

# Fathers

## PSALMS 127 VERSES 3-5

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

## EPHESIANS 6 VERSE 4

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

## PSALMS 103 VERSE 13

As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

## PROVERBS 13 VERSE 24

Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

## PROVERBS 13 VERSE 22

A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous.

## DEUTERONOMY 6 VERSES 6 & 7

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

## COLOSSIANS 3 VERSE 19

Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.

## INFORMATION

Most children desire to have a close relationship with their earthly fathers. Fathers who exhibit the godly principles outlined above are more likely to attain such relationships with their children. These Biblical principles set a very high standard for fathers to attain; as fathers, we should pray that we attain them. These verses also show us that children are a heritage from God which means that children belong to God first and foremost, and are gifted to fathers. Being a child of God means that God is our heavenly Father. He, too, wants a relationship with us and provides a way for us to attain it.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

Fathers may not always attain what the Bible calls for us to do, but we should strive for the standard God has set. It has been said that the greatest gift a father can give his children is to love their mother. Loving their mother is only one of the things we are to give our children. We should also instruct them, discipline them, have compassion on them, provide an inheritance for them, and teach them God's Word. We are also not supposed to provoke them to anger. It is a tall order for fallen men, but with God all things are possible. Fathers must constantly seek God so that he can sustain and refresh them in the execution of our duties.

# Relevant Passages

## **Proverbs 4:1-4**

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. 2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. 3 For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. 4 He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

## **Proverbs 20:7**

The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

## **Luke 15:20-24**

And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. 21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. 22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.