

# Father's Day

## Five Characteristics of a Godly Father

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### Introduction

Today we celebrate Father's Day!

There is a great need in our society for fathers who will rise up and assume their God-given role of responsibility in the family.

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O man, what *is* good;  
And what does the Lord require of you  
But to do justly,  
To love mercy,  
And to walk humbly with your God.

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## Introduction

Micah 6:8 gives the basic responsibility for manhood. To treat others justly, to show mercy, and walk in humility with God.

However, when a man becomes a father, those responsibilities are expanded.

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## A Godly Father Loves God

Matthew 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

This is the foundation that all of the rest of life is built upon.

It is easy to say that you love God but take a moment to evaluate (not justify) your life. How much of your life is dedicated to living a life that demonstrates your love for God.

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## A Godly Father Loves God

**Loving God is not something you add into your life, it is to be your life!**

Matthew 22:37

Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with **all** your heart, with **all** your soul, and with **all** your mind.”

Proverbs 3:6

In **all your ways** acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

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## A Godly Father Loves God

Here is REALITY!

**If you do not have a right relationship with God, it is futile to think you can have a right relationship with others.**

If you are not following God with all that you have, then you will not be living out of a Biblical mindset, but one that is contaminated with the world.

You will not be able to be a Godly Father, Husband, or Friend as long as you live a “double minded” life.

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## A Godly Father Loves God

If you are running from God, you need to settle this matter. You will never find the true love, peace, and joy that is found in a close personal relationship with God until you do.

Isaiah 57:21

“There is no peace,”  
Says my God, “for the wicked.”

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## A Godly Father Loves his Wife

Ephesians 5:25-29

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, <sup>26</sup> that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup> that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

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## A Godly Father Loves his Wife

Real love seeks to meet all the needs of another person. When a Godly husband loves his wife, he is willing to sacrifice his own wants and desires to see that the needs of his wife are met. Husbands are to love their wives sacrificially just as Jesus loved the church and was willing to die so that the believers could be freed from sin and death.

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## A Godly Father Loves his Wife

### **Romantic actions are not an abandonment of manliness.**

Show acts of kindness and respect to you wife. Open the car door, pull out her chair at dinner, hold her hand, and help with the household chores. Look around and see how you can help. Show

you love through:

Acts of kindness

Giving of quality time

Sharing words of tenderness

Tender touch

Giving gifts

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## A Godly Father Loves his Wife

Your sons are learning from you about how to treat their wives. One day they will treat their wives the same way you treat their mother.

You are teaching by example! Lead well.

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## A Godly Father Loves his Children

Love is more than provision for material things. Don't miss your children's childhood.

They will only be young once. From my perspective, they seem to grow up in a blink of an eye.

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A Godly Father Loves his Children  
When discipline is needed, do it in love.  
Train them physically, mentally,  
emotionally, and most of all spiritually!  
Do not discipline in anger!  
James 1:20  
For the wrath of man does not produce  
the righteousness of God.

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A Godly Father Loves his Children  
Children interpret the time spent  
with them as love.  
You want to be engaged and  
talking with them. You want  
quantity and quality time!

14

## A Godly Father Loves his Children

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! <sup>5</sup>You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup>“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. <sup>7</sup>You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. <sup>8</sup>You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup>You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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## A Godly Father is a Man of Integrity

Integrity seems to have become a forgotten word in today's society.

It seems that our politicians are more interested in their own politics and agenda than about the people.

Lying, cheating, abuse of power, murder, lawlessness, and rioting seem to be the norm in society.

We need men (and women) of integrity.

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## A Godly Father is a Man of Integrity

Integrity can be defined as “The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness.”

However, one must remember that it is impossible to do this in one’s own strength. This can only be done through the transforming work of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

A man of integrity lives and demonstrates the Fruits of the Spirit.

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## A Godly Father is a Man of Integrity

Integrity should permeate every area of one’s life.

In the workplace – an honest day’s work

In the home – fulfilled promises

In personal business – prompt payment of obligations

In relationships – determination to treat others honestly and with respect.

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## A Godly Father is a Man of Integrity

People of Integrity:

Stand up for righteousness.

Work for justice.

Live and shares God's Truth

Help those who cannot help themselves.

Live above reproach

Actively being transformed into the image of Christ.

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## A Godly Father is a Role Model of God

The image of a Father is not always a good one today.

There is a absent father crisis in America. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 19.7 million children, more than 1 in 4, live without a father in the home. Consequently, this factors into nearly all social ills facing America today.

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A Godly Father is a Role Model of God  
 A child's view of God is shaped by  
 their Father.

Godly fathers are to live a life that  
 shows God's unconditional love  
 and faithfulness to their children  
 and others who are watching.

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A Godly Father is a Role Model of God

God established the family to represent His  
 relationship with His people

Israel was the wife of God

The church is the bride of Christ

In each of these representations, the  
 Husband/Father is a representative of God.

Fathers, when our marriages look bad, we send a  
 wrong message to those watching.

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## So What ...

There is a deep need for men to stand up and become Godly Fathers.

Remember to be a Godly Father you need to:

- Love God with all your essence
- Love your wife as God loves you
- Love and train up your children in the Lord
  - Be a man of integrity
- Work at becoming like Christ so you represent Him properly