

# Covered (week 3)

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## **Ephesians 6:4 (NLT)**

*Fathers, **do not provoke your children to anger** by the way you treat them. Rather, **bring them up** with the **discipline and instruction** that comes from the Lord.*

## **So What's a Dad to Do?**

### 1. TEACHER and COACH

#### **Proverbs 3:11-12 (NLT)**

*My child, don't reject the Lord's discipline, and don't be upset when he corrects you. For the Lord corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects **a child in whom he delights**.*

#### **Proverbs 22:6 (NLT)**

***Direct your children** onto the right path, and when they are older, **they will not leave it**.*

### 2. PROVIDER

#### **Proverbs 13:1 (NLT)**

*My child, never forget the things I have taught you. Store my commands in your heart. If you do this, you will live many years, and your life will be satisfying.*

### 3. UNDERSTANDING

#### **Psalms 103:13 (NLT)**

The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

### 4. FAITHFUL

#### **Luke 15:20-24 (NLT)**

*"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no*

*longer worthy of being called your son.'*

*"But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began.*

5. Leads in PRAYER

### **1 Chronicles 29:19 (NLT)**

*Give my son Solomon the wholehearted desire to obey all your commands, laws, and decrees, and to do everything necessary to build this Temple, for which I have made these preparations.*

### **Ephesians 6:18-20 (NLT)**

*Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. I am in chains now, still preaching this message as God's ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.*

### **Talk it Over:**

1. What would you list as characteristics of a Christian Father?  
Share a few and why.
2. Why do you think Paul thought it was important to include a specific reference and instruction for Dads in his writing?  
Ephesians 6:4
3. Read **LUKE 15** together. Share what stands out to you about the character of God in the text. What point do you think Jesus was making?
4. Is there something that we can pray for you about this week?  
Take time to share and pray for one another

### **Take a Deeper Look:**

*This section is dedicated to those who want to explore and study the Bible more deeply.*

Set aside some time with your Bible and a notebook and no distractions (you can use digital devices too - just put 'em in airplane mode for 30 minutes).

Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something -  
GO BE THE CHURCH!

Take a look at the following scriptures and list the characteristics found in God as the ultimate Father:

- **Acts 17:25 - 1 Timothy 6:13**
- **John 3:16**
- **Luke 6:35 - Hebrews 11:6**
- **John 17:17 - 1 Thessalonians 2:13**
- **Matthew 6:9 - Colossians 1:3**
- **Hebrews 12:3-11**
- **Roman 6:23 - Titus 1:2 - Acts 2:38**

Read through the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15.

1. What characteristics from the text and notes you made above do you see represented?
2. List some of the characteristics, as well as similarities and differences, that you see in the sons in this story.
3. What son do you most identify with?
4. What is a takeaway from this text that will help you describe the Father heart and Love of God to others?