



FATHER'S DAY

The most important thing a father can do for his children
is to love their mother.

June 18, 2023

Matthew 6 ⁹ Pray like this: '**Our Beloved Father**, dwelling in the heavenly realms, may the glory of your name be the center on which our lives turn. ¹⁰ Manifest your kingdom realm, and cause your every purpose to be fulfilled on earth, just as it is in heaven. ¹¹ We acknowledge you as **our Provider** of all we need each day. ¹² Forgive us the wrongs we have done as we ourselves release forgiveness to those who have wronged us. ¹³ Rescue us every time we face tribulation and set us free from evil. For **you are the King** who rules with power and glory forever. Amen.' TPT

Malachi 4 ⁵ "Look, I am sending you the **prophet Elijah** before the great and dreadful day of the Lord arrives. ⁶ **His preaching will turn the hearts of fathers to their children, and the hearts of children to their fathers.** Otherwise I will come and strike the land with a curse." NLT

Ephesians 5 ²¹ And out of your reverence for Christ **be supportive of each other in love.** ²² **For wives, this means being devoted to your husbands** like you are tenderly devoted to our Lord, ²³ for the **husband provides leadership for the wife**, just as Christ provides leadership for his church, as the Savior and Reviver of the body. ²⁴ In the same way the church is devoted to Christ, **let the wives be devoted to their husbands in everything.** ²⁵ And **to the husbands, you are to demonstrate love for your wives with the same tender devotion that Christ demonstrated to us, his bride.** For he died for us, sacrificing himself ²⁶ to make us holy and pure, cleansing us through the showering of the pure water of the Word of God. ²⁷ **All that he does in us is designed to make us a mature church for his pleasure,** until we become a source of praise to him—**glorious and radiant, beautiful and holy, without fault or flaw.** ²⁸ **Husbands have the obligation of loving and caring for their wives the same way they love and care for their own bodies, for to love your wife is to love your own self.** ²⁹ No one abuses his own body, but pampers it—serving and satisfying its needs. That's exactly what Christ does for his church! ³⁰ *He serves and satisfies us* as members of his body. ³¹ **For this reason a man is to leave his father and his mother and lovingly hold to his wife, since the two have become joined as one flesh.** ³² **Marriage is the beautiful design of the Almighty,** a great mystery of Christ and his church. ³³ So every married man should be gracious to his wife just as he is gracious to himself. And every wife should be tenderly devoted to her husband. ^{6:1} Children, *if you want to be wise*, listen to your parents and do what they tell you, and the Lord will help you. ² For the commandment, "Honor your father and your mother," was the first of the *Ten Commandments* with a promise attached: ³ "You will prosper and live a long, full life *if you honor your parents.*" ⁴ **Fathers, don't exasperate your children, but raise them up with loving discipline and counsel that brings the revelation of our Lord.** TPT

Note: vs 6:4 In other words, fathers should show consideration for the different levels of understanding and experience that children possess, dealing with them at their level, or risk causing them loads of heartache.

Luke 15 ¹¹ Then Jesus said, "Once there was **a father with two sons.** ¹² The younger son came to his father and said, 'Father, don't you think it's time to give me my share of your estate?' So the father went ahead and distributed between the two sons their inheritance. ¹³ Shortly afterward, **the younger son packed up all his belongings and traveled off to see the world. He journeyed to a far-off land where he soon wasted all he was given in a binge of extravagant and reckless living.** ¹⁴ "With everything spent and nothing left, he grew hungry, because there was a severe famine in that

land. ¹⁵ So he begged a farmer in that country to hire him. The farmer hired him and sent him out to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ The son was so famished, he was willing even to eat the slop given to the pigs, because no one would feed him a thing. ¹⁷ **“Humiliated, the son finally realized what he was doing, and he thought, ‘There are many workers at my father’s house who have all the food they want with plenty to spare. They lack nothing. Why am I here dying of hunger, feeding these pigs and eating their slop? ¹⁸ I want to go back home to my father’s house, and I’ll say to him, “Father, I was wrong. I have sinned against you. ¹⁹ I’ll never again be worthy to be called your son. Please, Father, just treat me like one of your employees.” ’ ²⁰ “So the young son set off for home. From a long distance away, his father saw him coming, dressed as a beggar, and great compassion swelled up in his heart for his son who was returning home. The father raced out to meet him, swept him up in his arms, hugged him dearly, and kissed him over and over with tender love. ²¹ “Then the son said, ‘Father, I was wrong. I have sinned against you. I could never deserve to be called your son. Just let me be—’ “The father interrupted and said, ‘Son, you’re home now!’ ²² “Turning to his servants, the father said, ‘Quick, bring me the best robe, my very own robe, and I will place it on his shoulders. Bring the ring, the seal of sonship, and I will put it on his finger. And bring out the best shoes you can find for my son. ²³ Let’s *prepare a great feast* and celebrate. ²⁴ For my beloved son was once dead, but now he’s alive! Once he was lost, but now he is found!’ And everyone celebrated with overflowing joy. TPT**

Experts from focus on the Family “The Significance of a Father’s Influence”

Fathers are far more than just “second adults” in the home. Involved fathers bring positive benefits to their children. They provide protection and economic support and male role models. Their parenting style is significantly different and is important in healthy child development.

Dads love more dangerously, play rougher and are more likely to encourage risk-taking. They introduce them to a wider variety of methods of dealing with life. They stress rules, justice, fairness, and duty in discipline, teach them objectivity and consequences of right and wrong. Prepare them for challenges of life and demonstrate by example the meaning of respect between the sexes. Fathers encourage competition and independence. Dads emphasize conceptual communication to help them expand their vocabulary and intellectual capacities.

Mothers promote equity, creating a sense of security. Moms major in sympathy, care, and help, demonstrating the importance of relationships. Dads tend to see their child in relation to the rest of the world. Moms tend to see the rest of the world in relation to their child. Together they balance each other out and equip their children with a healthy, well-rounded approach to life.

In an analysis of over 100 studies on parent-child relationships, it was found that having a loving and nurturing father was as important for a child’s happiness, well-being, and social and academic success as to having a loving and nurturing mother.

A father’s more active play style and comparatively slower response to a toddler or infant experiencing frustration serve to promote problem-solving competencies and independence in the child.

Positive father care is associated with more pro-social and positive moral behavior in boys and girls. A study from the University of Pennsylvania indicates that children who feel a closeness and warmth with their father are twice as likely to enter college, 75% less likely to have a child in their teen years, 80% less likely to be incarcerated and half as likely to show various signs of depression.

In a 26 year long study, researchers found that the number one factor in developing empathy in children was father involvement. Fathers spending regular time alone with their children translated into children who became compassionate adults.