

Sires Dads and Fathers

Introduction:

This I ask of the men who have children, which one of the following are you? Are you a sire, dad, or a father? Every man who has children will fall into one of these categories. In this essay we will take a close look at the institution of fatherhood, or the lack thereof. I will show you that the root cause of many of the ills of society are directly related to an epidemic of poor or absent fathering in our homes. If you are familiar with my other essays, you are aware that I teach the word from an androcentric point of view. This is because, that is the way the Lord has structured the system to work. It has however been perverted by the forces of spiritual darkness, who attempt to emasculate men and rob them of their right to be excellent heads of households, and to raise up for the Lord the godly offspring that He seeks.

Chapter 1: Sires

This is the lowest form of fatherly interaction. As a matter of fact, there is nothing fatherly at all about being a sire. I define the sire as the man who contributed the male half of the genetic material that went to make up a child. Generally, the sire has no further significant involvement in the life of his offspring. He takes no role in the growth and development of the child. He rarely lives in the same household as his children, and does not contribute any material substance to the care and feeding of said children. Very seldom do his children carry his name, and in some cases, the children may never have even seen their sire. Obviously, this is not a desirable state of affairs. For it does not foster an environment where children can get the best possible start in life. On the contrary, this type of upbringing, usually leads to dysfunctional adults, and a morally detached society.

At this point there should be two things that are quite apparent. One is that this is a poor and unrewarding way for children to be raised, and the second is that this very scenario is being played out with increasing frequency in families all across this land. It comes as no surprise that the fertile ground that provides for the growth of this unholy phenomenon is sin. I would say that in the overwhelming majority of cases, where a man serves as a mere sire, that the child that is produced is a product of fornication. Such a man is interested only in fulfilling his fleshly desires, and gives no thought to the consequences of his actions. He feels no duty to either, the poor woman who is the victim of his lust, or the product of his rebellion: namely the offspring.

The road to siring goes something like this. A young man will meet a young woman who strikes his fancy, and he will seek a relationship with her. He will be charming and make all of the right promises. If the woman is herself deficient in righteousness, and her father is himself a sire, so that he is not there to guide her, she will succumb to the young mans enticements and commit fornication with him. Invariably she will get pregnant, and the young man will respond with something like, "I'm not ready for this." He will then take his leave of her, and she will be left alone to bring this product of sin into the world.

This new mother will then have to face the struggle of raising this child on her own, with no help from the sire. In this case, the child will not be adequately nurtured and will himself grow up deficient in the things that make for successful living. Ultimately the cycle will be repeated over and over again, with each subsequent generation faring worse than the one before it. This problem has now gotten so bad that many of the ills of our society can be directly traced to the condition of runaway siring. Without an actual father in the house, it is highly unlikely that these bastard children will grow up to be pillars of society and skilled in the ways of righteousness. This, of course, assumes that these children would even be born in the first place. Consider the fact that there are few abortions sought by happily married women, but they are most commonly found amongst women who are attempting to mitigate the results of their having fallen into sin through fornication. Both sons and daughters will suffer the effects of a lack of fathering. The son, with no example of manhood will find it quite difficult to grow up with a sense of honor and integrity. He will have no frame of reference for what it means to be a man and father, thus he is likely to continue the cycle of dissipation in his progeny. I'm sure that I have only scratched the surface in illustrating the amount of damage that is inflicted on God's creation, by the rebellious sons of Adam who, allow themselves to become dissipated through the lust of the flesh, and in so doing they bring forth a generation of sons of hell, rather than the godly offspring that God desires.

