

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

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What Does The Bible Say About Fathers?

I have heard much said throughout the years about fathers and fatherhood, and one saying that has always stuck with me throughout the years is “A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow.” Indeed, children look up to their fathers, and it is because of this that all fathers must strive to be a man who sets a proper example for their children to follow. So, knowing that, let us notice some things that the Bible has to say about fathers.

Fathers Are Not To Provoke Their Children To Wrath.

Sadly, there are a number of children today who have an estranged relationship with their father because their father has provoked them to wrath due to being unreasonable, abusive, vindictive, unloving etc. However, the inspired apostle Paul wrote, “*And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath...*” (Ephesians 6:4). He likewise penned, “*Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged*” (Colossians 3:21). Simply put, Paul is instructing fathers to not allow their actions to stir up or arouse their children to great anger, lest they become disheartened, and deprived of courage or confidence. Therefore, fathers, may we all seek to always make the proper application of this instruction, remembering that our children are looking up to us to lead them in the way in which they should go, knowing that failure to properly do so, will lead them astray.

Fathers Are To Bring Their Children Up In The Training and Admonition of The Lord.

Rather than provoking their children to wrath, fathers are

instructed to bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). Now, one might ask, how is this training and instruction to be done? Well, first of all it is to be done with personal commitment. You see, one can instruct all they want, and say the greatest things, but unless they are personally committed to doing the things they instruct and say, their words are meaningless. Therefore, if a father is going to be effective in bringing up his children in the training and admonition of the Lord, he must not only teach them the way of the Lord, but he must likewise be personally devoted to living it. Also, a father needs to be sincere in his guidance, discipline, and instruction, and he must always do so in a manner that is according to the Lord’s will, and in a way that pleases the Lord. So, knowing this, may all fathers strive to set the proper example to their children, and bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

Fathers Are To Correct and Discipline Their Children Out of Love For Them.

All fathers have the responsibility to correct and discipline their children when they do wrong, and this is a responsibility that must be taken very seriously by all fathers. You see, I do not know a father who does not love, and want what is best for his children. Therefore, when it comes to correcting and disciplining our children, all fathers need to keep in mind these words of wisdom, “*My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights*” (Proverbs 3:11-12). The wise man also declared, “*He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly*” (Proverbs 13:24). Again, love and wanting what is best for our children is what should motivate us fathers to properly correct and discipline our children, knowing that it is done for them, for their own good (Hebrews 12:5-11), and never forgetting, “The value of a loving father has no price.”

As we think about how important our father is to us, may we always be mindful of the things that the Bible has to say about fathers, and may all fathers always strive to be the fathers that God would have them to be!

✍️ Brad Phillips

WALK A LITTLE PLAINER, DADDY

Walk a little plainer, daddy,
Said a little boy so frail.
I'm following in your footsteps,
And I don't want to fail.
Sometimes your steps are very plain,
Sometimes they are hard to see,
So walk a little plainer, daddy,
For you are leading me.

I know that once you walked this way,
Many years ago,
And what you did along the way,
I'd really like to know.
For sometimes when I am tempted,
I don't know what to do.
So walk a little plainer, daddy,
For I must follow you.

Someday when I'm grown up,
You are like I want to be.
Then I will have a little boy,
Who will want to follow me.
And I would want to lead him right,
And help him to be true.
So walk a little plainer, daddy,
For we must follow you.

Author Unknown

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)

Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)

Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)

Confess Jesus Christ. (Matthew 10:32)

Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)

Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)

Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

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