

**FATHER'S DAY...**  
**Dads are a Big Deal...**

**1 Corinthians 11:3 – NKJV**

<sup>3</sup> But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman *is* man, and the head of Christ *is* God.

**Fathers sometimes get a bad rap.**

Churches sometimes spend Mother's Day bragging on Mom and Father's Day beating up on Dad.

**One small boy said,**

"Father's Day is just like Mother's Day, only you don't spend as much on the gift." May I speak for fathers everywhere when I say, "What gift?"

**Mark Twain said,**

"When I was a boy of 14 my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to 21, I was astonished at how much the old man learned in 7 years."

**There are sayings we associate with our dads.**

Here are the top ten Dad quotes from the article - - -

**"The World According To Fathers" ...**

1. What part of "**no**" don't you understand?
  2. This is going to **hurt me** more than it hurts you.
  3. Why? Because **I said so!**
  4. I wasn't asleep; I was just **resting my eyes.**
  5. Shut the door; were you **born in a barn?**
  6. A little **dirt never hurt** anyone.
  7. As long as you **live under my roof**, you'll live by my rules.
  8. I'm not **made out of money.**
  9. Don't make me **stop this car!**
  10. Ask your **mother.**
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**Jewish tradition insists that fatherhood is not necessarily biological.**

- The one who **raises a child** is considered the true parent.

**Teachers are like fathers,**

- Where the father is only a biological relationship

It is the teacher who provides what a father should provide: guidance, values, discipline, direction and love.

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**In the first century, families were presided over by fathers who could do whatever they pleased in their homes.**

- Rome had a law called “the father’s power.”
- Men who were Roman citizens were given absolute rights over their families.

**By law- - -**

- The children and the wife
- **Were regarded as the patriarch’s personal property**
- And he could do with them what he wished.

**A displeased father could**

- Disown his children - - -
- Sell them into slavery - - -
- Or even kill them if he wished.

**When a child was born, the baby was placed between the father’s feet.**

- If the father **picked up the baby**, the child stayed in the home.
- If he turned and walked away - - -
- The child was either left to die or sold at auction.

**Seneca, a contemporary of the apostle Paul, described Roman policy with regard to unwanted animals:**

**“We slaughter a fierce ox; we strangle a mad dog; we plunge a knife into a sick cow. Children born weak or deformed we drown.”**

**Things are not much better today, are they?**

Millions of unwanted babies are aborted each year.

**Children** have become a disposable commodity in our society, just as they were in Rome!

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**But the Bible calls Christian fathers to a different standard!**

- Our kids are **not** property to own
- But **image bearers of God** who need to be trained.

**Dads, we are called to - - -**

- Provide a proper nurturing environment - Where our kids can grow up  
**To love and serve the Lord!!!!!!!**

The New Testament challenges us to see the word “father” as a verb  
not just a noun.

- A **verb** is a word that expresses an action or a state of being.

**Fathers need to action!!!!**

- A **noun** is a word used to name a person, animal, place, thing, and abstract idea.

**Fathers are more than a name!!!!!!**

It's biologically easy to become a father - - -

- But biblically challenging to actually “father” our children.

The Bible very clearly challenges dads - - -

- To be the spiritual leader in their homes - - -
- The ultimate responsibility for **what a family becomes** - - -
- **Belongs to the father!!!!!!!**

**The primary part of that responsibility** - - - Is striking a balance between  
LOVE and DISCIPLINE.

### **Hebrews 12:7 – NIV**

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For **what children are not disciplined** by their father?

*Who loves his child more, the one who corrects or the one that allows wrong?*

**God corrects and disciplines because of His deep love for us.**

### **1 Thessalonians 2:11 - NIV**

<sup>11</sup> For you **know that we dealt with** each of you as a father deals with his own children,

- ***No loving Father would neglect the safety of his children,***
- ***Allowing circumstances - That may be harmful or fatal!!!!!!***

### **Ephesians 6:4 - NIV**

<sup>4</sup> ***Fathers***, (or parents) **do not exasperate** your children; instead, bring them up in the ***training and instruction of the Lord***.

- ***We do not want to discourage our children - - - But, raise them in a Christ honoring manner!***

### **Colossians 3:21 - NIV**

<sup>21</sup> Fathers, (Or parents) **do not embitter** your children, or they will become discouraged.

