

# “How Long Is Your Shadow?”

*Psalms – part 8*

Psalm 78

Karl Pettit

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“Men lend their ears to music, how much more should they listen to the harmonies of the gospel; they sit enthralled of an orator, how much rather should they yield to the eloquence of heaven.” Charles Spurgeon, Treasury of David

Fathers, to a certain extent, God holds us accountable for the spiritual condition of our families. Too many men are abdicating or ignoring their responsibilities as Fathers.

## 1. Teach our children about God’s \_\_\_\_\_

*“O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old – what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power and the wonders he has done.”* **Psalm 78:1-4 (NIV)**

The responsibility to disciple children falls squarely on the parents - not the church or the schools – and Dads are to take the lead.

## 2. Teach our children God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

*“He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.”* **Psalm 78:5-6 (NIV)**

Every day someone is teaching our children something. As Fathers, it’s our responsibility to make sure they know the Word of God and that it should be the source of instruction, wisdom, help and hope.

Deuteronomy 6:7-9

- Talk about Him.
- Walk with Him.
- Do Not Be Ashamed of Him.

Proverbs 22:6

Ephesians 6:4

1 Timothy 5:8

## 3. Teach our children to \_\_\_\_\_ God.

*“Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds, but would keep his commands.”* **Psalm 78:7 (NIV)**

We must guard against elevating the ideas of men, whether psychological or philosophical, above the authority of the Word of God.

## 4. Teach our children to \_\_\_\_\_ God.

*“...but would keep his commands. They would not be like their forefathers – a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him.”* **Psalm 78:8 (NIV)**

Godly children are the product of parents who set their hearts right to know and to walk with God – no matter the lesson learned.

*What lessons are you teaching, Fathers, about God through the stories you tell and through the life you live?*

No matter where you are in your journey with Christ, no matter what your past has been – you get a fresh start the day you say YES to God leading you as you lead your family!