**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.

**FATHER’S DAY 2019 – PART 2**

2. Fathers must discipline and instruct their children

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

Fathers need to help their children to develop Christian virtues such as, honesty, dependability, hard work, kindness, purity, politeness, thankfulness, patience, humility, self-control, self-denial, and self-defense.

It will do little good to try to teach the Christian virtues mentioned above unless these virtues are evident in our own lives.

*Devotional writer Henry G. Bosch once wrote in Our Daily Bread that when he was a boy he would often work with his father during the summer months. Leaving home each morning, they would stop at a particular store for a newspaper which they read at coffee break. One day, arriving at work, Henry’s dad discovered that he had taken two papers by mistake because they were so thin. After a moment’s thought, he decided to return to the store immediately to pay for the extra paper. “I don’t want the owner, who isn’t a Christian, to think I’m dishonest,” said Mr. Bosch.*

*About a week later, some expensive items were shoplifted from the same store. The police calculated that at the time of the robbery only two men had been shopping in the store—Mr. Bosch and another man. “I know John is honest,” said the storekeeper. “Just last week he came all the way back here to return a newspaper he’d taken by mistake.”*

*The police questioned the other man instead and, in so doing, apprehended the culprit who made a full confession.*

*“Father’s honesty and Christian character… not only made a deep impression on the storekeeper,” Henry later wrote, “but his actions also left an indelible mark upon my young and pliable mind.”*

Children need learn how to bait a hook, cast, set the hook, clean a fish, cook a fish, how to shoot, hunt, dress out a deer, throw a ball, catch a ball, fly a kite, ride a bike, drive a car, etc. etc. etc.

Fathers should train their sons to be masculine and their daughters to be feminine. He needs to instruct his daughter how to recognize a manipulative jerk that will say anything to get what he wants as opposed to a young man who will respect and protect her. Also, he needs to remind her that humility and femininity are much more attractive than vulgar language and aggressive behavior.

*72 Percent Of Black Kids are Raised By a Single Parent, 25% Overall In U.S.*

*In 2011, children living in female-headed homes with no spouse present had a poverty rate of 47.6%. This is over four times the rate for children living in married couple families.*

*A study of 263 13- to 18-year-old adolescent women seeking psychological services found that the adolescents from father-absent homes were 3.5 times more likely to experience pregnancy than were adolescents from father-present homes.*

*Individuals from father absent homes were found to be 279% more likely to carry guns and deal drugs than peers living with their fathers.*

*Fifty-five (55.2) percent of WIC recipients are raised by single-mothers, 48.2% of all Head Start recipients are from father-absent homes, and 37% of public assistance and Section 8 housing are female-headed households.* <https://fatherhoodfactor.com/us-fatherless-statistics/>

The Emasculation of Men in America

A war in being waged in American Society in an effort to strip males of their Manhood! It is being waged by a number of repressive forces, but it is most notably resulting from excessive force being used by Radical Feminists to serve the cause of women’s rights. . . feminist writers are rewriting historical accounts of ancient Greece and Rome, writing plays and making films showing males in passive or subservient roles, and even attempting to “rewrite” the Bible suggesting Jesus had a wife and family.

*The Emasculation of Men in America* is intended to be a wake-up call for men and women in society and to stimulate discussion in an effort to save the very identity of males and their sons in the future.

**Good article on the emasculating of men in the Church. He points out:**

*“All too often the pastoral “role model” in evangelical circles mirrors that “Simpson’s” character, the Rev. Love Joy. Our pastors are either quaint, odd, harmless pushovers, or they are slick metrosexual types who can cry at the drop of a dime – literally – but have absolutely no courage to stand up against real evil or teach the unequivocal truth with authority.*

*They’ve suppressed godly male assertiveness, opting instead to “be nice.” They have abdicated their calling to “speak the truth” in the interest of political correctness. And they have decided that manipulating people with emotional self-help books and anecdotal sermonizing is better for the bottom line than training and teaching the men in their congregations to be leaders and warriors for Christ. And as a result, the evangelical church is suffering from a dearth of real men”.*

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| clipped from <http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=59962>

