

What's A Father To Do?

(Ephesians 6:4)

- Introduction:
1. Fatherhood is such an important role to fill for it has much to do with shaping our child's concept of God.
 2. As we grow older, we become more and more aware of how much of our parents are "in" us.
 3. What that serves to remind me of is that my influence has much to do with my child's choices in life and ultimately my child's eternal destiny.
 4. Let's look at the Bible today and take note of a few things fathers are to do.

I. A Father Must First Be A Good Husband

- A. One cannot be a good father without first being a good spouse.
- B. What we model before our children will help to shape their conduct.
- C. (Ephesians 5:25-33).
- D. Family relationships have much to do with our relationship with God (1 Peter 3:7).

II. A Father Must Be A Good Spiritual Leader

- A. (Ephesians 6:4).
- B. There are many things our children need to learn about life, but none are more important than learning about spiritual matters.
- C. A father's/husband's role of headship cannot simply be abdicated.
 1. Live it.
 2. Teach it.
 3. Be involved; participate.

III. A Father Must Be Patient

- A. (Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21).
- B. Don't demand perfection - one's *reaction* can be worse than the child's *infraction*.
- C. There is tremendous power in praise and conversely, a child can be destroyed by criticism.
- D. Make sure your children understand that the basis of your love for them is because of who they are and not on what they do.

- Conclusion:
1. According to Hebrews 11:4, though Abel is dead, he still speaks today. And the same is true with fathers. Our legacy of parenting, fatherhood, will live long after we are gone.
 2. What kind of legacy are you leaving?