

Five Principles that Make a Great Father

Whether you are a father with a family, a blended family, a single parent and especially a Single mom family raising children, there are principles in this message to assist you in being a great parent.

There are certain characteristics that need to be in a man who is going to be a great father.

Whether you're 18 or 80 – if you are able to have a child with a woman. These principles are the things a man should have to be called a father.

1. He or the person who is head of the home – should be a **PROTECTOR**.
 - A great father is a protective father.
 - He is concerned about the wellbeing of the entire family under the responsibility that the Lord has given to him – his wife and his children, grandchildren and all that the Lord has made him a steward of in this life.
 - HE IS CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR WELL BEING: He should know “Where were you at?” “What time did you come home?” “Who were you with?” “What is his/her name? What does her/his father do in life?” “Who is that that called you and talked to you like that?”
 - The inclination given to him by the Lord should be to make sure his family is safe.
 - A great father will one day stand before The Father of the Universe and give an account for everything the Lord has placed in his care. “He should be able to say to God: “Everything you gave to me, I kept.”
 - He is a Protector: protecting them against the enemy, against fraud, protecting against stress.
 - There are times when a great father will say nothing to you about a situation; but it's because he is protecting you.
 - Eph. 5:23 “For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and he is the Savior of the body.”
 - Being the **head** means a father, husband is the covering/protection for you.
 - If you fight and resist that, you are fighting against God's plan of authority for your life and the enemy can have a doorway into your life when you are in rebellion.
 - As head and leader, trouble hits him first, he's the doorway to the family and it has to come through him. Anything coming against the family is like wind being diverted by him and it can't get through to the family.
 - You may not be appreciated by your family now because you are blocking the winds of adversity coming against the family. But let the man be taken out of the family

and the family realizes that it was dad who was dealing with all this stuff and now we have to deal with it.

- Brothers, keep standing and protecting your family even though they may not appreciate it and realize what you are doing for them.
- **“A Good man is recognized for the fullness of his worth upon his departure!”**
- All Elisha had to worry about was pouring water on the hands of Elijah. But when Elijah was gone; he had to step up and take the old man’s mantel and find out if the God of Elijah would do the same for him that he did for Elijah.
- Men have to deal with what they are going through in silence because they are protecting their families – they just have to deal with it without complaining and whining.

2. He’s a PROVIDER-

- This is more than money:
 - He is to provide wisdom, friendship, council, comradery, perspective, insight, he has a giving spirit, he adds to your life.
 - Your life is to fuller and richer because a father is involved in it.
 - It’s not a matter of who makes the most money; he is still the provider.
 - He may not make as much money, but he’s in there working to make it work out.
 - He is to be a contributor and he’s a giver.
 - Girls and women, if he’s got a stingy spirit; don’t date him.
 - If he’s stingy at 20, he’ll be stingy at 70.
- God created man in His image and part of that is that God was Jireh – Provider – that means in a man’s spirit should be a giver and not a taker.
- As a man, your body ought to give you a hint as to what you are to be – you are made to be a giver and not a taker.

3. He should be a PROMOTER

- He should have the heart to promote others in the family not wanting the family to make him look good.
- Using the gifts that God has given you to make them look good.
- God even said about Jesus – “This is My Son in whom I am well pleased.”
 - If God said that to promote Jesus, do you not realize that this is not about you; it’s about your children.
 - The enemy is not fighting you over you; he’s already messed with you and you are dysfunctional.
 - The enemy is fighting you to get you to pass that dysfunction on to your generations so he can mess them up too.

- Just because your daddy left – doesn't mean you have to leave your family
- You have to resist the devil and stand still and see the salvation of the Lord for your family.
- You have to stick it out and stay and stop those generational curses and create a new culture for your family and those who come after you.

