FIRST, GOD PROVIDES FOR US LIKE A FATHER DOES.

A. Most men are defined by what they do, that is, their work or occupation.

B. Like a perfect father, God provides for us—Phil. 4:19.
   1. Notice that God gives us what we need, not necessarily what we want.
   2. God provides more than just the bare necessities of life—James 1:17.

   James 1:17
   Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father...

SECOND, GOD ADVISES US LIKE A FATHER DOES.

A. Most fathers are quiet at home compared to mothers.

B. The Bible tells us that like a perfect father, God advises us—James 1:5.

   James 1:5
   If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

   1. Much of God’s advice can be found in the Bible, but prayer is also a good way to hear from God.
   2. James says God doesn’t find fault in us, in other words, He doesn’t criticize us.

THIRD, GOD IS AVAILABLE TO US LIKE A FATHER.

A. It’s true that some fathers today are “MIA”—missing in action.

B. The Bible tells us that like a perfect father, God is always available to us—Heb. 13:5.

   Hebrews 13:5
   ...God has said, “Never will I leave you and never will I forsake you.”

   1. It’s possible that some of us don’t sense God’s presence in our lives.
   2. If that’s the case, guess who moved? Not God.
   3. Remember that God is always with us—Isa. 43:2.
IV. FOURTH, GOD LOVES US LIKE A FATHER DOES.

A. Most men prefer to demonstrate their love rather than verbalize it.

B. The Bible tells us that like a perfect father, God loves us—Psa. 103:13.

C. How does God express His love for us?

1. In words—Jer. 31:3.

   Jeremiah 31:3
   The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: “I have loved you with an everlasting love.

2. In actions—Romans 5:8.

   Romans 5:8
   ...God demonstrates his love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

3. In discipline—Prov. 3:12.

   Proverbs 3:12
   The Lord disciplines those he loves like a father does...

4. In forgiveness. God forgives us as the father forgave the prodigal son. .”

5. God loves us in all these ways because it’s in His nature to love—I John 4:8.

   1 John 4:8
   ....God is love.