# Fathers' Day 2023

By Daniel Deininger

June 17, 2023 - Helena, MT

**Intro and Purpose of Message:**

With Fathers' Day tomorrow I think it appropriate to look at examples of our heavenly Father.. His example should (1.) motivate us to be better parents (both Fathers & Mothers) and (2.) to be appreciative children - Both as children of God and children of our parents.

**Need:**

The need for us to understand this… and hopefully incorporate it into our life, is twofold:
First to be better physical parents, and second, to be better children.

## First lesson: **God loves us.**

John 3:16 NLT - "For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:17 NLT - God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

Romans 5:8 NLT - But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

> We need to show and express our love. Not assume it is understood. (It is our responsibility to show it - it should not be the responsibility of our children or parents to determine if we love them.)

Romans 5:9 NLT - And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation.
Romans 5:10 NLT - For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son.

> God the Father made the "first move" to restore the relationship. We need to show appreciation for the sacrifices made to restore the relationship.
>
> Parents should not expect the children to make the "first move"(but they can).
>
> Children need to recognize the sacrifices the parent makes, and also recognize parents are not perfect as God is (yet), and show appreciation for the sacrifices the parents made.

Romans 5:11 NLT - So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

We live in a society that is unthankful…

2 Timothy 3:1 KJV - This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
2 Timothy 3:2 KJV - For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **disobedient to parents**, **unthankful**, unholy,
2 Timothy 3:3 KJV - Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
2 Timothy 3:4 KJV - Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
2 Timothy 3:5 KJV - Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: **from such turn away.**

It may be easy to turn away from people Paul is describing.. But is it just the people? Shouldn't we turn away from those practices, too?

2 Corinthians 5:21 NLT - For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

1 John 4:9 NLT - God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.
1 John 4:10 NLT - This is real love--not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

God the Father and Jesus made a huge sacrifice in order to restore man to a good relationship with them. Parents oftentimes have to make sacrifices too, in order to take care of their children and show them that they are loved.

The goal is to have reconciliation.. To have a restored relationship.

We, as children, need to appreciate the sacrifices made by the Father.

1 John 4:19 NLT - We love each other because he loved us first.

John 1:14 NLT - So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

Romans 8:32 NLT - Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?

We need to KNOW that God loves us and will do anything to help us achieve sonship in His family.

Likewise we as parents need to do all we can (this is where we are different from God - we have limited resources) to help our children be successful. Much of

their TRUE success will come from learning and living God's way, so teaching them that way is important.

> Genesis 18:17 NKJV - And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing,
> Genesis 18:18 NKJV - "since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?
> Genesis 18:19 NKJV - "For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."

This also includes praying for our children.

Matthew 9:13 NLT - Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show **mercy**, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

1 Timothy 1:15 NLT - This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"--and I am the worst of them all.
1 Timothy 1:16 NLT - But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

As God extends mercy to us, we too, need to extend mercy. Both to our parents and to our children. And others.
Sometimes we don't want to extend mercy, or forgiveness.. But we need to remember how much has been extended to us.

> Matthew 6:12 NLT - and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.
> …
> Matthew 6:14 NLT - "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you.
> Matthew 6:15 NLT - But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

## Second lesson: If you love God, you should obey him

Deuteronomy 5:16 NKJV - 'Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

Ephesians 6:2 NKJV - "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:

John 14:15 NKJV - "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

1 John 4:19 NKJV - We love Him because He first loved us.

1 John 4:20 NKJV - If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

1 John 5:2 NKJV - By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.
1 John 5:3 NKJV - For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

So we know that God loves us. **How do we show our love?** Wouldn't God be pleased if we show love toward one another.

Romans 14:19 NKJV - Therefore let us pursue the things [which make] for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

1 Corinthians 10:23 NKJV - All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify.

> 1 Corinthians 8:1 NKJV - Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NKJV - Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

**Do not provoke:**

Eph 6:4 (KJV) — And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
Eph 6:4 (NLT) — Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Combined: Fathers, **do not provoke** your children to anger by the way you treat them, but bring them up in the **nurture** and instruction that comes from the Lord

Colossians 3:21 NKJV - Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

discouraged = G120 = ἀθυμέω athyméō, ath-oo-meh'-o; from a compound of G1 (as a negative particle) and G2372; to be spiritless, i.e. disheartened:—be dismayed.

