

The Disappearing Father

Deut. 4:9 (LSB) – “Only keep yourself and keep your soul very carefully, lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. But make them known to your sons and to your grandsons.”

I. Introduction

Focus on the Family – The Significance of A Father’s Influence (Dr. David Provenoe from Rutgers and co-director of the National Marriage Project)

1. Fathers provide protection
2. Fathers provide economic support
3. Fathers give a model of manhood (good or bad)
4. They parent differently from the mother...dangerously

II. The Father Before the Lord

1. A Father knows how to kneel in _____ to the God he trusts
2. A Father displays a _____ for God that permeates his life
3. A Father cultivates Godly _____ to be evidenced in his life

III. The Father and His Wife

1. A Father knows the importance of _____ His wife well
 - i. He knows she is a daughter of God
 - ii. Does what He needs to make her feel secure
 - iii. Does what He needs to lead her deeper in the Lord
 - iv. Does what He needs to reassure her of her worth, value, and importance to him
2. A Father knows the importance of the _____ of marriage
 - i. Treats vows seriously
 - ii. Does not set unrealistic expectations
 - iii. Invests in his relationship
 - iv. Commits to love his wife well

IV. The Father and His Children

1. Your _____ will echo further in the heart of your child than you know
2. A Father shows His children how to prosper _____ and naturally
3. A Father shows His children how to _____
 - i. Where to turn in response to disappointment, adversity, and struggle
 - ii. How to conduct oneself when times are tough
4. A Father takes time to _____ His children alongside _____ in the ways and words of God

V. Conclusion

1. A Father who knows whom He worships pleases God
2. A Father who leads and loves His wife well pleases God
3. A Father who leads and loves His children well pleases God

Answer Key:

I. Introduction

II. The Father Before the Lord

1. A Father knows how to kneel in WORSHIP to the God he trusts
2. A Father displays a LOVE for God that permeates his life
3. A Father cultivates Godly DESIRES to be evidenced in his life

III. The Father and His Wife

1. A Father knows the importance of LOVING His wife well
2. A Father knows the importance of the COVENANT of marriage

IV. The Father and His Children

1. Your PRESENCE will echo further in the heart of your child than you know
2. A Father shows His children how to prosper SPIRITUALLY and naturally
3. A Father shows His children how to HANDLE HARDSHIP
4. A Father takes time to DISCIPLINE His children alongside INSTRUCTION in the ways and words of God

V. Conclusion