

WHAT CHILDREN WANT IN A FATHER

736dt

TEXT: Matthew 7:9-11; Ephesians 6:4

INTRODUCTION:

A real father is one who functions in a paternal capacity. He is there in every stage of his children's life to help them grow spiritually, emotionally and physically.

A real father acknowledges his responsibility to his family. He doesn't try to shift the responsibility to someone else.

A real Father serves his family in the same way that Jesus came to serve us - **Matthew 20:26-28**.

1. In the capacity of the spiritual head of the family. Understand that every decision whether good or bad will affect everyone in the home. Fathers need to have the mind of Christ in order to make wise and Godly decisions for the family.
2. In the capacity of priest. Just as Jesus is our High Priest who sacrificed His life for us all and is always interceding for us. In the same way we are to make sacrifices for our families and never cease to intercede for them.
3. In the capacity of warrior, the Bible says; "*therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm*" - **Ephesians 6:13**.

As a father there are five wonderful gifts that you can give to your children that will change them for life.

I. LOVE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

1. Each father needs to be the greatest support that his children will ever have.
2. **1 John 3:18**.
3. Encouraging them to set good goals for their lives and rejoicing with them in every achievement.

II. YOUR TIME AND ACCEPTANCE

1. Another great gift that fathers can give to their children is their time.
2. Accept your children for who they are and speak positive words into their lives.
3. Realize that your children are not perfect.

III. YOUR CARE

1. A father is to provide for his children and give them the kind of care that will help develop them in to what God desires for their life.
2. **1 Timothy 5:8**.

IV. YOUR FAITH

1. If a father has faith in God and His word and in everything seeks to obey Him his children will most likely put their confidence in God when they are older.

V. YOUR EXAMPLE

1. A father is to be a godly example to his children.
2. Telling your children what is right is not enough. You must show them by example.

CONCLUSION: