

Serving Your Physical Families

Fathers

Points to Consider

1. Fathers Serve by Providing Discipline and Instruction
2. Fathers Serve by Providing Love and Encouragement
3. Fathers Serve by Providing a Good Example

Fathers Serve by Providing Discipline and Instruction

Prov 1:8-9 *My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; 9 For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck. NKJV*

Prov 4:1 *Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding.*

Prov 6:20-22 *My son, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother. 21 Bind them continually upon your heart; Tie them around your neck. 22 When you roam, they will lead you; When you sleep, they will keep you; And when you awake, they will speak with you. NKJV*

Fathers teach their children principles that will _____ them in this life and keep them from harm.

Deut 4:9-10 *Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren, 10 especially concerning the day you stood before the Lord your God in Horeb, when the Lord said to me, 'Gather the people to Me, and I will let them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.' NKJV*

A father's biggest responsibility is to teach _____ commands and God's stories to our children and grandchildren.

Prov 13:1 *A wise son heeds his father's _____, But a scoffer does not listen to _____.* NKJV

Gen 34:30-35:7 *Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have troubled me by making me obnoxious among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites; and since I am few in number, they will gather themselves together against me and kill me. I shall be destroyed, my household and I." 31 But they said, "Should he treat our sister like a harlot?" 35 Then God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there; and make an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you fled from the face of Esau your brother." 2 And Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you, purify yourselves, and change your garments. 3 Then let us arise and go up to Bethel; and I will make an altar there to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and has been with me in the way which I have gone." 4 So they gave Jacob all the foreign gods which were in their hands, and the earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the terebinth tree which was by Shechem. 5 And they*

journeyed, and the terror of God was upon the cities that were all around them, and they did not pursue the sons of Jacob. 6 So Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel), which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him. 7 And he built an altar there and called the place El Bethel, because there God appeared to him when he fled from the face of his brother. NKJV

Jacob _____ Simeon and Levi for their sin.
He provided them a good example by _____ in God for deliverance.

Fathers Serve by Providing Love and Encouragement

Prov 3:12 *For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he _____.*

Matt 7:7-12 *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! 12 Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. NKJV*

Fathers serve by listening to their children's _____ and acting accordingly.

Eph 6:4 *And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. NKJV*

Fathers serve by _____ their children and not provoking them.

Fathers Serve by Providing a Good Example

Job 1:4-5 *And his sons would go and feast in their houses, each on his appointed day, and would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. 5 So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did regularly. NKJV*

The spiritual welfare of his children was very _____ to Job.
Job would send and sanctify them.

Job would rise up _____ in the morning and offer burnt offerings for _____ of them.

Job did this _____.

Gen 22:3-8 *So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. 4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. 5 And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." 6 So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the*

two of them went together. 7 But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. NKJV

Abraham served Isaac by giving him a great example of _____ God.

2 Chron 14:2-6 Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord his God, 3 for he removed the altars of the foreign gods and the high places, and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the wooden images. 4 He commanded Judah to seek the Lord God of their fathers, and to observe the law and the commandment. 5 He also removed the high places and the incense altars from all the cities of Judah, and the kingdom was quiet under him. 6 And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest; he had no war in those years, because the Lord had given him rest. NKJV

2 Chron 14:11 And Asa cried out to the Lord his God, and said, "Lord, it is nothing for You to help, whether with many or with those who have no power; help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on You, and in Your name we go against this multitude. O Lord, You are our God; do not let man prevail against You!" NKJV

2 Chron 15:2-3 And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The Lord is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. NKJV

Asa did what was _____ in the sight of God.

He removed idols and commanded Judah to seek the _____ of their fathers.

He trusted God to deliver him in very difficult situation.

2 Chron 20:32-33 And he walked in the way of his father Asa, and did not turn aside from it, doing what was right in the sight of the Lord.

Jehoshaphat _____ in the way of his father Asa.

2 Chron 17:3-6 Now the Lord was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the former ways of his father David; he did not seek the Baals, 4 but sought the God of his father, and walked in His commandments and not according to the acts of Israel. 5 Therefore the Lord established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honor in abundance. 6 And his heart took delight in the ways of the Lord; moreover he removed the high places and wooden images from Judah. NKJV

Jehoshaphat _____ the God of David and the God of Asa.

He kept God's commandments.

As a result, the Lord _____ the kingdom in his hand.

His _____ took delight in the ways of God.

2 Chron 19:4-7 So Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem; and he went out again among the people from Beersheba to the mountains of Ephraim, and brought them back to the Lord God of their fathers. 5 Then he set judges in the land throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city, 6 and said to the judges, "Take heed to what you are doing, for you do not judge for man but for the Lord, who is

with you in the judgment. 7 Now therefore, let the fear of the Lord be upon you; take care and do it, for there is no iniquity with the Lord our God, no partiality, nor taking of bribes." NKJV

Jehoshaphat continued the _____ of his father by bringing people back to God.

What About Us?

Take some time to think about what you admired most about your father. Follow his example. Think about some things you think your father could have done better. Improve on his legacy. Be a good example:

- How important is God to you?
- How well do you treat your wife?
- How do you balance work (which is very important) and your family?

The family:

- Appreciate your father!
- Tell him you love and respect him.
- Do things around the house that will make his life easier.