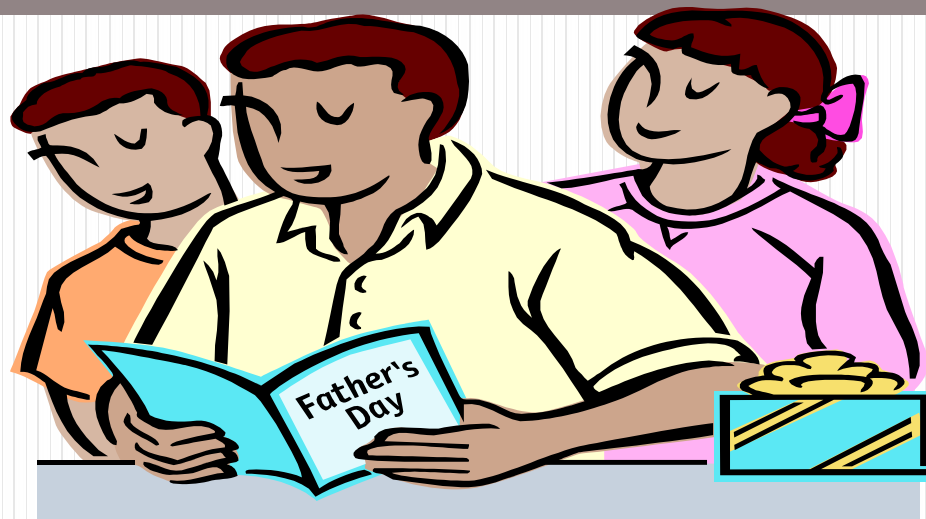


Ephesians 6:1-4

**Are Fathers are
Important ?**



Considerations On Fatherhood

- Influence of government
- Myths about fatherhood
- Influence of television
- His influence in the home
 - Cognitive learning
 - Moral behavior
 - Health and well-being



Influence of a
Christian Father

Fathers Provide for Their Children

- By bringing them up to maturity
 - **Ephesians 6:4**, “fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”
- By planning for their needs
 - **1 Timothy 5:8**, “if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.”



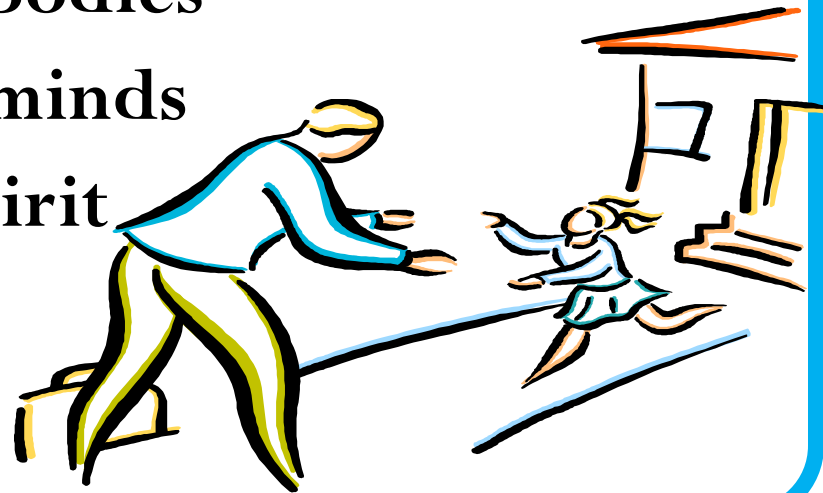
Fathers Provide for Their Children

- By giving them what they need
 - **Luke 11:11-13**, “If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if *he ask* a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”



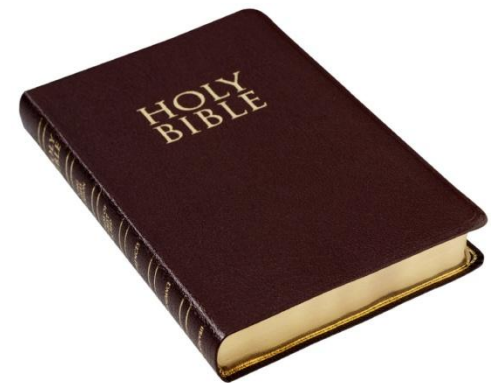
Fathers Provide for Their Children

- By laying up for their future
 - **2 Corinthians 12:14**, “children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children.”
 - Providing a stable loving environment in which children can grow and thrive
 - Providing food for their bodies
 - Providing food for their minds
 - Providing food for the spirit
 - Providing an example of a Christian father



Fathers Are To Be Teachers

- By providing proper training
 - **Ephesians 6:4**, “fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”
 - **Deuteronomy 6:7**, “thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”



Fathers Are To Be Teachers

- By passing on God's law from generation ...
 - **Psalm 78:1-7**, "Give ear, O my people, *to my law*: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. ... Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide *them* from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done."
- By helping children create godly habits
 - **Proverbs 22:6**, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."



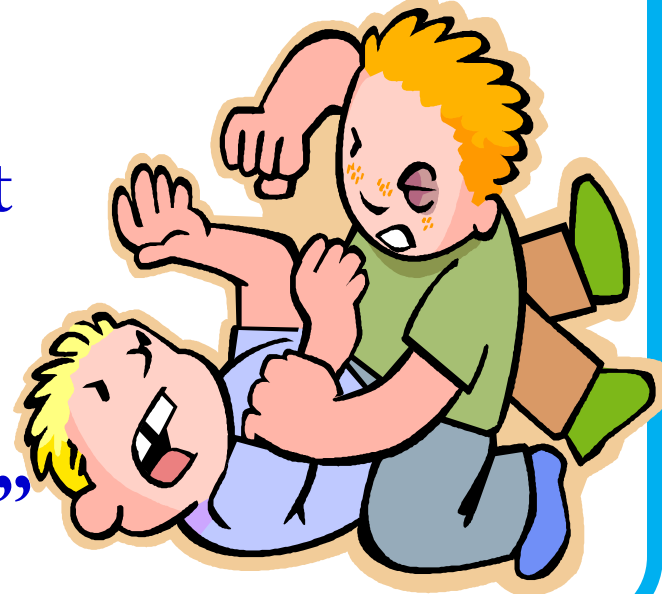
Fathers Are to Warn and Discipline

- By providing admonition & chastening
 - **Ephesians 6:4**, “fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”
 - **Hebrews 12:7-8**, “If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.”

Admonish & Chasten, as necessary to
produce obedient well-behaved children!

Why Is Discipline Essential?

- Children are foolish
 - **Proverbs 13:24**, “He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes (properly).”
 - **Proverbs 22:15**, “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”
 - **Proverbs 23:12**, “Withhold not correction from the child”
 - **Proverbs 13:18**, “reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life”



Conclusion of the Matter

- **Ephesians 6:1-3**, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.”
- **Ephesians 6:4**, “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”



Thoughts from Paul Harvey