



Daphne Steed, was one of the first single moms to enroll her son, Taylor, 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

About

Fathers in the Field



Based in Lander, Wyoming and created by a man who was deserted by his own father at a young age and keenly felt that loss his entire life. Upon accepting Christ as his Savior in 2002 and being

reconciled to his Heavenly Father, John Smithbaker started a journey of understanding, acceptance and, most importantly, extending and asking forgiveness. In 2005, John was inspired to create a way to seek and help others suffering the pain of a father's abandonment, and *Fathers in the Field*–a natural outgrowth of his faith and his love for the outdoors–was born.

Frequently asked Questions

HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

There is no cost to you - only your commitment. Costs are covered by this inspirational outreach ministry, funded by charitable sponsors and participating churches.

WHAT IF MY SON DOES NOT HAVE OUTDOOR GEAR FOR CAMPING, FISHING OR HUNTING?

Journey Gifts are provided as part of the *Fathers in the Field* ministry each month as your son "completes" his Journey Talk lesson. These gifts are designed to help equip your son for the outdoor adventure that will occur at the completion of his year long journey. The Mentor Father will help with finding equipment and supplies for your son if they don't own or can't borrow.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE PROGRAM?

Boys aged 7 to 17, who urgently need male role models. They do not have a father or male mentor in their life. We do require a three-year commitment (one year at a time) from participants, to provide contancy and adequate time to address the fatherless wound in his soul.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

To discover more about how *Fathers in the Field* can help or to get started contact your Church Champion or go to **www.fathersinthefield.com**.

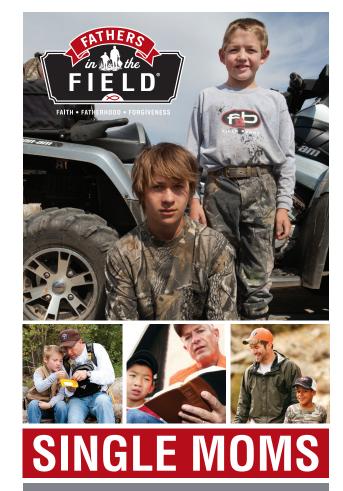
If you would prefer to have the Church Champion contact you, please fill in your information below and give this brochure to an usher, pastor, elder or place it in the offering.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone

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DO YOU HAVE BOYS AGES 7-17?

GIVE THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE MENTORED BY A GODLY MAN THROUGH

Fathers in the Field®

OUR MISSION is to rekindle and establish the spirit of boys who have been abandoned by their fathers; mentoring them one-on-one in life skills through outdoor activities, and by sharing a Christian understanding of our Heavenly Father's love and sacrifice for His Children.

WWW.FATHERSINTHEFIELD.COM

How the **Journey** works

FATHERS IN THE FIELD ® WORKS TO ACHIEVE 3 IMPORTANT GOALS

FAITH

Share and demonstrate to boys that they have a Father in heaven who created, loves and cares for them, and will never forsake them.



Joshua 1:5



FATHERHOOD

Demonstrate fatherly love and commitment, to repair broken spirits and prepare the foundation for future fatherhood. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

FORGIVENESS

Share the need for boys to forgive the failings of their earthly fathers, as our Heavenly Father forgives His children in Christ. *Mark 11:25*

Combining

Faith, **Fatherhood**, and **Forgiveness** with the kind of blood-pumping, outdoor **Fun** that no videogame can match, *Fathers in the Field* works through local churches across America.

Avid outdoorsmen in Christian congregations are empowered and equipped to reach out to fatherless boys in their communities and introduce them to the Father who will never leave or forsake them-God Himself.



Journey Step Commitments

Mentor fathers and boys meet four times a month, using the tools of the ministry, to gain insight and understanding, serve others, worship, and plan a special end of year celebration outdoor activity.

JOURNEY TALKS™

A monthly hands-on activity, progressively preparing for their special year-end "Adventure Passage" event, while incorporating a Life-Journey curriculum that guides boys into authentic Christian manhood. The Mentor Fathers share their love for the Heavenly Father in their comfort zone... God's Creation.

CHURCH FAMILY

The Mentor Father commits to pick-up and bring his Field Buddy to Sunday school and Church two out of the four Sundays. Here the boys foster their church family relationships that provide caring, faith-nurturing affirmation and instruction of the Heavenly Father's wisdom and love.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Here the boy develops a serving attitude and learns that he has value, working each month serving and giving back through ministry activities by helping people in need such as widows and the elderly.

ANNUAL "ADVENTURE PASSAGE" EVENT

Boys and Mentor Fathers apply their new knowledge and skills in their own special, multi-day outdoor journey that celebrates their time together and their rite of passage toward authentic manhood.

- > Mentor Fathers commit to about 5 hours per month.
- Mentor Fathers and Field Buddies meet (4) times a month (two of which are Sunday school and Church) and using these tools, gain insight and understanding, serve others, worship, and plan a special outdoor activity so they have a year-end "rite of passage" adventure celebration to prepare and look forward to.



The only way to heal the wound of abandonment is through the radical, counter-cultural truth of FORGIVENESS



We are confident that through a faithful commitment to a fatherless boy, his future will be much brighter and that godly outdoorsmen will have the distinct privilege of introducing him to the Heavenly Father and to His Son, Jesus Christ.