

How to be a Father God's Way Pt.4

July 9, 2015

REQUIREMENTS OF THE BIBLICAL FATHER

1. Pray
2. Lead
3. Teach
4. Discipline
5. Do Not Provoke

Colossians 3:21

"FATHERS, PROVOKE NOT YOUR CHILDREN TO ANGER, LEST THEY BE DISCOURAGED."

NAS – "*Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.*"

Ephesians 6:4

"AND, YE FATHERS, PROVOKE NOT YOUR CHILDREN TO WRATH: BUT BRING THEM UP IN THE NURTURE AND ADMONITION OF THE LORD."

WAYS FATHERS PROVOKE CHILDREN:

- HARSHNESS WITHOUT TENDERNESS - *balance severity with patient understanding*
- DISCIPLINE WITHOUT AFFIRMATION - *affirmation prevents hopeless humiliation*
- TEACHING WITHOUT EXAMPLE - *hypocrisy and a double-standard breed resentment and contempt*
- IMAGE WITHOUT VULNERABILITY - *creates confusion and condemnation because of unrealistic expectations*
- UNCONDITIONAL LOVE - *love independent of performance, there's nothing you can do that will make me love you less*
- DISCIPLINE IN SELFISH EMOTION - *the child perceives selfish emotion in discipline as hatred*

Philippians 2:3

"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."

Never discipline in the emotion of:

- anger
- irritation
- selfishness
- inconvenience
- embarrassment

- vicarious personal fulfillment
- vainglory

Ephesians 4:26–27

26 Be ye angry (*orgizō* - enraged), and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath (*parorgismos* - irritation, anger).

27 Neither give place to the devil.

Your children need to see in you an anger and hatred for sin, but love for the sinner:

- jealousy for God's holiness and honor
- understanding of consequences

2 Timothy 3:15–17

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Parenting must be done in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; not personal preferences or family tradition.

Proverbs 4:10–13

10 Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; And the years of thy life shall be many.

11 I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

12 When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; And when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble.

13 Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: Keep her; for she is thy life.

RESTRICTION WITHOUT LIBERTY - overbearing restriction retards the child's maturity, taking away opportunities of growth in liberty

Galatians 4:1–2

1 Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all;

2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

1 Timothy 1:8–9

8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;

9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners...

Hebrews 5:13–14

13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.