From Outline of Biblical Usage:
to be disheartened, dispirited, broken in spirit

Rather than discourage we need to be encouragers, nurturers:

What is the meaning of our nurture?
**to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something, especially young children or plants, and help him, her, or it to develop**

**Conclusion:**

The Father's goal is to bring many children to glory!

Hebrews 2:10 NKJV - For it was fitting for Him, for whom [are] all things and by whom [are] all things, **in bringing many sons to glory,** to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

And he takes such good care of us. Ps 23 exemplifies His role - that we should appreciate, and as parents should strive to emulate:

> Psalm 23:1 NKJV - A Psalm of David. The LORD [is] my shepherd; I shall not want.
> Psalm 23:2 NKJV - He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.
> Psalm 23:3 NKJV - He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.
> Psalm 23:4 NKJV - Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You [are] with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
> Psalm 23:5 NKJV - You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.
> Psalm 23:6 NKJV - Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Romans 8:14 NKJV - For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
Romans 8:15 NKJV - For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."
Romans 8:16 NKJV - The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
Romans 8:17 NKJV - and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with [Him], that we may also be glorified together.
Romans 8:18 NKJV - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy [to be compared] with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

So as you celebrate Fathers' Day tomorrow, remember the examples of our heavenly Father.. Use His example to
(1.) motivate us to be better parents (both Fathers & Mothers) and
(2.) to be appreciative children - Both as children of God and children of our parents.

# Fatherhood and Fatherlessness

By Daniel Deininger
June 18th, 2022 - Kalispell, MT

**Intro:**
As we celebrate Father's day tomorrow, we need to consider the plight of many in this nation. Many who don't have fathers in their lives.

From Fox News:
https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/america-crisis-fathers
*As our country commemorates Father's Day this weekend, it is important that we recognize the millions of children throughout our nation who are growing up without their fathers. Data from the United States Census Bureau shows that nearly 18.5 million children grow up without their fathers, which has in return led to the United States owning the title of the world's leader in fatherlessness.*

*We know that fatherhood is essential to the development of our children, and the increased involvement of fathers in the home leads to better results on a wide variety of outcomes. From economic prosperity, increased academic performance, to improved social mobility; fathers in their respective homes continue to be a key indicator of success for all children across racial, ethnic, and socio-economic groups. That is why we have joined forces to introduce a resolution into the U.S. House of Representatives that promotes fatherhood and its proven benefit to society.*

*There is little doubt that America is experiencing an unprecedented fatherless crisis. Approximately 80% of single-parent homes are led by single mothers; therefore, leading to nearly 25% of our youth growing up without a father in the home.*

*This staggering statistic has not only destroyed the nuclear family but has devastated communities across the nation. For example, 85% of children and teens with behavioral disorders come from fatherless homes, and over 70%* of all adolescent patients in drug and alcohol treatment centers originate from homes without fathers.

*Fatherless youth eventually become adults who, without the structure of a two-parent household, struggle to gain their footing in the world.*

*There is little doubt that America is experiencing an unprecedented fatherless crisis.*

**Specific Purpose of this message:**
Today we will look into God's word and see the importance of the family and father's in a godly society.

**Need:**
We need to be examples of this way of life and teaching them to our children.

## What the Bible teaches

Ephesians 6:1 NKJV - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Obey = G5219 = ὑπακούω hupakŏuō, hoop-ak-oo'-o; from G5259 and G191; to hear under (as a subordinate), i.e. to listen attentively; by implication, to heed or conform to a command or authority:—hearken, be obedient to, obey.

Right = G1342 = δίκαιος díkaios, dik'-ah-yos; from G1349; equitable (in character or act); by implication, innocent, holy (absolutely or relatively):—just, meet, right(-eous).