Chapter 2: Dads

Now we come to the second type of paternal relationship, which I call the state of being a "dad." This individual makes up the majority of men who have offspring, but do not fall into the previous category. A dad is a man with children who is usually married to their mother, and lives with the family. He is diligent to provide for the material needs of the family, and has an interactive relationship with his children. From a purely social point of view, this man seems to be a pretty good bargain, and if that were all there was to it, he would indeed be. Unfortunately, there is one critical area where the dad is severely deficient, and that is in being a strong leader in his household, and assuming the reins for the spiritual guidance of the family. He who is a dad is one who lacks the fierceness of countenance, and the steadfastness of will that is necessary to rule over his household with success. Such a man is usually emasculated, and ruled over by his wife. And it is she, who makes the spiritual decisions for the family. In this context the dad is much more of a friend to his children than he is a father. The deception of this relationship is that it gives the illusion of a healthy father child relationship, but in reality the man fails to provide the type of mentoring that will take in his children, and allow them to grow up to be maximally useful to God. The dad is the type of man who leaves the task of guiding and disciplining the children to his wife. This arrangement is not wise for it is not given to the mother to attend to this duty, nor can she be completely successful at it. So, as a result the children of such a family tend to grow up morally pliable, and subject to the normal stumbling blocks that hinder the people of the world.

Chapter 3: Fathers

This brings us to the final and most noble of the parent child relationships, the father. Such a man will be as father Abraham. He will command his family in the ways of the Lord, and he will do so by example, not merely by affirmation. The father is the man who is described in 1st Timothy chapter 3: 1-12, as one who is suitable to lead in the house of God. Notice some of the attributes of this man. He has his wife, and his children in submission, and he runs his household well. Now contrast this to the men that were described by the prophet Isaiah.

As for My people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. Oh, My people! Those who lead you cause you to err, and destroy the way of your paths. (Isaiah 3:12)

Consider that the man who is approved of God is the one who exhibits strong leadership in his home. This is the essence of both good husbanding, and good fathering. The father is the one responsible for setting the boundaries by which his children operate. Moreover, it is his responsibility to enforce those boundaries. He sets the moral tone for the house, and is the one who enforces it and punishes those who transgress. Yes, that means that it is the responsibility of the father to discipline the children, and to discipline them both early, and often. This is a sacred duty and it should never be delegated to his wife. For it is only the application of effective discipline, administered by a faithful father that has the power, to turn the children's hearts away from the path of evil. It is also crucial to understand that the poison of hypocrisy should never dissipate the power of fatherhood. It is evident that if a man does not live by the word that he is teaching his children, he has no hope that they will live it either. They may pay him lip service for a season, but when they are of full age, they will turn to the wide road that leads to destruction. This because their father's hypocrisy will have prevented the good word from taking root in their hearts, and producing the fruit of righteousness. I will have more to say on discipline in a later chapter.

At this time you should have a reasonable understanding of the differences between the three paternal interactions that I have described. It should also be abundantly clear that of these three, only one is capable of being effective in rearing quality children. Now let us look a little deeper into what it means to be a father.

Chapter 4: Issues for Fathers

In this chapter I will explain some of the finer points of fathering, and answer some of the more commonly asked questions. One question that I have been asked is, "Do you have to be the biological sire of the children in order to be their father?" The short answer is no, you do not. It is interesting to note, and actually paramount to understand that the attributes of fatherhood have nothing to do with biology. The man who has what it takes, and is willing to be a father, will accomplish this goal without regards to whether or not the children are his progeny. The best way to consider this matter is to understand that the

presence of biology does not automatically make you a father, nor does the absence of it, preclude you from becoming a highly effective one.

Another issue that has come up in the past concerns the desire of a man to make up for lost time with his children, after he has come into a knowledge of the truth. The scenario goes something like this. A man has had some children in his youth, but he was only a sire. Now after a number of years he comes into fellowship with the Lord, and it kindles in him a desire to do things correctly. So he then seeks out his children and attempts to enter into a fatherhood relationship with them, an overture that they are not likely to be receptive of. What must be realized here is that there is a season for fatherhood, and outside of it, there can be none. Now this season begins at the birth of a man's children, and it pretty much ends when they become aware that they are lacking a father, and are deficient in the interaction between a father and his children. This awareness comes much faster than you might think. I would say that if you let the first one to three years of your child's life pass by without a father, you have probably passed the point, which you can enter into a most profitable father child relationship. The longer the absence, the less successful the outcome of parenting will be.

