

What a Good Father Does

(Ephesians 6:4)

A hundred years ago, if a father was missing in the home, it was typically because of tragedy (age or disease). But today many children are growing up without their fathers because many don't want to step up and fulfill their responsibility, or because many mothers don't feel fathers are needed.

God says that for a home to function and be everything He desires, then a father must be present. Not only does God want fathers in the home with the children, but He wants good father in the home.

What exactly does a good father do for his children?

I. He _____ his children.

- A. He leads like _____ (Joshua 24:14-15).
- B. He leads like _____ (Genesis 7:1).
- C. He leads like _____.
 - 1. He is a servant leader (Mark 10:43-45; Ephesians 5:25; John 10:11).
 - 2. He is kind, gentle, and benevolent (Matthew 11:28-30).
 - 3. He has a will and _____ to lead (John 10:1-18).

II. He _____ his children.

- A. He protects them from feelings of loneliness and being unwanted (Hebrews 13:5).
- B. He protects them from being cold, hungry and _____ (1 Timothy 5:8).
- C. He protects them from their greatest enemy - _____ (1 Peter 5:8).

III. He _____ his children.

- A. He teaches them the _____ (Ephesians 6:4).
- B. He teaches them by his _____ (1 Peter 2:21; Deuteronomy 6:4-7).

IV. He _____ his children.

- A. He sets rules for the home and holds the children accountable to abide by those rules (Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 23:13).
- B. By discipline, children are made better. By discipline, they are taught that there are consequences when you do bad things.

V. He is a _____ to his children.

- A. A friend is someone who cares for, loves, sympathizes and sacrifices. He sticks close beside you. He is a commitment-maker and a vow-keeper (Proverbs 18:24). Jesus is the perfect example of true friend John 15:12-15).
- B. When it comes to his children, a good father will talk with, listen to, and value them.

Conclusion: All of these things are designed to help every member of the family _____!