

MANAGES HIS FAMILY WELL

We don't _____ the impact for good or bad that our fathers have had on us. Some of us carry a wound which was inflicted by our earthly father – by his being absent, critical, heavy handed or emotionally/physically abusive. For some of us, the opposite is true – our relationship with our earthly father has been one of love, nurturing and servanthood. Either way, all our fathers are _____ men.

WHAT IS A FATHER?

1. A FATHER IS A _____.

1 Timothy 3.4: He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect.

The word “manage” in the Greek is **proistemi** which means “to _____.”

We are called to “shepherd” our families well.

The question for us is: “Have I gained enough trust at home that my family follows my leadership?”

A child's submission is not a forced, heavy-handed obligation but rather it's the earned _____ a father has sacrificed for.

What does a Shepherd do?

He feeds, guides, seeks, protects, restores, and _____.

2. A FATHER IS A REFLECTION OF _____.

The Father found in the story of the prodigal son was characterized by patience, _____ and abounding love.

Patience: You can _____ your children when things look dark.

Grace: You can offer the same grace you have received.

Love: You can display abounding love to the one whom God has entrusted you with.

3. A FATHER _____.

Throughout the Bible, we find fathers blessing their children.

These blessings are usually words of encouragement, then details of inheritance and then ending with a prophetic word of hope for the _____ of that child's life.

In Genesis 49, we find Jacob blessing his children.

A blessing is a word of _____ for someone you have been given spiritual authority over.