If you have let your children grow up to adulthood, or near adulthood without your presence, don't even think of trying to be a father to them, for it is way too late for that now. They will not receive you as such, and are much more likely to be highly resentful of you for abandoning them in the first place. They will under no circumstances yield to your authority, nor abide by your counsel. They will be too busy being angry with you because of your hypocrisy, to take heed to anything that you might tell them. As a matter of fact, by trying to be a father to them at such a late stage, you may actually make things worse, for they may rebel against you just for spite. No, I'm afraid that if you have allowed the season for fatherhood to pass by, then all you can hope for is the opportunity to apologize to your children for allowing them to be robbed of a father, and then to hope that they forgive you. If they do you might be able to give them some wise counsel to help in whatever trials they may be facing, but it would be a mistake to attempt to assert your fatherly dominion in their lives. Perhaps if men were aware of the enormous consequences of siring children without a care, as to whether they are willing to father them, they might be more circumspect about it. But then I do tend toward the naïve in my outlook toward life.

Chapter 5: Fathers and Sons

In the next two chapters we will discuss some of the relationship dynamics that are peculiar to the interactions between fathers and sons, as well as fathers and daughters. Concerning the father and son, the main source of observational education on how that son should grow up into manhood, should come from his father. As a male child observes how his father comports himself in all matters, he learns how a man "does things." Is his father a strong leader in the house, or does he defer to his wife, allowing her to rule over him? If this is the case, he is much more likely to perpetrate the same error in his own household when he becomes of full age. Is the boy's father a good provider, holding down a job, and is he being faithful in that job? Or does he bounce from job to job, or has he become "disabled" from that hangnail that he had last year? It is important for a man

to realize that he is constantly under scrutiny by his son, and it is by this observation that his son learns many of the lessons of life. God has programmed the system to work this way in that; this is the primary way that we instruct our children. It is not, as you may have thought, by the words of our mouth. Many fathers have thought that they were making headway with their children, by making long speeches on all manner of subjects. But if they themselves were not living the things that they were teaching, the real lesson they were presenting was the one that they were living. Thus, one of the main reasons for paternal failure is hypocrisy. This will speak to your children far louder than even the most eloquent oratory. I'm sure you have heard of the old adage that says; "Do as I say, not as I do." I sure hope that you are not relying on that to instruct your son in the way of righteousness. Rest assured that he is far more likely to do as you do, and completely ignore what you say. So then, if you want your son to do as you say, then you do it first.

This next aspect of the father son relationship is particularly damaging to your ability to be a good example, and that is the tendency for a father to be in competition with, and to be envious of his son. Sometimes the fruit of our loins is smarter, faster and better looking than we are. The noble man rejoices in this. He does not see these things as a threat to his manhood. Moreover, he encourages his son in these attributes, so that they may be exhibited to the fullest. If a man sees his son's achievements as a threat to his sense of identity, he will be reluctant to be a source of guidance and spiritual strength to him. I suppose that one could make the argument that if such a man can be so petty, he wouldn't have much to offer spiritually anyway. The bottom line is that a father should do all that he can to encourage his son to excel, and to acknowledge him when he does.

Chapter 6: Fathers and Daughters

This next relationship is perhaps one of the most critical in the family dynamic. Unlike a son who will eventually develop his own sense of self and find his way in life, despite deficient upbringing from his father, the daughter who has not been sufficiently shepherded by her father will likely pay the price in reduced quality of life, and labor under the consequences of poor decisions, which were made from the perspective of the flesh, and not from the results of good fatherly counsel. Being a female and, as such, being gullible and easily deceived, the daughter is particularly dependent on the wisdom of her father. One of his most critical duties is to keep his daughter from being seduced into the world system, which is designed to begin the corrupting process as soon after birth as possible. Haven't you noticed how these days little girls are more and more precocious? This is being driven by societal forces, in that it is considered fashionable to have one's little daughter dress and behave like a woman. This is a grave mistake for it robs a girl of her childhood, and causes her to have to prematurely deal with adult female issues, such as being body and image conscious. This opens the door to such things as vanity, low self-esteem, petty jealousies and the like. This becomes quite a burden for such a young soul to carry. It's no wonder that so many daughters grow up to be dysfunctional adults. The main reason it is so important to have effective fathering is that a daughter's mother is likely to be as dysfunctional as she is. It requires a strong fatherly influence to resist throwing his daughter to the wolves of the world. One of the primary things that a father knows is that his daughter is not a miniature woman, and she should not be allowed to be treated as one, not even by her mother. It is very grievous to see a

