

## DADDY'S GREATEST ROLE

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

There are many roles a father plays in his children's lives. He is provider, protector, hero, coach, and

confidante, to name a few. But his greatest role is to bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. This is the most important role because it not only prepares the children to be good, decent people in this life, but also prepares them for eternity with God. How is the father to do this? Does he need to become a theologian and provide formal classes for his children? No. God gives a guaranteed method of rearing children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

In Deuteronomy 6, God instructs the Hebrew fathers to model godly living before their children. They were to saturate their lives and homes with righteousness and regular, natural conversations about God. This virtuous lifestyle would prompt their children to inquire about its roots (Deuteronomy 6:20). Their questions would open the door for the father to recount the works of the Lord in his life and to guide his children towards putting their faith in Him. It is important to note that the father must model genuine faith because his children will sniff out any counterfeit. A father, then, must cultivate an honest relationship with the Lord. He must trust Christ as his Savior and follow Him as his Lord. As the father enjoys this deep, personal relationship with Christ, his children will learn from observation and experience the difference Christ makes in a life. They will see that Christ makes life worthwhile and, God willing, want Him too.

So fathers, how are you doing with this great

responsibility? Do you feel inadequate to the task? Are you unsure about your biblical prowess? Focus on following Christ diligently yourself, and trust God to open the doors. God will give you the grace and the strength to live consistently as long as your heart is genuine before Him "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him," (2 Chronicles 16:9).

May God bless you as you embrace your greatest role of drawing your children's heart to-wards Him.

Pastor James

