# To Fathers

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The Apostle Paul wrote many things in the Bible that helps believers live a victorious life and be an example for others. In Ephesians and Colossians, he wrote specific instructions to fathers to be a positive part of their children's development, rather than a source of anger and discouragement. The Word says:

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

"Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged." (Colossians 3:21 NKJV)

Both of the verses in Ephesians and Colossians are about loving and honoring each other in family relationships. It is so important not to be a source of strife and division in our families but a person of encouragement, love, hope and faith.

I have very good memories of my father. He was a man that had a sixth grade education, but his wisdom and intelligence far surpassed his formal education. As a man of God, he didn't just send his children to church, he took us there. He volunteered as Superintendent of Sunday School and was the Choir Director. I remember the faithfulness and loyalty that he displayed throughout his life to whomever and whatever he made a commitment. He was a great example for his children, not a perfect man by any means, but a person that tried to live a decent Christ like life. He worked two, sometimes three jobs to put food on the table for nine children during a time when life for men of color was not easy. My memories were never of a father that yelled or degraded us as kids, but of a dad with a quiet strength, great work ethic, that loved people and served the Lord.

The role of a father changes as children grow, but it never ends. Guidance, wisdom, love, praise and encouragement are needed, whether your child is 2 or 92. It's never too late to mend a broken relationship with a son or daughter and reach out to them. What memories will your kids have of you as a parent? What you say or don't say will affect them during their lifetime.

Fathers or should I say parents, take the time to tell your children how much you love and appreciate them. Repair that neglected relationship, speak blessings over them and make new memories as a family. Nothing can take the place of a loving relationship with your children. Know that love never fails.

Remember……
We Walk By Faith, Not By Sight!


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