

Raising Knights and Princesses


THE FATHER ABSENCE CRISIS IN AMERICA

There is a crisis in America. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 18.3 million children, 1 in 4, live without a biological, step, or adoptive father in the home. Consequently, there is a “father factor” in nearly all of the societal ills facing America today. Research shows when a child is raised in a father-absent home, he or she is affected in the following ways...


Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). Living arrangements of children under 18 years old: 1960 to present. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau.



- **Biblical Foundation – Men were and are created to lead!**
- **Genesis 2:15-18** The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. 16 But the Lord God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden —17 except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die." 18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him." NLT
- **Genesis 3:16** Then he said to the woman, "I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy, and in pain you will give birth. And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you." NLT
- **1 Corinthians 11:3** But there is one thing I want you to know: The head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. NLT
- **Ephesians 5:21-27** And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 For wives, this means submit your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. 24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. 25 For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her 26 to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. NLT

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- **Ephesians 6:1-4** Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. 2 "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise: 3 If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."
 - 4 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. NLT
 - **Prophet, Priest and King**
 - **Prophet** - Pray, listen and discern God's will for your wife and children!
 - **Priest** – Minister to and serve your family!
 - **King** – Govern your household according to the King of Kings!
 - Authority neglected is authority transferred!

5 Imperatives in Raising Knights and Princesses



1. Discern – Did you ever take time to contemplate before you got married what your household would look like and reflect?

a. We are all created for a purpose!

i. Jeremiah 1:5, Psalms 139, 2 Timothy 1:9

b. Even what we name our children has significance!

c. Help our children find their purpose in God!

2. Definition – Male and Female

What is a man / woman ?

What produces a man / woman ?

How do you know when you've become a man / woman ?

Three critical points are lacking in this process.

A. Definition of manhood / womanhood.

- A real man is one who:
 1. Rejects passivity.
 2. Accepts responsibility
 3. Leads courageously.
 4. Expects the greater reward.... God's reward.

- A real woman is one who:
 1. Embraces role as helpmeet completer
 2. Embraces biblical headship
 3. Embraces noble character
 4. Expects the greater reward




B. Directional process –

- Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go...
- When he comes to the opening of the way of life, being able to walk alone, and to choose; stop at this entrance, and begin a series of instructions, how he is to conduct himself in every step he takes. Show him the duties, the dangers, and the blessings of the path; give him directions how to perform the duties, how to escape the dangers, and how to secure the blessings, which all lie before him. Fix these on his mind by daily inculcation, till their impression is become indelible; then lead him to practice by slow and almost imperceptible degrees, till each indelible impression becomes a strongly radicated habit. Beg incessantly the blessing of God on all this teaching and discipline; and then you have obeyed the injunction of the wisest of men. Nor is there any likelihood that such impressions shall ever be effaced, or that such habits shall ever be destroyed. (Adam Clarke's Commentary)

C. Declaration of manhood / womanhood (loss of ceremony).

- **You have what it takes!!!!**





3. Discipline

—To train by instruction and control (1 Cor 9:27). The biblical concept of discipline has both a positive side (instruction, knowledge, and training) and a negative aspect (correction, punishment, and reproof). Those who refuse to submit to God's positive discipline by obeying His laws will experience God's negative discipline through His wrath and judgment. (Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

- Proverbs 22:15 A youngster's heart is filled with foolishness, but physical discipline will drive it far away. NLT
- Proverbs 23:13-14 Don't fail to discipline your children. They won't die if you spank them. 14 **Physical discipline may well save them from death.** NLT
 - BiOY – Nicky Gumbel – Stop!
- Proverbs 29:15 To discipline a child produces wisdom, but a mother is disgraced by an undisciplined child.
- Ephesians 6:4 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. NLT


A. Dads – King = Disciplinary

- The swing of the Pendulum
- “Wait till your father gets home”
 - Does God always discipline us immediately?

B. An Act or Event?

- Discipline shouldn't be just an act of anger!
- Discipline is a demonstration of love!
 - **Deuteronomy 8:5** Think about it: Just as a parent disciplines a child, the Lord your God disciplines you for your own good. NLT
 - **Proverbs 13:24** Those who spare the rod of discipline hate their children. Those who love their children care enough to discipline them. NLT
 - **Hebrews 12:5-11** So don't feel sorry for yourselves. Or have you forgotten how good parents treat children, and that God regards you as his children? My dear child, don't shrug off God's discipline, but don't be crushed by it either. **6 It's the child he loves that he disciplines; the child he embraces, he also corrects.**
 - 7 God is educating you; that's why you must never drop out. He's treating you as dear children. This trouble you're in isn't punishment; it's training, 8 the normal experience of children. Only irresponsible parents leave children to fend for themselves. Would you prefer an irresponsible God? 9 We respect our own parents for training and not spoiling us, so why not embrace God's training so we can truly live? 10 While we were children, our parents did what seemed best to them. But God is doing what is best for us, training us to live God's holy best. 11 At the time, discipline isn't much fun. It always feels like it's going against the grain. Later, of course, it pays off handsomely, for it's the well-trained who find themselves mature in their relationship with God. The Message



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- Discipline as an event – Something you remember!
 - You're going to be disciplined (spanked)
 - Do you know why you're being disciplined?
 - I am now going to spank you! Time to cry
 - Are you sorry for what you did? Are you going to express repentance?
 - If not, we will spank again!
 - We are going to hug each other and pray together!
 - Discipline an act of Declaration!
 - Rod a symbol of authority.
 - I love my child and refuse to allow the sin nature to dominate and control them.
 - I am declaring that the god of this world will not have my child!
 - Discipline teaches us that bad behavior has consequences!
 - Blessings or Curse
 - Heaven or Hell

4. Disciple –

Noah Webster Dictionary 1828

- 1. To teach; to train, or bring up.
- 2. To make disciples of; to convert to doctrines or principles.
- 3. To punish; to discipline. [*Not in use.*]

- Follow Me – Lead by example Daddy does it!!!

- Devotional Life

- Daily Bible Reading
- Prayer
- Discussion

- Doctrine

- What you believe and why

- Dedication

- What are you committed to?
 - Let your Yes be Yes!!!
 - What about our work etic

- Demonstration

- Do as I say and not as I do doesn't work
- How do we treat our spouse?
- How do we treat each other?
- How do we talk?
- Etc...



5. **Destiny** - Life is about the journey not the destination????

- Ecclesiastes 3:11 Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end. NLT
 - The journey is a determining factor in the destination!
- This quote has been attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson and made popular by the band Aerosmith in 1992.
- There is no evidence that Emerson made this quote.
- He did however make the following:
 - *“To finish the moment, **to find the journey’s end in every step of the road**, to live the greatest number of good hours, is wisdom.” ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*
- What if....?
- Failure to prepare is preparation for failure!
- You have what it takes, you still are the only one who can walk it out day by day!



The background is a dark blue-grey color with a light grey grid. Overlaid on the grid are white contour lines, some solid and some dashed, resembling a topographic map. There are four small white plus signs scattered across the background: one in the top right, one in the upper middle, one in the middle left, and one in the lower middle.

Thanks

FOR JOINING US

