

## “Home with the Father” (6-20-21)

**Introduction:** It's Father's Day

### **Deuteronomy 6:1-3 (ESV)**

“Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, (2) that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. (3) Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

**Note:** Keys to building a lasting Home

**Fact:** 3 major influences in how we create and maintain our Home ...

- How we were fathered, because we draw from and repeat what we experienced.
- How we perceive The Father.
- How The Father really is.

### **Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (ESV)**

(4) “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. (5) You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

**Note:** Know who God is, and make Him your aim!

This is the key to building a life that lasts. Not re-inventing your own way, but finding the true ancient path by following the eternal, unchanging God!

**Today's Goal:** I want to give you 7 ways God fathers us, so we have a track to run on in establishing our own home. Don't get overwhelmed, don't try to do all 7 at once, start doing one more than you currently are and add as you go.

#### 1) He fathers with: Amazing Love

##### **1John 3:1**

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

**Note:** Amazing Love - He bestows it, places it upon us as an act of His good will that is not dependent upon our performance or earning it, it is unconditionally placed upon us before we even responded to His love.

##### **Romans 5:8**

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**Note:** We must bestow our love on our kids, it must be an act of our wills, independent of their performance, we must be the initiators and demonstrators of our love for them. It must be tangible, real, definable in their hearts and minds if we are to father like the Father.

## 2) He fathers with: Intimate Involvement

### **Psalms 139:1-3 (ESV)**

(1) O LORD, you have searched me and known me! (2) You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. (3) You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Some notes from **Psalm 139** about the Father's involvement in our lives:

- Father created you - was present at birth
- Knows everything about you - every thought, every word
- He is ever-present - continually thinking of you

**Jesus** (Matthew 6:8) - "For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him."

**Note:** He is so in tune with our lives that he even knows what we need before we do!

We must get involved in our kids lives if we are to father like The Father . . .

- Don't be removed physically or emotionally - non-communicative, uninvolved.
- Get intimately involved in your kids life.

## 3) He fathers with: Boastful Affirmation

### **Matthew 3:17**

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

**Heavenly Father repeated this again at the Transfiguration** (Matthew 17:5)

**Note:** Jesus knew privately how the father felt about him. But the Father takes it a step farther and in public says, "Hey everyone, that's my boy, I love Him and He pleases Me."

**Like Alex taught:** Say It! - I love you, you're mine, I'm proud of you, you make me happy, I accept you!

**Fact:** Someone will tell your kids that if you won't, and most likely who that person is won't make you happy.

## 4) He fathers by giving: Necessary Provision

### **Matthew 6:26**

Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

**Note:** Our value to Him assures us of His provision! Let that truth be an anchor against anxiety & loneliness.

However, He doesn't just provide the physical necessities...

### **Ephesians 1:3**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

**Note:** He fathers us by giving us everything we need to live a successful life both physically and spiritually. He gives us every opportunity to excel over the long haul— both now and into eternity!

### 5) He fathers with: **Strong protection**

#### **Psalms 91:2 (ESV)**

I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

**Note:** from **Psalm 91** God’s protection - He delivers us, covers us, shields us, & gives His angels to protect us

**Fact:** Our kids need protecting today more than ever. I’m not talking about smothering, I’m talking about protecting them from what the world would use to corrupt and destroy them. This gets back to intimate involvement- what are they doing, with who, where, knowing habits, hobbies, screening what goes in as best you can and correcting properly when something is wrong.

**Protecting innocence and filling with truth is strong protection!**

#### **John 10:29**

My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.

**Note:** Do your kids feel eternally secure is your love, dedication and commitment to them? Do they feel secure in the fact that no matter what happens, you are there for them and nothing can separate you from your love for them? CALL ME FIRST!

Prodigal’s father is a beautiful example – ran to his son!

### 6) He fathers with: **Loving discipline**

#### **Hebrews 12:5-6, 11 (ESV)**

(5) . . . “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. (6) For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” . . . (11) For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

**Note:** He disciplines us because He loves us, it’s for our benefit, our character becomes more like His.

#### **Ephesians 6:4**

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

**Note:** Don’t be heavy handed, discouraging father. Parent for their benefit, not my comfort!

**Micah Story** - “I is why Bad?” in other words . . . what did I do wrong?

**Consider:** Your discipline should lead to deeper relationship with your children not a more distant relationship fueled by resentment from both you & your child.

Love & Discipline are not at odds with each other. In fact they work in unison!

### 7) He fathers with: **Merciful forgiveness**

#### **Psalms 103:11-14 (ESV)**

(11) For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; (12) as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (13) As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. (14) For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

**Note:** Do you extend the same merciful compassion to your children that the Father extends to you?

**Conclusion:** How we perceive God will set the tone for our life, and the lives of those we are responsible for.

Let's create a culture within our lives where these truths about God so permeate our hearts that it changes our homes, our church family, and our community . . .

**Deuteronomy 6:5-9 (ESV)**

(5) You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. (6) And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. (7) You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (8) You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. (9) You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

**Note:** May God's Character be the aim & anchor of our lives!

**7 ways that God fathers us**

- 1) Amazing Love
- 2) Intimate Involvement
- 3) Boastful Affirmation
- 4) Provision for my needs
- 5) Strong Protection
- 6) Loving Discipline
- 7) Merciful Forgiveness