

# A FATHER'S VOICE

Father's Day · 1 Thessalonians 2:11–12

---

## THE BIG IDEA

A father's voice doesn't just speak — it installs things that play back for a lifetime. Father by design, not by default.

“For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, **encouraging, comforting and urging** you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.”

— 1 Thessalonians 2:11–12 (NIV)

---

## 1 A Voice That Encourages

Most kids never doubt that dad loves them — they doubt that he likes them. Encouragement calls out the gold in your kids before they can see it themselves.

**APPLY:** Say it out loud. Make it specific. Praise character over performance.

## 2 A Voice That Comforts

You're the thermostat, not the thermometer — the whole house warms or cools to you. A father's comfort says, “You're safe — and you're still strong.”

**APPLY:** Absorb the bad day instead of distributing it. And when you fail to lead, lead by repentance.

## 3 A Voice That Urges

Your kids are arrows (Psalm 127) — not made to stay in the quiver, but to be aimed and released. They need a coach, not just a cheerleader.

**APPLY:** Push them toward the Kingdom — something bigger than their own happiness.

---

## The Voice of God

You can't pour from a dry well. Before God asks you to be a father, he invites you to be his son.

“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” — Matthew 3:17

The Father's delight came before the performance. Identity before achievement. And if your father is gone, passed, or absent — hear this: you are not fatherless.

---

## The Charge — This Week

1. **Say the three sentences.** To each kid, out loud: one encouragement, one comfort, one calling.
2. **Write the vision.** — “By the time my child leaves my house, they will \_\_\_\_.”
3. **Claim one consistent slot.** A breakfast, a drive, a bedtime. Quantity over quality.
4. **No kids at home?** Pick one young man and invest. Be Paul to a Timothy.