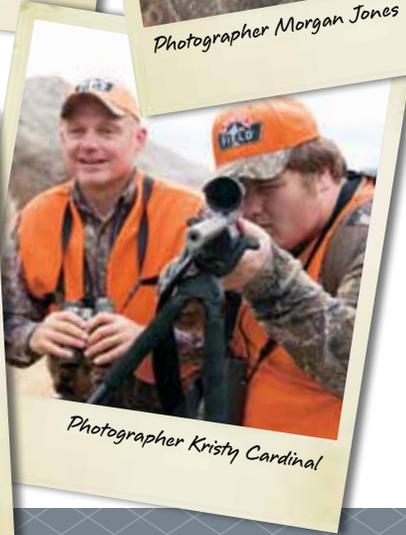
Photographer Denver Bryan



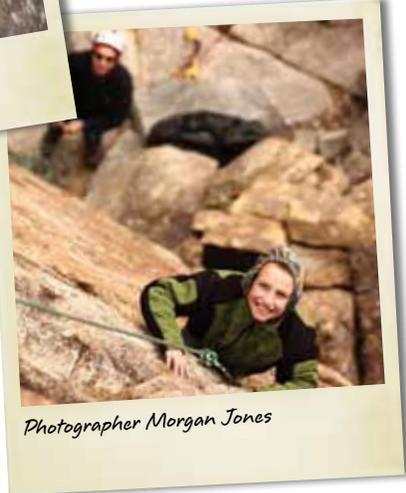
Photographer Chris Walz



Photographer Kristy Cardinal



Photographer Kristy Cardinal



Photographer Morgan Jones



LETTER FROM THE CO-FOUNDER  
**SCOTT MACNAUGHTON**



*Scott developed passion for the fatherless at a young age. He was raised in a missionary family in the backwoods of Kentucky.*



*Asking a fatherless boy to trust in a Heavenly Father is a leap of faith; you can help bridge that gap.*

**G**od placed on my heart the desire to defend the fatherless decades ago. In fact, I heard the call to this ministry as I was dealing with my own wound of abandonment. When I was a teenager, my dad, a minister, walked out on his family and pulpit. In that moment I not only lost my father, I lost my pastor and hero. While I was older than most boys when they are abandoned, the resulting wound was just as deep and devastating.

My path to forgiveness started in college when God gave me the idea for an outdoor adventure ministry that would introduce abandoned boys to their Father in Heaven who promises to never leave or forsake them. Years later, while pastoring at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lander, Wyoming (in the very pulpit that my dad left), I looked out over the congregation and saw a gaping hole—a void that pierced my heart as deeply as the one left by my dad’s abandonment: There were no fatherless children worshipping in our church. That didn’t make sense given the fact that at least one in three kids are growing up in America without their dads in the home. I was certain that fatherless kids could be found in our community...down the road, across the street, maybe even next door. But none could be found in our church—the very place where they could find hope and healing! It broke my heart.

Not long after that, John Smithbaker, a church member, walked into my office and declared, “I believe that God is calling me to start an outdoor ministry for fatherless boys. What can we do as a church to reach out to the fatherless here in Lander?” God was on the move and *Fathers in the Field* was born.

With no fatherless children in our congregation, we placed an ad in the local newspaper inviting single mothers to enroll their boys in *Fathers in the Field*. Nine-year-old Masen became our first Field Buddy and,

through the program, he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. He also forgave his earthly dad! If Masen had been the only abandoned boy we reached, it would have been worth it. But God has given us the ongoing privilege of reaching more and more fatherless boys through congregations across the United States.

**From our very humble beginnings, the Lord has raised up nearly 100 churches that are engaged in *Fathers in the Field*. Our desire is to increase that participation exponentially every year.**

Imagine it! In just a few years, thousands of churches across America could be engaged in mentoring and serving the very apples of God’s eye—the fatherless and widows—and reversing the insidious fatherless cycle in America. With 25 million fatherless children in America, it is a daunting task. But with God, all things are possible! *Fathers in the Field* is actively seeking member churches, Church Champions, Mentor Fathers, Financial Donors, and Prayer Warriors to respond to God’s call to defend the fatherless. There can be no greater strategic use for your time and treasure than to invest in the lives of abandoned boys and no greater reward than to know that you are helping them hear about the love of a Heavenly Father that will never leave them nor forsake them.

By pursuing the desires of God’s heart, our prayer is that the Lord will bring in a harvest beyond our imagination! Please join us in responding to that call and celebrating the harvest of a new generation of healthy, godly men to come.

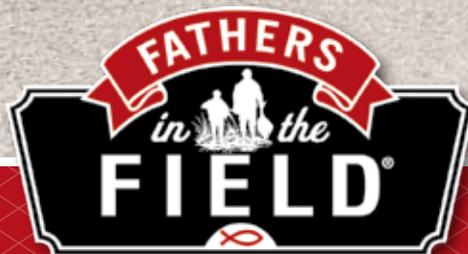
In His Service,

Scott MacNaughton, Co-founding Servant



# ...plead the case of the fatherless to WIN IT

Jeremiah 5:28



FAITH • FATHERHOOD • FORGIVENESS

[www.fathersinthefield.com](http://www.fathersinthefield.com) • 307-332-0901

*Fathers in the Field* is a Registered Trademark. All rights reserved.

*Fathers in the Field* is a 501c3 charitable organization.

All verses quoted are from the New International Version.

This Harvest Report is graciously underwritten through the generosity of the Daniels Fund.



DANIELS FUND