I. righteous, observing divine laws

A. in a wide sense, upright, righteous, virtuous, keeping the commands of God

1. of those who seem to themselves to be righteous, who pride themselves to be righteous, who pride themselves in their virtues, whether real or imagined

2. innocent, faultless, guiltless

3. **used of him whose way of thinking, feeling, and acting is wholly conformed to the will of God,** and who therefore needs no rectification in the heart or life

a) only Christ truly

4. approved of or acceptable of God

B. in a narrower sense, rendering to each his due and that in a judicial sense, passing just judgment on others, whether expressed in words or shown by the manner of dealing with them

Ephesians 6:2 NKJV - "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:

Honor = G5091 = τιμάω timáō, tim-ah'-o; from G5093; to prize, i.e. fix a valuation upon; by implication, to revere:—honour, value.

I. to estimate, fix the value
A. for the value of something belonging to one's self
II. to honour, to have in honour, to revere, venerate

revere stresses deference and tenderness of feeling.

Ephesians 6:3 NKJV - "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

Exodus 20:12 NKJV - "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

First promise: Long life

Deuteronomy 5:16 NKJV - 'Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

Second promise: That it may be well with you

## NOTICE: NO conditions given to the child.

Matthew 15:4 NKJV - "For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.'

Exodus 21:17 NKJV - "And he who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.

curses= H7042= qâlal, kaw-lal'; a primitive root; to be (causatively, make) light, literally (swift, small, sharp, etc.) or figuratively (easy, trifling, vile, etc.):—abate, make bright, bring into contempt, (ac-) curse, despise, (be) ease(-y, -ier), (be a, make, make somewhat, move, seem a, set) light(-en, -er, -ly, -ly afflict, -ly esteem, thing), × slight(-ly), be swift(-er), (be, be more, make, re-) vile, whet.

I. to be slight, be swift, be trifling, be of little account, be light
   A. (Qal)
      1. to be slight, be abated (of water)
      2. to be swift
      3. to be trifling, be of little account
   B. (Niphal)
      1. to be swift, show oneself swift
      2. to appear trifling, be too trifling, be insignificant
      3. to be lightly esteemed
   C. (Piel)
      1. to make despicable
      2. to curse
   D. (Pual) to be cursed
   E. (Hiphil)
      **1. to make light, lighten**
      **2. to treat with contempt, bring contempt or dishonour**
   F. (Pilpel)
      1. to shake
      2. to whet
   G. (Hithpalpel) to shake oneself, be moved to and fro

## But … Admonition given to the parent:

Ephesians 6:4 NKJV - And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

Genesis 18:17 NKJV - And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing,
Genesis 18:18 NKJV - "since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

Genesis 18:19 NKJV - "For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."

NLT = I have singled him out so that he will direct his sons and their families to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just. Then I will do for Abraham all that I have promised."

Proverbs 22:6 NKJV - Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

Does this mean a Father can just COMMAND a child without giving reasons?

The father honors the son:
John 8:54 NKJV - Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God.
Isaiah 1:18 NKJV - "**Come now, and let us reason together,"** Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.
Isaiah 1:19 NKJV - If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land;
Isaiah 1:20 NKJV - But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword"; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Reason = H3198 = yâkach, yaw-kahh'; a primitive root; to be right (i.e. correct); reciprocal, to argue; causatively, to decide, justify or convict:—appoint, argue, chasten, convince, correct(-ion), daysman, dispute, judge, maintain, plead, reason (together), rebuke, reprove(-r), surely, in any wise.

I. to prove, decide, judge, rebuke, reprove, correct, be right
   A. (Hiphil)
      1. to decide, judge
      2. to adjudge, appoint
      3. to show to be right, prove
      4. to convince, convict
      5. to reprove, chide
      6. to correct, rebuke
   B. (Hophal) to be chastened
   C. (Niphal) **to reason, reason together**
   D. (Hithp) to argue

## Two other key commandments:

Deuteronomy 5:18 NKJV - 'You shall not commit adultery.

Deuteronomy 5:21 NKJV - 'You shall not covet your neighbor's wife; and you shall not desire your neighbor's house, his field, his male servant, his female servant, his ox, his donkey, or anything that [is] your neighbor's.'

