

FATHER'S DAY - 2020

(1 Samuel 4:9) “Be strong and conduct yourselves like men, you Philistines, that you do not become servants of the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Conduct yourselves like men, and fight!”

***First fatherhood is a call to; Be strong – be resolute, to grow strong, be courageous.**

Statistics reveal:

- **63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes (US Dept. Of Health/Census) – 5 times the average.**
- **90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes – 32 times the average.**
- **85% of all children who show behavior disorders come from fatherless homes – 20 times the average. (Center for Disease Control)**
- **80% of rapists with anger problems come from fatherless homes –14 times the average. (Justice & Behavior, Vol 14, p. 403-26)**
- **71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes – 9 times the average. (National Principals Association Report)**

Toxic Masculinity: a cultural concept of manliness that glorifies stoicism, strength, virility, and dominance, and that is socially maladaptive or harmful to mental health.

(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.

The **“feminization of masculinity”** today has promoted a culture of “victimhood!”

(1 Corinthians 16:13) Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.

***Second - Conduct – (“conduct yourselves); Hebrew - *hayah*: come to pass.**

(Deuteronomy 10:12-13) "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?"

5 – Aspects of courageous conduct:

1) Fear the Lord. (Proverbs 15:33; 19:23; 22:4).

2) Walk in all His ways. (John 10:27)

3) Love Him. (Matthew 22:37, 38)

4) Serve Him. (Matthew 4:10)

5) Keep His word. (Luke 11:28)

**The Lord is not looking for perfect dads but dads willing to be perfected by Him! (Psalm 119:114)
You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word.**

Deuteronomy 11:22-25.

***Third – characteristic: Fight – Hebrew – lacham: to engage in battle, overcome.**

1) Act like men does not mean act like a woman.

2) Act like men does not mean act like animals.

(Proverbs 17:6) Children's children are the crown of old men, And the glory of children is their father.

glory – tiph 'arah: beauty.

(Isaiah 61:3) "...The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness..."

3) Act like men does not mean act like a boy.

(1 Corinthians 13:11) When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

“Acting like a man means developing a non-anxious presence that sees the big picture, remains calm in a crisis, and won’t cave in under pressure. Godly men respond; they don’t react.” - James MacDonald

4) Acts like men does not mean act like a superhero.

(2 Corinthians 12:9) And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

CONCLUSION: Happy Father’s Day!