

Fathers

Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21

Reasons Why Fathers are Often Absent:

1. Teenage girl becomes pregnant and the boy doesn't want to marry her.
2. Sometimes a young man cannot support the family, so he leaves.
3. About half of marriages end in divorce.
4. Changing role of fatherhood. He is away from the home and his responsibility is passed on to the mother.
5. Death of the father.
6. Sometimes fathers are absent when they are present.
7. Harvard University study: *Fathers spend, on average, less than 37 seconds a day of meaningful interaction with their children.* We are not only combating the problem of absentee fathers, but fathers who are in the home but do not know how to be involved.

Ways Fathers Might Provoke Their Children to Wrath:

1. By administering unreasonable punishment.
2. By uneven or inconsistent punishment.
3. By being too strict – not allowing them innocent childish pleasures.
4. By being negative in discipline.
5. By expecting them to be “gown-up” and act like mature people.
6. By making unreasonable demands so that they decide they can never please you anyway. They become “disheartened.”
7. By always blaming and never praising.
8. By showing favoritism in the home.
9. By making promises and then not keeping them.
10. By making “light” of problems which are extremely important to them.

Practical Suggestions:

1. Be an example to your children and your family.
2. Take time for your children.
3. Begin to teach your children spiritual truths early.
4. Teach your children daily.
5. Put your family first.
6. Love your children.
7. A father will pray for his children.