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| Husbands should be the Spiritual leaders of their family: The typical U.S. congregation draws an adult crowd that’s 61 percent female and 39 percent male. This gender gap shows up in all age categories.  On any given Sunday there are 13 million more adult women than men in America’s churches.  This Sunday almost 25 percent of married, churchgoing women will worship without their husbands.  Midweek activities often draw 70 to 80 percent female participants.  As many as 90 percent of the boys who are being raised in church will abandon it by their 20th birthday. Many of them will never return.  More than 90 percent of American men believe in God, and five out of six call themselves Christians. But only two out of six attend church on any given Sunday. The average man accepts the reality of Jesus Christ, but fails to see any value in going to church |

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We have gone from “*Father Knows Best*” to “*Roseanne*” and “*Everybody Loves Raymond*”. “*The Closer*”, “*Desperate Housewives*”, “*Castle*”, “*G. I. Jane*”, [*The Modern Family*] and a host of others that have women in charge.

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.

**1 Corinthians 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.

 **1 Corinthians 14:20** Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be babes, but in your thinking be mature.

WE ARE COMMANDED TO BE MEN

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**1 Kings 2:1-2** As David's time to die drew near, he charged Solomon his son, saying, 2 "I am going the way of all the earth. Be strong, therefore, and show yourself [to be] a man.

**1 Samuel 4:9** Take courage and be men, O Philistines, lest you become slaves to the Hebrews, as they have been slaves to you; therefore, be men and fight."

**1 Corinthians 16:13-14** Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done in love.

\*What does it mean to ***act like a man***?

Certainly if we are to act like men, we must be strong and courageous.

**Being strong -** We are told no less than *37 times* in the KJV *to be strong*.

We find the command to “*be strong and courageous*” four times in the first chapter of Joshua.

\*What does it mean to “*be strong and courageous*”? Must we pump iron, swagger and curse, chew tobacco, talk out of the side of our mouth? Macho is not manly, it’s moronic.

We are commanded in general terms to be strong, but we are not told specifically what we must do to do to comply with the command.

Discernment is so important in this matter that it can hardly be overemphasized. There is a time to be firm and a time to be flexible; a time to make an issue of something and a time to let it go.

We know that husbands are the head of the house and wives and children are to submit to their authority. (The Bible knows nothing of a 50/50 marriage).

What does it mean to be *the head of the house*

***Ephesians 5:23-24 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24) But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.***

Husbands and fathers must realize:

1. God has given you authority – use it. If you don’t, you’ll lose it.
	1. There’s no need to feel guilty about asserting your authority. God gave it to you and holds you responsible to use it.
	2. We are not to treat our wives and children as if we were a drill sergeant barking out orders.
	3. We can be firm and loving at the same time. We are always to be considerate and loving while asserting our authority.

We are commanded to love our wives as Christ loves the Church (*Eph. 5:25*) and as we love our own bodies (*Eph. 5:28*).

***1 Peter 3:7 You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with a weaker vessel, since she is a woman; and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.***

**FATHER’S DAY 2019 – PART 3**

Why is so much of the subject of marriage found in a father’s day message? Because if a husband is a bully, or is dominated by his wife, his children will know it and won’t respect him. They will do everything they can to show their disrespect and contempt for him.

God made marriage exceedingly simple by putting the husband in charge, requiring him to lead in love and his wife to respect his authority

 d. We are not to have the arrogant attitude that, “It’s

 my way or the highway”. If we do, God will deal

 will us.

 e. Stay objective and do not get angry. The hallmark

 of a good leader is objectivity. Keep an open mind

 and listen to your wife and children.

1. Stop whining, complaining, and blaming others when things are not as they should be. Take responsibility for it and make necessary changes.
	1. Start with yourself. When your family sees you make changes, they will be more willing to do the same.
	2. Set new policies and discuss them with your family.
2. What if your changes are ignored or your commands are disobeyed?
	1. We must not confuse asserting authority with demanding obedience.
	2. A husband is not responsible for his wife’s disobedience. (She will answer to the Lord for her disobedience.)
	3. Nothing a wife can do changes the fact that God put you in charge. So there is no need to compete with her over who is in charge.
	4. DO NOT relinquish your authority in order to keep the peace. It is better to be unpopular and respected than be liked and disregarded.

 4. Manipulation – the bag of tricks used to undermine

 legitimate authority.

1. Anger
2. Silent Treatment
3. Withholding Sex (*1 Cor. 7:3-5*)
4. Crying
5. Threaten to Leave
6. Domination tactics (Don’t allow your wife or kids

 to tell you what to do) but listen to their advice.

