**FATHER’S DAY 2019 – PART 1**

**ALL MEN ARE MALES BUT**

**NOT ALL MALES ARE MEN**

**ALL MALES WITH CHILDREN ARE FATHERS**

**BUT NOT ALL FATHERS ARE MEN**

**ALL GOOD FATHERS ARE MEN AND**

**THEY’RE OFTEN CALLED DADDY**

We are to act like men and we can’t do that unless we think like men. Just because the body of a boy grows into the body of a man does not mean that he is a man. It is what one thinks that determines whether a male is a man, not his age.

Things that are not required to be a man:

1) A male is not a man because he is physically strong.

 Muscles do not make a man and neither does clothes.

1. There is no certain height or weight requirement to be a man.
2. Having a deep voice and a macho attitude are certainly not required.

What is required?

1. **Mental toughness**: He must be strong mentally. This has nothing to do with IQ or intelligence. It does not refer to stubbornness. It has to do with integrity. It is being decisive, not vacillating or wavering.

 ***Josh. 1:6, I Kings 2:2.*** He doesn’t have a follow-the-herd mentality. He thinks for himself.

2) **Courage**: Being able to think under pressure. He must not only be brave and willing to put his life on the line for those he loves, but he must also possess moral courage. It is making the right decision and sticking to it no matter what, ***Josh. 1:6*** - ***Be strong and courageous . . .***

3) **Responsibility**: He accepts responsibility. He doesn’t pass the buck to others in his family; he recognizes that he is responsible for the condition of his family, \* ***Gen. 3:17***. He takes responsibility for the hard jobs and dirty jobs.

 The husband is the one who is referred to as “the head of the house*”.*  ***Matt. 24:43, Luke 12:39.*** He is also called “the head of the wife,” ***Eph. 5:23***. He is responsible for the wellbeing of his family.

4) **Discernment**: He recognizes that there is a time to be firm and a time to be flexible. He cannot be manipulated by tears, threats, anger, or silence, ***Heb. 5:14, Phil. 1:9.***

5) **True Masculinity**: His masculinity is secure and it is not threatened by doing housework, like washing the dishes, cooking supper, or vacuuming the floor.

6) **Gentleness:** He should be tender, compassionate, and thoughtful, ***I Pet. 3:7, I Thes. 2:7, Titus 3:2.***This does not take away from his ability to get tough when the situation calls for it.

**GEN•TLE** adjective from Old French,

 1 a : belonging to a family of high social station b archaic :

 chivalrous c : honorable, distinguished; specifically : of or

 relating to a gentleman d : kind, amiable e : suited to a person

 of high social station 2 a : tractable, docile b : free from

 harshness, sternness, or violence 3 : soft, delicate 4 : moderate

**gen•tle•man** [Middle English *gentilman*] (12th century) **1 a** **:** a man of noble or gentle birth **b** **:** a man belonging to the landed gentry  **c (1)** **:** a man who combines gentle birth or rank with chivalrous qualities **(2)** **: a man whose conduct conforms to a high standard of propriety or correct behavior**

7) **Maturity:** He is not childish***. I Cor. 13:11 - When I was a child,***

 ***I used to speak as a child, think as a child, reason as a child;***

 ***when I became a man, I did away with childish things.***

 8) **Capacity to Love** He must be able to put others before himself,

 ***Ephesians 5:25. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ***

 ***also loved the church and gave Himself up for her;***

He must care enough about other people to really listen to them,

 ***James 1:19 - my beloved brethren, let everyone be quick to***

 ***hear, slow to speak and slow to anger;***

 9) **Humility:** Willing to admit it when he is wrong and apologize when he has wronged others.

 Thoughtfulness and manners are also part of the package.

 10) **Faithfulness:** A real man is faithful to God, his wife, his friends, and to himself.

 11) **Respect:** He respects his wife and children and they respect him

 in return because of the way that he conducts himself and because

 God commands it. Without respect, there can be no love.

President Hesberg of Notre Dame says: “The most important thing a father can do for his children is love their mother.”

1. Fathers should strive to set a good example for their children because they imitate their fathers. Christians are called to imitate our heavenly Father (Eph. 5:1).

*Ephesians 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;*

*If we want to follow the example of our heavenly father, we must express our love for our children. We can do this verbally when we tell them we’re proud of them, that they are pleasing to us, that we have confidence in them. No one can overestimate the power of a father’s approval. We can do this by our actions when we choose to spend time with our children, doing things they enjoy.* David Wegener, “Reflections on Fatherhood: Blankenhorn’s Fatherless America: Excellent Analysis, Yet Lacks Biblically Based Solutions,” Journal for Biblical Manhood and Womanhood 3, no. 3 (1998): 13.