Galatians 5:19 NKJV - Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

Ephesians 5:3 NKJV - But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;

Colossians 3:5 NKJV - Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

## Spiritual Application today. Do we HONOR GOD?

Malachi 1:6 NKJV - "A son honors [his] father, And a servant [his] master. If then I am the Father, Where [is] My honor? And if I [am] a Master, Where [is] My reverence? Says the LORD of hosts To you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?'

> Malachi 1:1 NLT - This is the message that the LORD gave to Israel through the prophet Malachi.
> Malachi 1:2 NLT - "I have always loved you," says the LORD. But you retort, "Really? How have you loved us?" And the LORD replies, "This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob,
> Malachi 1:3 NLT - but I rejected his brother, Esau, and devastated his hill country. I turned Esau's inheritance into a desert for jackals."
> Malachi 1:4 NLT - Esau's descendants in Edom may say, "We have been shattered, but we will rebuild the ruins." But the LORD of Heaven's Armies replies, "They may try to rebuild, but I will demolish them again. Their country will be known as 'The Land of Wickedness,' and their people will be called 'The People with Whom the LORD Is Forever Angry.'
> Malachi 1:5 NLT - When you see the destruction for yourselves, you will say, 'Truly, the LORD's greatness reaches far beyond Israel's borders!'"
> Malachi 1:6 NLT - The LORD of Heaven's Armies says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. If I am your father and master, where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have shown contempt for my name! "But you ask, 'How have we ever shown contempt for your name?'
> Malachi 1:7 NLT - "You have shown contempt by offering defiled sacrifices on my altar. "Then you ask, 'How have we defiled the sacrifices?' "You defile them by saying the altar of the LORD deserves no respect.
> Malachi 1:8 NLT - When you give blind animals as sacrifices, isn't that wrong? And isn't it wrong to offer animals that are crippled and diseased? Try giving gifts like that to your governor, and see how pleased he is!" says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.
> Malachi 1:9 NLT - "Go ahead, beg God to be merciful to you! But when you bring that kind of offering, why should he show you any favor at all?" asks the LORD of Heaven's Armies.
> Malachi 1:10 NLT - "How I wish one of you would shut the Temple doors so that these worthless sacrifices could not be offered! I am not pleased with you," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "and I will not accept your offerings.
> Malachi 1:11 NLT - But my name is honored by people of other nations from morning till night. All around the world they offer sweet incense and pure offerings in honor of my name. For my name is great among the nations," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

Malachi 1:12 NLT - "But you dishonor my name with your actions. By bringing contemptible food, you are saying it's all right to defile the Lord's table.
Malachi 1:13 NLT - You say, 'It's too hard to serve the LORD,' and you turn up your noses at my commands," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "Think of it! Animals that are stolen and crippled and sick are being presented as offerings! Should I accept from you such offerings as these?" asks the LORD.
Malachi 1:14 NLT - "Cursed is the cheat who promises to give a fine ram from his flock but then sacrifices a defective one to the Lord. For I am a great king," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "and my name is feared among the nations!

Matthew 15:6 NKJV - 'then he need not honor his father or mother.' Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition.

Proverbs 22:4 NKJV - By humility [and] the fear of the LORD [Are] riches and honor and life.
(First promise- a long life)

Proverbs 22:5 NKJV - Thorns [and] snares [are] in the way of the perverse; He who guards his soul will be far from them.
(Second promise: That it may be well with you)

What can we do?

Be good parents and grandparents.
Teach the importance of family and the family structure
Support parents.
Recognize the problems that result from forsaking God's way.
Teach the benefits of God's way

James 1:27 NKJV - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, [and] to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

**Conclusion:**
Malachi 4:4 NKJV - "Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, Which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, [With the] statutes and judgments.
Malachi 4:5 NKJV - Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.
Malachi 4:6 NKJV - And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

RESOURCES

**America's crisis is a lack of fathers**
Father's Day is this weekend but as we celebrate we must not forget the millions of children who are growing up without a dad in the home. Published June 17, 2022 7:00am EDT

https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/america-crisis-fathers