 5. Mine Fields

1. Money
2. Children
3. Step Parents
4. In-Laws - *Genesis 2:24 For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.*

## **CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

1. DON’T AVOID DISPUTES

 Sweeping things under the rug never works, it makes

 matters worse.

2. TIME IT RIGHT- tired, irritable, ill, in a hurry or

 preoccupied, and not before bed.

3.ATTACK THE PROBLEM, NOT EACH OTHER!

 The goal is not to place blame but to find a solution to

 the problem.

4. FORGET ABOUT WHO’S TO BLAME

 Refuse to play the “blame game”. It only creates hostility

 toward one another and does nothing to solve problems.

 Arguing over who is to blame does not help anything.

***Ephesians 4:29* . . . “*Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for the building up of others according to their needs that it may benefit those whose listen.*”**

***Proverbs 15:1-2 . . . A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. 2) The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.***

***Proverbs 25:15 . . . By forbearance a ruler may be persuaded, and a soft tongue breaks the bone.***

***Eph. 4:15 . . . speak the truth in love . . .***

5. CONTROL YOUR ANGER

 Don’t give yourself permission to get angry because

 when you get mad, the goal is no longer finding a

 solution but to hurt the other person

***Proverbs 14:17 . . . A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, and a man of evil devices is hated.***

***Proverbs 14:29 . . . He who is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who is quick-tempered exalts folly.***

***Proverbs 19:11 . . . A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression.***

***Proverbs 19:19 . . . A man of great anger shall bear the penalty, for if you rescue him, you will only have to do it again.***

***Proverbs 15:18 . . . A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but the slow to anger pacifies contention.***

***Proverbs 16:32 . . . He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit, than he who captures a city.***

Proverbs 17:14 . . . The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so abandon the quarrel before it breaks out.

Ephesians 4:31 . . . Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you with all malice:

6. DON’T BRING UP THE PAST

 Deal with the issue at hand, don’t fight about the past.

 Avoid the phrases like, “*You never listen to me!*” Bringing up the past shows that your mate failed in the past and you have never forgiven them for it.

7. LISTEN TO YOUR SPOUSE

 ***James 1:19 . . . Everyone should be quick to listen,***

 ***slow to speak and slow to become angry.***

 Don’t interrupt, don’t talk over each other, and don’t think

 about what you’re going to say next when the other

 person is talking.

 8. COMPROMISE, YES! APPEASEMENT, NO!

 Compromise can be a good thing but not appeasement.

 Appeasement is usually when one makes sacrifices in

 order to keep the peace or to avoid a confrontation.

 9. FORGIVE

 Implacability kills relationships and is contrary to God’s command for us to forgive others as He has forgiven us.

#  *Colossians 3:12-14 . . . put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13) bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14) And beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.*

# MYTHS

MYTH 1: If I could only get him/her to change, all will be well.

 You cannot change other people, you can only

 change yourself.

MYTH 2: Proving that my husband/wife is to blame for our

 troubles will motivate them to try to do better.

 Nine times out of ten, they will not accept the

 blame and will resent you for blaming them,

 which will only make matters worse.

MYTH 3: Couples who have disagreements have unstable

 Marriages.

 Not so, all marriages have disagreements. Having

 disagreements doesn’t mean you have a bad

 marriage. It’s how you handle the disagreements

 that determines the stability of your marriage.

### **FAIR FIGHTING RULES:**

 1. No hitting, pushing, scratching, biting, or spitting

2. No name-calling, screaming or yelling

3. Don’t interrupt! Listen to what the other one is saying.

4. Do not bring up the past! Deal with the issue at hand.

5. Do not use phrases like, “You always” or “You never”

6. Fight in private. Do not get others involved.

7. State what you want, not what you don’t like.

1. Call a temporary time-out to cool off if necessary.
2. Having the last word and stomping off is not allowed. However, if the other person has lost control and is in your face, it’s OK to turn and walk away.

10. Come to a conclusion, compromise, agree to disagree, or if necessary, set another time to discuss it, but don’t let it go on and on.

NOTE: These rules are intended to keep the lines of communication flowing when there are disagreements. The fight is not about who will win the argument because it shouldn’t be an “I win, you lose” situation. It’s about finding the best way to resolve the matter. The husband’s decision in the matter is final! Once his decision is made, it’s over! No more discussion, no arguing, and no pouting. The Lord will hold him responsible for the decision he makes and hold the wife responsible to abide by it.