

Parenting With Joy

The Grace & Growth of Doing Things God's Way

Biblical Fatherhood:

Dads Leading the Way (Part 1)

Sun, 19-Jun-2011 / Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa

Christianity is **patriarchal** by God's design. This means it is centered on male servant leaders in both the church and the home.

The two scriptures in the New Testament speaking directly to parents are addressed specifically to fathers:

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.”

Col. 3:21 “**Fathers**, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.”

*“At the heart of mature masculinity is a sense of benevolent responsibility to **lead, provide** for and **protect** women in ways appropriate to a man's differing relationships.”*

What's the Difference? Manhood & Womanhood Defined

According to the Bible by John Piper

(1) Biblical fathers lead by first following their heavenly Father.

Psa. 73:28 “It is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, That I may declare all your works.”

Matt. 12:34 “... For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.”

(2) Biblical fathers lovingly **lead** their wives.

Eph. 5:25 “Husbands, love your wives just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself for her.”

Prov. 12:4 “An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, But she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones.”

Prov. 19:13 “A foolish son is the ruin of his father, And the contentions of his wife are a continual dripping.”

(3) Biblical fathers **lead** by assuming ultimate responsibility for cultivating their children.

Prov. 22:6 “Train up a child **in the way he should go**, And when he is old he will not depart from it.”

*“Training a child in a God-ward direction sets
for them a course of life.”*

Pastor Dad: Scriptural Insights on Fatherhood by Mark Driscoll, p25

(4) Biblical fathers **lead** by assuming ultimate responsibility to instruct and correct their children.

Prov. 4:1,2 “Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding; For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law.”

Prov. 3:11,12 “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son *in whom* he delights.”

Questions for Personal Application:

1. List as many biblical texts on parenting addressed to moms as you can find.
2. In your family, who is the “chief parent” and who is the “assistant”?
3. What are you “cultivating” your children for? What is being defined as “normal” and “good” in your family as a result of your fatherhood?