



Fathers Who Father

Ephesians 6:4

Provoking Children

- Fathers are to avoid anything that will eventually break the spirit of their children.
- Children are commanded by God to honor their parents so when a parent provokes them to wrath, they are causing them to break the Fifth Commandment.
- When a father provokes his children he is guilty before God for disobeying Ephesians 6:4 and also doubly guilty for causing his children to stumble.

Common Mistakes

A background image showing a man in a light-colored shirt sitting and reading a large book to a young child who is sitting next to him. The scene is dimly lit, with a soft light source from the left, creating a warm and intimate atmosphere. The man's face is partially visible as he looks down at the book, and the child's head is visible in the foreground, also looking at the book.

- Common ways fathers can exasperate their children:
 - Overprotection
 - Overindulgence
 - Favoritism
 - Unrealistic Goals
 - Discouragement
 - Neglect
 - Excessive Discipline
 - Hypocrisy
 - Anger

Expectations

- What fathers are required to do:
 - Fathers are called to "*bring them up*" because they will not get there by themselves.
 - Fathers are to discipline their children, because to not do so proves you do not love them.
 - Fathers are to admonish their children, but only after we are living it out in our own lives.
 - Fathers are to bring their children up to know that the path of sin is a dead-end street, and the only way to be satisfied is through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Conclusion

- Our mandate is to develop children who seek to glorify God with their lives.
- There is no way to father in your own strength.
- Satan is at war with your family, and he will do all he can to take you down along with your family.
- Three things to remember:
 - There are no perfect fathers, except our Heavenly Father.
 - You will be a better father if you fully surrender to Christ and allow Him to work through you.
 - You cannot not father alone.