4. **A Great Father should be a PRIEST**

- In the Bible, the man was the priest in the home.
- God referred to Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- He was Abraham's God when Abraham became a man, He didn't become Isaac's God while Isaac was a child - He became Isaac's God when Isaac became a man.
- He became Jacob's God when Jacob became a man.
- It is a process where God began to deal with the Patriarchal blessing that is passed down from the father.
- The father is to speak into his child and influence the life of his son/daughter.
- The first thing Noah did after the flood was to build an altar.
- As a man, you have to have a prayer life.
- You can't just come to church; you have to have a prayer life or you will crack under the pressure of this life. You will flip out and break; you have to learn to cast your cares on Him.
- As your wife, kids, other family, work stuff comes to you; you have to turn it over to the Lord as a priest.

1Tim. 2:8 "I will that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting."

1Thess 5:17 "Pray without ceasing."

- Men have to pray without ceasing because you have everything thrown and brought to you; you have problems coming at you all the time.
- If you don't pray without ceasing, you'll start smoking, drinking, cursing, running around again because you can't take the pressure.
- You have to turn it over to the Lord.

Men, today; many of you think that the biggest problem between you and the Lord are your sins.

As a man, I want to tell you today, your biggest problem between you and the Lord is not your sins; **its your lack of prayer.**

1Chron. 7:14 God says:

“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and will heal their land.”

God is saying: “Don’t worry about your sins, I’ll forgive your sins.
Don’t worry about your land, I’ll heal your land.”

“My problem with you is that you don’t pray!”

Men, there is a devil and an enemy attacking your family: your wife, your kids, your Grandkids, your friends and work associates.

**What are you gonna do about it? Just stand by and allow it to happen?
You better get on your knees or prostrate on the floor and call on the Lord for them to be saved, rescued, blessed, marry the right mate, make the right choices in life and serve the Lord.**

As the priest, YOU are called to be the intercessor for your family – stop leaving up to your wife, the prayer group and the pastor to fulfill your responsibility to pray for your family.

We need some men that will fight the devil with spiritual warfare:

- **There needs to men that stand up and fight the devil for their marriage – their wife and their kids.**
- **You can fight the devil better than anybody else can; you have the authority in your house.**
- **If you’re a praying man, God has made you the priest over your house and you need to take charge in the Spirit and throw the devil and all the demons out of your family.**

Brothers, we have to show up for the fight for our family and those God has put under our care.

**YOU ARE THE PRIEST OVER YOUR HOME &
WHEN THEY’RE IN TROUBLE – YOU’VE GOT TO BE THERE!**

5. A great Father is a **PROPHET**

- **He prophecies to his children telling them what they can be, what they can become, and what they can do.**

- He speaks to their destiny – not their predicament they are in.
- He speaks to them words that tell them – “you are better than this.”
- “You can go further than this, this is not the end of your life; get back up and fight again.”
- “I see it in the Spirit that you are a winner and not a quitter!”
- “I believe in you, even though others don’t.”

You need to prophecy and preach to your kids and family that they are going to make it.

The story of Rachel giving birth to her last son for Jacob, in extreme pain while dying gave the son a bad name and blame for what she was going through.

Gen. 36:18 “Rachel died while giving birth to the son. Before dying, she named the boy **Benoni** – “Son of my suffering.” But Jacob called him **Benjamin** – “right handed or favorite son.”

Be careful that you don’t scar your children by your pain!

- **When life hasn’t done you right, don’t let that bitterness be passed off on how you treat your children!**

Rachel had every right to lash out in her pain, but her dysfunction was affecting her heritage.

Jacob stepped in and changed his name to Benjamin –

This changed his heritage, for out of Benjamin came the lineage of the Kings of Israel.

One king after another came out of Benjamin’s loins because his father prophesied over him his destiny and future and gave him a better name.

The problem with most of us as men in our American culture today is that we have never had a Godly man lay their hands on us and tell us who we are in the Kingdom of God.

You need to be blessed and go home and lay hands on your sons and daughters and prophecy over them a good future and word and break the power of the curse off of them.

If you don’t have an earthly father to bless you, you can find a Godly man around you who can bless you.

If you are a single mom or woman and don’t have a Godly husband or father in your life, find a dad from the congregation who has a good marriage and ask him to bless you and your sons and daughters.