- ***Children need firm discipline administered in love.***

**In writing to the Corinthians - - -**

- ***Paul compares his role as an apostle to the role filled by a dad.***
- ***No one can take the unique place of dad!***

### **1 Corinthians 4:15 - NIV**

<sup>15</sup> Even if you had ten thousand guardians in Christ, **you do not have many fathers**, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

***Paul was saying here that he was the founder of the church***

- ***Paul's tough words were motivated by love –***
  - ***Like the love a good father has for his children.***
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**One of the biggest threats to the generation we are now raising - - -  
Is the breakdown of the family.**

Lifelong marriages **provide the foundation for social order**; everything of value rest on those underpinnings.

Historically, **when the family begins to unravel in any culture**, everything else is adversely affected.

70% of black babies and 20% of white babies born in North America are **born out of wedlock**.

- Most of them **will never know their fathers** – or a **father's love**.

**Only 1/3 of children born in North America** will live with both biological parents through age 18.

**How does this affect us?**

85% of children **with behavior disorders** are from fatherless homes

71% of **high school drop outs** are from fatherless homes

70% of **teen pregnancies** are from fatherless homes

80% of **rapists** are from fatherless homes

75% of **teen patients in drug abuse** centers are from fatherless homes

70% of **juveniles in correctional institutions** are from fatherless homes

85% of **youths in prison** are from fatherless homes

63% of **youth suicides** are from fatherless homes

Thirty years ago, **we believed that poverty and racial discrimination** were primarily responsible **for juvenile crime and behavioral problems**.

Now, nearly all of the evidence points to **family breakup as the real culprit**, and **predicts a societal catastrophe** if we **don't** turn this trend around!

**72% of North Americans** say the physical absence of fathers is the most serious problem facing our families.

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## **How can you buck the trend?**

**By committing your life totally to Christ and raising your family to do the same!**

Christian fathers - **do not lie, steal, lust and covet!**  
- **do not serve the god of money!**  
- **do not father and then abandon their children!**  
- **do not cheat on their wives!**  
- **don't send their kids to church, they take them!**  
- **have a REAL relationship with God!!!!!!!!!!**

**The greatest need of the hour is united homes where Christ is exalted!**

Many of you were raised in homes where this was **NOT** the case - - -

- The Bible has special value for you since it **shows us an IDEAL father – God Himself!**

### **Matthew 7:9-11** - NIV

<sup>9</sup>“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup> Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?

<sup>11</sup> If you, then, **though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!**

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As we learn to know God better as a loving father, **we learn to ask for what is good for us, he then grants it!**

Many miss the fact that **we must 1<sup>st</sup> be born again to receive God's blessings.**

### **John 15:7** - NIV

<sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, **ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.**

- Apart from Christ our efforts are unfruitful.
- Are you receiving the nourishment and life offered by Christ?

**Galatians 4:6- 7-** NIV

<sup>6</sup> **Because you are his sons**, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.”

<sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, **but God’s child**; and since you are his child, **God has made you also an heir**.

**As God’s heirs – we learn to ask for what is good for us, he then grants it!**

- We can claim what he has provided for us –
- **Our full identity as His children!**

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**The Story of Jairus – Mark 5:22-24 - Mark 5:35-42**

1. **He was the father** of a young daughter.
2. His daughter **was in urgent need**, due to a severe illness.
3. **He pleaded earnestly** for her to Jesus.
4. **He exhibited great faith** on her behalf, **Mark 5:40**
5. **Jesus answered by miraculously raising the girl from the dead.**

**Jairus’s crisis made him feel confused, afraid, and without hope.**

- **Jesus’ words** to Jairus in the midst of crisis speaks to us as well,
- **“Don’t be afraid, Just Believe.”**

**In Jesus there is both Hope and Promise!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

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**The Story of the Father of a Deaf-Mute, Epileptic Son, Mark 9:17-27**

1. His son was in **great need**.
2. **The father had faith** to come to Jesus and His disciples.
3. **That faith was initially disappointed** because the disciples could not do anything.

4. Even so, the father **asked for an increase of faith**, Mark 9:23-24.

5. ***Jesus answered by miraculously healing the son.***

***Jesus meant here that anything is possible if we believe - - - Because nothing is too difficult for God.***

***Closing:***

***Growing in faith is a constant process of daily renewing our trust in Jesus.***

Fathers **it is time** to Appeal!!!!!!!!!!!!

1. **Fathers:** It is time to believe God for your family and intercede for your family.
2. **Everyone:** **it is time**

***If you have faith, God will work in your life.***

***If you think you are lacking in faith, call out to the Lord anyway and ask Him to increase your faith.***

***We must continue to trust God because, in time, He will fulfill all His promises!***