

Wanted: Godly Dads

"For I (the Lord) have chosen him (Abraham), so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him." **Genesis 18:19**

I. Introduction

The Bible gives us, if not a job description, at least some qualities and responsibilities of good fathers. You see, any fool can make a baby – and a lot of them do – but it takes a man willing to learn and to grow to become a godly father. One might say that God's entire blueprint begins and ends with Godly Dads—so it starts with you men! *You are supposed to lead the way for your families----***BY EXAMPLE!**

"...Love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." **Deuteronomy 6:5**

II. The Seven Biblical Responsibilities of Godly Dads

Godly dads...

1.) Have a responsibility to _____ to love the Lord.

"You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." **Proverbs 22:6**

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

2.) Have a responsibility to _____ in their homes.

"For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just..." **Genesis 18:19**

"And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." **Joshua 24:15**

Three leadership keys: You must pray. You must discuss—because you're a team. You must be willing to earn the right to lead and to be trusted in that endeavor.

3.) Have a responsibility to _____ when needed.

"My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent His correction, because the LORD disciplines those whom He loves, as a father the son he delights in." **Proverbs 3:11-12**

"...the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! Our earthly fathers disciplined us for a little

while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it." **Hebrews 12:6-11**

4.) Have a responsibility to _____ to their children.
"As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust." **Psalm 103:13-14**

5.) Have a responsibility to _____.
"Then I said to you, 'Do not be terrified, or afraid of them. The Lord your God, who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eyes, and in the wilderness where you saw how the Lord your God carried you, as a man carries his son, in all the way that you went until you came to this place.'" **Deuteronomy 1:29-31**

Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, **I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**" **Matthew 28:19-20**

6.) Have a responsibility to _____ their families.
"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." **I Timothy 5:8**

"Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 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!" **Matthew 7:9-11**

7.) Have a responsibility to _____.
"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church." **Ephesians 5:25-29**

"And the greatest of these is love." **(I Cor.13:13)**

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." **I I Corinthians 13:4-8**

Answer Key:

- 1. teach their children**
- 2. be leaders**
- 3. bring discipline**
- 4. show compassion**
- 5. be present and engaged**
- 6. provide for**
- 7. love their wives and children**