

## God's Design for Dads: A Father's Privileged Tasks

Fatherhood is one of the foundational responsibilities of God's creation.

The absence of a husband makes a woman a widow. The absence of a father makes a child an orphan. Either situation puts the widow or the orphan in a very vulnerable position. God speaks often of the care for widows and orphans.

When God commanded the first couple (Adam & Eve) to "be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth," it included the concept of fatherhood as the core responsibility of men throughout the ages. God's design for men to father children includes several God-assigned tasks for these fathers.

### 1. God Assigns a Dad to Commit to \_\_\_\_\_ with His Wife to Raise Their Children

**Gen 1:27-28** So God created man in His [own] image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

**Eph 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her

### 2. God Assigns a Dad to Work to \_\_\_\_\_ for His Wife & Children

**Prov 24:27** Prepare your outside work, Make it fit for yourself in the field; And afterward build your house. (cp. Gen 2)

**Matt 7:11** If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

**Mark 9:17** Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit."

**1 Tim 5:8** But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

### 3. God Assigns a Dad to Stand to \_\_\_\_\_ His Wife & Children

**Ps 68:5** A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, [Is] God in His holy habitation.

**Is 1:17** Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.

### 4. God Assigns a Dad to Train to \_\_\_\_\_ His Wife & Children

**Eph 5:26-27** that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. (cf. Eph 6:4)

### a) To Point My Children to \_\_\_\_\_

**Deut 6:1-2,6-7** "Now this [is] the commandment, [and these are] the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe [them] in the land which you are crossing over to possess, <sup>2</sup> "that you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. <sup>6</sup> " And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. <sup>7</sup> "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. (cf Eph 6:4)

### b) To Protect My Children from \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalms 78:1-8** <sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, <sup>3</sup> Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us. <sup>4</sup> We will not hide [them] from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. <sup>5</sup> For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children; <sup>6</sup> That the generation to come might know [them], The children [who] would be born, [That] they may arise and declare [them] to their children, <sup>7</sup> That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments; <sup>8</sup> And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation [that] did not set its heart aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God. **Prov 1:10** My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent. (cf. Prov 5)

### c) To \_\_\_\_\_ My Children

**Heb 12:5-11** And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; <sup>6</sup> For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." <sup>7</sup> If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? <sup>8</sup> But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. <sup>9</sup> Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected [us], and we paid [them] respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup> For they indeed for a few days chastened [us] as seemed [best] to them, but He for [our] profit, that [we] may be partakers of His holiness. <sup>11</sup> Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (cf. Eph 6:4)

### d) To Encourage My Children Toward Biblical \_\_\_\_\_

Prov 2:1-17; 3:1-18; 4:1-27, etc.