

FATHER'S DAY

God Fathers

by Dr. John Polis

INTRODUCTION

Most men who have children want to be the best father possible. As Christians, we are made in God's image and have both His father and mother qualities within our new nature. We will discover those qualities in this message, but first we want to find out why many of us fathers struggle to be the "godly or God father" that we want to be.

NUMBER 1. Let go of the past.

- A. Many men struggle to be a father, because they have not been fathered properly.
- B. Read statistics
- C. Suffer from Orphan/Independent spirit, see brochure in bulletin.
- D. Abusive fathers - anger, self hatred, inferiority.
- E. Absent father - rejection
- F. Aloof father - loneliness
- G. Reproducing this behavior creates a cycle of destruction
 - 1. We do what we see done.

JOHN 5:19

Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

- 2. We reproduce our father's image

JOHN 14:9

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

NUMBER 2. Look for new mentors

- A. Humble enough to learn from others.

PHILIPPIANS 4:9

The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

B. We are supposed to learn from each other.

COLOSSIANS 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

C. Older should teach the younger in the family of God.

1 TIMOTHY 5:1-2

Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort *him* as a father, younger men as brothers, ²older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity.

1 PETER 5:5

Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

D. Paul role modeled fathering skills to the church

1 THESSALONIANS 2:10-12

You *are* witnesses, and God *also*, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe; ¹¹as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father *does* his own children, ¹²that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

NUMBER 3. Learn from your Heavenly Father.

1. Qualities of a God Father
2. Provision (infidel - untrustworthy)

MATTHEW 6:8

"Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

1 TIMOTHY 5:8

But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

3. Protection

MATTHEW 26:53

Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?

4. Instruction

JAMES 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

PROVERBS 4:1-2

Hear, *my* children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding; ² For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law.

5. Discipline (scourge - flog)

HEBREWS 12:5-11

And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; ⁶ For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." ⁷ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? ⁸ But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected *us*, and we paid *them* respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they indeed for a few days chastened *us* as seemed *best* to them, but He for *our* profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. ¹¹ Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

JOHN 19:1

So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged *Him*.

PROVERBS 13:24

He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly.

PROVERBS 20:30

Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, As *do* stripes the inner depths of the heart.

6. Comfort "mercy - pity" "comfort - solace or consolation)

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,