

Fathers' Studies: Father/Child Relationships

"...that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

LESSON 29 OF 52

THE FATHER - A TEACHER

LESSON AIM: To show fathers why they need to be the spiritual teachers of their children.

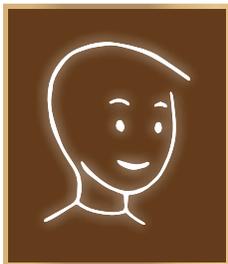
KEY VERSE:

1. **EPHESIANS 6:4B** What are fathers to give their children as they grow up? _____

2. **GENESIS 18:19** Abraham was the "father of many nations". God knew that Abraham would _____ his children to keep the way of the Lord.
3. **DEUTERONOMY 11:18-19** What are some good times for a father to teach God's Word to his children?

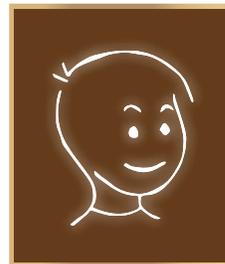
4. **PROVERBS 4:1-4** This man was able to teach his sons because his own _____ had taught him well.
5. **PROVERBS 3:1-2** The teachings of a father can give _____
to his children.

For You To Do



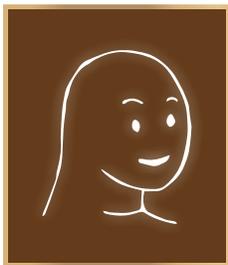
By Yourself

Take a Bible course to increase your knowledge of the Bible.



With Your Children

Reading to your children, especially when they are young, has many benefits. Ask Christian teachers for help in choosing good books. Read to them from the Bible, too.



With Your Wife

Let her choose a Christian magazine and buy her a subscription to it. Help her to find a good study Bible.

THE FATHER - A TEACHER

LESSON 29 OF 52

The Bible says that fathers are to teach their children from God's Word how God expects them to live. Fathers are to pass spiritual truth on to their children so that future generations do not lose it and forget it.

You are probably asking two questions: "What do I teach?" and "How do I teach?"

WHAT TO TEACH

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE Begin with stories. Children love stories. From these stories they can learn how the world began, where sin came from, God's plan of salvation, and even things about future events such as the return of Christ and life after death. They can also learn a lot of history, geography, and natural science from the Bible.

GODLY LIVING Bible stories also show people living out God's rules for life. Sometimes the stories show what happens when people do not live by God's rules. Explain to your children how God brings happiness to those who do what He says. Plan together how you as a family can be more obedient to God.

STRONG BELIEFS Success or failure often depends upon what you believe about yourself, about your world, and about God. Show your children examples of this from the lives of Bible characters and people you know. Work on building strong beliefs such as: the Bible is the Word of God; your body was made by God and belongs to God; your purpose in life is to love and serve God.

HOW TO TEACH

Use different ways for different children of different ages. Here are some ways:

TALKING OR READING Plan to do this at meal times, family worship, story times, or special times together. Turn each thing that happens to you into a teaching lesson. See Deuteronomy 6:6-9.

EXAMPLE Show them by your life and actions: prayer at meals, expressions of love.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE CDs AND MP3s These can talk to the children when you must go away.

PLACES YOU GO Take the family to Bible conferences and gospel singing programs. Sit together. Talk afterward about what you heard.

BOOKS, LITERATURE, PICTURES Put good materials around the house to read and look at. Discuss with your children how you as a family plan to use the internet.

DEUTERONOMY 4:9-10, 6:20-25; TITUS 2:7; 1 THESSALONIANS 2:10-12

TEACH THEM IN THEIR GROWING YEARS WITH CHRISTIAN TEACHING.
(EPHESIANS 6:4)

**Spiritual truth...
passed on to
children by
fathers.**

**Teach Bible
knowledge**

**Teach Godly
living**

**Teach strong
beliefs**

Teach by:

- talking
- reading
- example
- places you go
- books, music...

WINDOW TO LIFE

During the winter, Donald and his two sons had a large trap line. But no matter how busy they were, they always took time to keep God first in their family.

In the morning, before they left home to go to the trapping camp, they all gathered around the table for family worship. They prayed for God's protection while they were away.

Then in the evening at the trapping cabin, Donald and his boys would have a short time of prayer, Bible reading, and singing. They would talk about the day and how God had helped or taught them. Then they would thank Him for His care. In word and action, Donald was teaching his boys.

