

Fathers: Shepherds of the Home

Ephesians 6:1-4

Intro: The role of the father in the family corresponds very closely to the role a shepherd has over his sheep. He needs to feed, protect and help them to thrive. Let's look at some of the ways that fathers look like shepherds.

Spiritual Fathers Develop Relationship With Flock

They must know them well and develop positive influence

Psalm 127:3 Children are a heritage from the Lord.

John 10:27 My sheep listen to my voice, I know them and they follow me.

Spiritual Fathers Show A Love & Respect For Wives

This is how they learn how to treat women

Ephesians 5:22-33: nurture, love, sacrifice

Col. 3:19 Husbands love your wives

1 Peter 3:7 Treat them as the special vessel (weaker)

Spiritual Fathers Develop Their Children Spiritually

Do not outsource (church, school, youth minister)

Ephesians 6:4 Do not provoke your children to wrath but bring them up in the nurture of the Lord.

Pro 22:6 Train a child in way to go and he will not depart from it

Deut. 6: When you rise up, lie down, coming, going, around house

Spiritual Fathers Provide For Their Family

Work ethic, provide emotionally, spiritually, financially

Gen. 2:15 Work in garden and tend it

2 Thessalonians 3:10 Man will not work, neither let him eat.

Spiritual Fathers Protect Their Families

You are point man, first line of defense when they are young

1 Sam. 17:36 David killed lion, bear and Philistine

1 Peter 5:8 Like a lion look to devour

Matthew 18:6 If cause one of these to stumble, better to have millstone