

The Priority and Purpose of Fatherhood

THE PRIORITY OF FATHERHOOD

1. **Fatherhood Is** _____

Gen. 1:27-28 So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

2. **Fatherhood Is** _____

Ps. 127:3-5 Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward. ⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one's youth. ⁵ Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

3. **Fatherhood Is** _____

Ps. 128:1-4 Blessed *is* every one who fears the LORD, Who walks in His ways. ² When you eat the labor of your hands, You *shall be* happy, and *it shall be* well with you. ³ Your wife *shall be* like a fruitful vine In the very heart of your house, Your children like olive plants All around your table. ⁴ Behold, thus shall the man be blessed Who fears the LORD.

4. **Fatherhood Is** _____

1 Tim. 3:4-5 one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence ⁵ (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);

1 Tim. 3:12 Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling *their* children and their own houses well.

THE PURPOSE OF FATHERHOOD

1. **To Provide for His Wife and Children**

a. **Earning Adequate** _____

Prov. 24:27 Prepare your outside work, Make it fit for yourself in the field; And afterward build your house.

1 Tim. 5:8 But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

b. **Providing** _____ **& Shelter**

Gen. 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

Deut. 10:18 He administers justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing.

c. **Caring for Their** _____

Jn 4:47 When he heard that Jesus had come..., he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

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2. **To Protect His Wife and Children**

a. **Defending Them** _____

Ps 82:3 Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy.

b. **Defending Them** _____

Col. 2:8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. (cf. 1 John 4:1)

c. **Defending Their** _____

Prov. 6:23-26 For the commandment *is* a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life, ²⁴ To keep you from the evil woman, From the flattering tongue of a seductress. ²⁵ Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, Nor let her allure you with her eyelids. ²⁶ For by means of a harlot *A man is reduced* to a crust of bread; And an adulteress will prey upon his precious life.

d. **Defending Them** _____

Prov. 10:5 He who gathers in summer is a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.

Prov. 13:4 The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich. (cf. Prov 18:9)

Prov. 20:13 Do not love sleep, lest you come to poverty; Open your eyes, and you will be satisfied with bread.

3. **To Instruct His Wife and Children**

a. **Continually** _____ **the Truth**

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. (cf. Deut 6:4-9)

b. **Continually** _____ **the Truth**

Prov. 13:24 He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly.

Prov. 19:18 Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction. (cf. Prov 29:17)

Phil. 3:17 Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.

4. **To Direct His Wife and Children**

a. _____

Ps 127:4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one's youth.

b. _____

Prov. 6:20-22 My son, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother. ²² When you roam, they will lead you; When you sleep, they will keep you; And *when* you awake, they will speak with you.