



Listening Guide
Sunday, June 18, 2017

What Fathers Do

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

Fathers have a unique role in the lives of children, and even if we did not have a good example in our earthly fathers, we have a perfect example in God our Father. He gives us divine truths to guide us to become fathers that please Him.

1. The Negative: Do not provoke your children to anger.

2. The Positive:

“but bring them up” (ektrephete)

“in the discipline” (paideia)

“and instruction” (nouthesia)

“of the Lord.”



Application Guide
Sunday, June 18, 2017

What Fathers Do
Ephesians 6:4

Home Group Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Home groups meet weekly and will provide you an opportunity to review the message, and to apply it to your life personally. Also, thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the truths we are learning.

Large Group

1. Was there any passage of scripture or statement in the message today that was particularly meaningful or applicable to you?

Small Group

2. If your father lives, take some time to pray for him today. Every earthly father is imperfect, and fathers who do not know Jesus cannot reflect his character. If he is lost, pray for his salvation and for the grace to be a witness to him. If he is saved, pray for him to be strengthened in Christ Jesus. After praying for him (intercession), take some time to thank God for being a perfect, heavenly Father to you.
3. Bringing up children means to nourish them, to invest in them. Read the following passages: **1 Samuel 2:12-17; 3:13** (Eli's sons), and **1 Samuel 8:3** (Samuel's sons). Why do you think these children did not follow after God? What are the warnings for us?
4. Read **Hebrews 12:5-11**. Evaluate how you discipline your children. Discuss the necessity for "rules, regulations, rewards, and punishment." Why is it important to teach the reality of "consequences" to your children? How do you do this in your home?
5. Do you agree that the over-riding purpose of parenting is to connect the hearts of our children with the heart of God? How do we do this?