

AVOIDING a DAD'S GREATEST MISTAKE

It's Time to Man Up

Lesson 2

Dads, It's Time to Man Up!

Masculinity is the courage to "man up" and be the man God created you to be and Christ saves you to become!

*Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, **act like men**, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.*
1Corinthians 16:13-14 ESV

The Greatest Mistake Most Dads Make Is PROVOKING Their Children.

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. Colossians 3:21



1. WHO Is Being Addressed? DADS as the HEAD of the HOME

Fathers alone? Parents as Equals? Fathers as Head of the Family?

2. WHY Are Dad's Being Addressed? You are THE MAN = DIFFERENCE MAKER in your home!

You either DRIVE your kids away from you and your God or you DRAW your kids to you and your God!

3. WHAT Makes the Difference? Don't PROVOKE your children!

- Don't provoke them to ANGRY REBELLION by how you raise and/or relate to them. Ephesians 6:4

"Fathers, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger – do not exasperate them to resentment..." ~Amplified Bible

- Don't provoke them to BITTER RESENTMENT by how you raise and/or relate to them. Colossians 3:21

"Fathers, do not provoke or irritate or fret your children – do not be hard on them or harass them; lest they become discouraged and sullen and morose and feel inferior and frustrated; do not break their spirit." ~Amplified Bible

- Consequences of provoking our children:

- 1) GIVES ground to the devil. Ephesians 4:27
- 2) GRIEVES the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 4:30
- 3) GROWS a root of bitterness. Ephesians 4:31; Hebrews 12:14-17

4. HOW Do I Avoid Provoking as a Dad?

Depend on the Lord to Develop these 9 Characteristics in Your Life:

#1 Man Up and Be PATIENT!

#2 Man Up and Be PRUDENT!

#3 Man Up and Be PREDICTABLE!

#4 Man Up and Be PERSONAL!

#5 Man Up and Be PRESENT!

#6 Man Up and Be POSITIVE!

#7 Man Up and Be PLIABLE!

#8 Man Up and Be PLAYFUL!

#9 Man Up and Be PROACTIVE or PURPOSE DRIVEN!

It's Time to Man Up and Find Out If I Am Provoking My Children

- ASK them.
- LISTEN to your spouse.
- FOLLOW the leading of the Holy Spirit
- LOOK for signs of active, angry rebellion and/or passive, bitter resentment.

It's Time to Man Up and Stop Provoking Our Children!

- PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER which ones you struggle with the most and cause the greatest resentment in your children.
- PLAINLY CONFESS your sin before God and accept His forgiveness and cleansing.
- PATIENTLY ASK your children and wife for forgiveness before you go to sleep tonight.
- PRACTICALLY REPENT of your attitude and actions and replace them with the appropriate attitude and actions.

What If I Discouraged My Dad as His Child?

For all of us who have dads – and we all do – do the same 4 steps toward your father, only difference is to ask for his forgiveness for your resentment, bitterness, and anger.