

THE IMPACT OF A FAITHFUL FATHER

UPLIFTING WORDS FOR STRUNG OUT DADS

PROVERBS 1:8; 2:1-2; 3:1-2, 21; 4:1; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 15:20; 17:6; 19:14; 20:6-7; 22:28; 23:24-25



The Heart of the Matter

None of us is neutral when we talk about our fathers. Every Father's Day solicits delight or disturbance deep within us. Truth be told, maybe a little bit of both. On one hand you may entertain feelings of deep peace and joy, gratitude and affection as you recall a moment or an extended period of time with your father. On the other hand, you may feel sadness and regret; perhaps even resentment, anger, and fear. We can learn from our father memories. Dad, let's focus on the examples we should be for those we influence—and let's make our lasting impressions a legacy of love, affection, affirmation, and security.



Discovering the Way

1. Three Roles Fathers Fill (Selected Proverbs)

Children can take pride in a father that plays three critical roles with respect and dignity.

2. Two Relationships Fathers Cultivate (Selected Proverbs)

Children learn how to cultivate relationships when they watch how their father interacts within his own relationships.



Starting Your Journey

Someone is watching your life and learning from you how to navigate life and cultivate precious relationships. It's never too late to start influencing that person in God's ways.



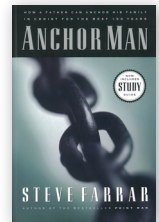
Tools for Digging Deeper



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by Charles R. Swindoll
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Top Temptations Fathers Face
by Charles R. Swindoll
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Anchor Man: How a Father Can Anchor His Family in Christ for the Next 100 Years
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THE IMPACT OF A FAITHFUL FATHER
FOUR QUALITIES IN A GREAT DAD
LUKE 15:11-24



The Heart of the Matter

Fathers—the men whose indelible fingerprints are all over our lives. If you were blessed to have a dad who was there for you—training, encouraging, loving, affirming, and (when necessary) setting appropriate boundaries while disciplining you, you welcome the opportunity to praise him. You recall the treasure of his investment in your life and the pleasure of all those memories when you were closely connected to his world and were learning about life from his character. On the other hand, if your dad lacked admirable character qualities . . . if your memories are far less than positive, bringing you sadness instead of joy, this is the time for you to let all that go—and forgive him of those many shortcomings. Regardless of your heritage, you'll find some fresh encouragement as we revisit one of the great dads in the Bible.



Discovering the Way

1. Let's Hear It for Fathers

Too often we toast Mom but roast Dad! Let's turn the tide as we look at fathers in our lives and fathers in the Bible.

2. Let's Visit With a Father We've Never Actually Met (Luke 15:11-12)

Meet a father who had great character qualities . . . who handled himself with dignity and wisdom, patience and grace, even when things began to get out of control.

3. Let's Observe How He Treated His Son (Luke 15:13-32)

It's what a father is willing to do for his son that makes the father great.



Starting Your Journey

Let's answer four very personal questions: Is there a father you need to thank? Is there a son/daughter you need to release? Is there a prodigal you need to forgive/restore? Is there a celebration you need to have?



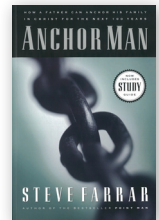
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