five or six year old girl parading around in mid-drift clothing, wearing makeup and nail polish. This is decidedly not cute, but it is a danger sign that the girl's father is either non-existent, or else clueless to the potential harm that his daughter is in. In being exposed to the manner of women prematurely, a little girl becomes preoccupied with her appearance, and begins to manifest signs of sensuality. These are just a few of the painful lessons that the world will teach a daughter if her father is not diligent.

According to the laws that govern God's creation, the young man grows up and leaves his father and his mother. He then finds a wife and becomes joined to her, and through her, he makes his own family. The daughter, on the other hand, enjoys a much more cloistered relationship to her father, for it is his responsibility to cover her, and to be a head for her. This responsibility lasts until such time as he decides to give her in marriage. If he so chooses, she then becomes the responsibility of her husband, who then takes on the charge to be her head. In this way, no woman ever has to run the risk of being found uncovered and vulnerable to the satanic forces. However, if there is a failure of this system anywhere along the way, that woman will likely suffer the result of insufficient covering. Daughters who are not adequately covered will actually seek it from sources other than their fathers. It is as though they instinctively know that something is missing in their lives. The most common way that this error is manifested is in unwise relationships with the opposite gender. These girls are preoccupied with making relationships with boys, who are all too willing to lie to them in order to exploit them sexually.

Moreover, it is not always boys who take advantage of this situation, but men as well. In many cases, the reason behind a young girl's promiscuity is that she is actually looking for someone to cover her, and to be a father figure to her. The problem is that the only thing of value that she has to offer as payment is her body. For her virtue is the currency of choice in this world of sin and deceit. Under these circumstances, the one most likely to enter into this deal is, you guessed it, a sire. This is one who will buy into a young girl's deception and lie to her saying, "Sure I love you, and I'll take care of you. I know that I don't have a job, but we can live on love." You can guess what happens next. They fornicate which leads to a pregnancy, and an early exit of the sire who is, "Not ready for this." Now you have a young teenage girl who has just become a mother with a child who, like her, has no covering, thus setting the stage to repeat the cycle all over again. A young girl with a father in the house is protected from such things, for the father has wisdom to know what manner of young man this is who vies for his daughter's hand, and whether or not he is worthy of her. This is God's divine plan to protect women primarily, and mankind ultimately, from corruption according to the manner of the rebellion in the days of Noah. Now you can understand why the enemy has fought so hard to undermine the concept of fathering, for then he has the opportunity to lay waste to mankind and separate us from our high calling to serve as witnesses of the glory of God that is yet to be revealed.

Now I realize that this teaching may seem heretical to the uninitiated, but it is important to realize that God does not consider women to be autonomous creatures. Woman was created by God to be primarily a helpmate to man, and secondarily to be the vessel through which the earth is to be filled with humanity. Because she was created for man, she is not permitted to exist independently of man. The process of covering begins at birth and starts with her father. If she gets married, her father transfers his covering over

her, to her husband. I share this fascinating aspect of God's economy with you so that you may understand how important it is to be a good father to your daughter. She has many enemies in the world system that seek to destroy her, but her father can shield her from these, so that she may have a prosperous and a peaceable life.

Conclusion:

The preceding has been a brief look into the role of parenting as specifically related to the role of being a father. I cannot over-emphasize how important it is for a man to be found faithful in the raising of his children. It is because of a severe deficiency in this arena that has accounted for the near total collapse of the family structure that we see in our society today. We now have precious few fathers out there, with most men falling into the former two categories of sire or dad. If you are a man who has begotten children, I admonish you to father them to the fullest of your ability, for all men will give account to God of their stewardship over their children. For you must remember this one thing. God seeks godly offspring, and He has charged the fathers to provide them for Him. Much is the suffering that has occurred because of a lack of diligence in this area; so if you claim a relationship with the Most High, do not deny Him what is His by being unfaithful with your children. Amen.