

# The Man of God as Father

Module 6



# You are a Dad!!

No matter your initial thoughts about fatherhood, you are now charged with being something like God to your offspring.

Fatherhood is a gift from God but it comes with a heavy responsibility.



# If you are not a Dad...

Be the best uncle, godfather, father/grandfather figure, coach, or mentor you can be to the children in your life.

Mens' Ministries can help bring **divine fatherhood** to a world that desperately needs it.



# Your father...

Like it or not, fathers must contend with the influence of their own father in how they raise their children.

Maybe your Dad was not a good role model or was not there at all for you.



# You can...

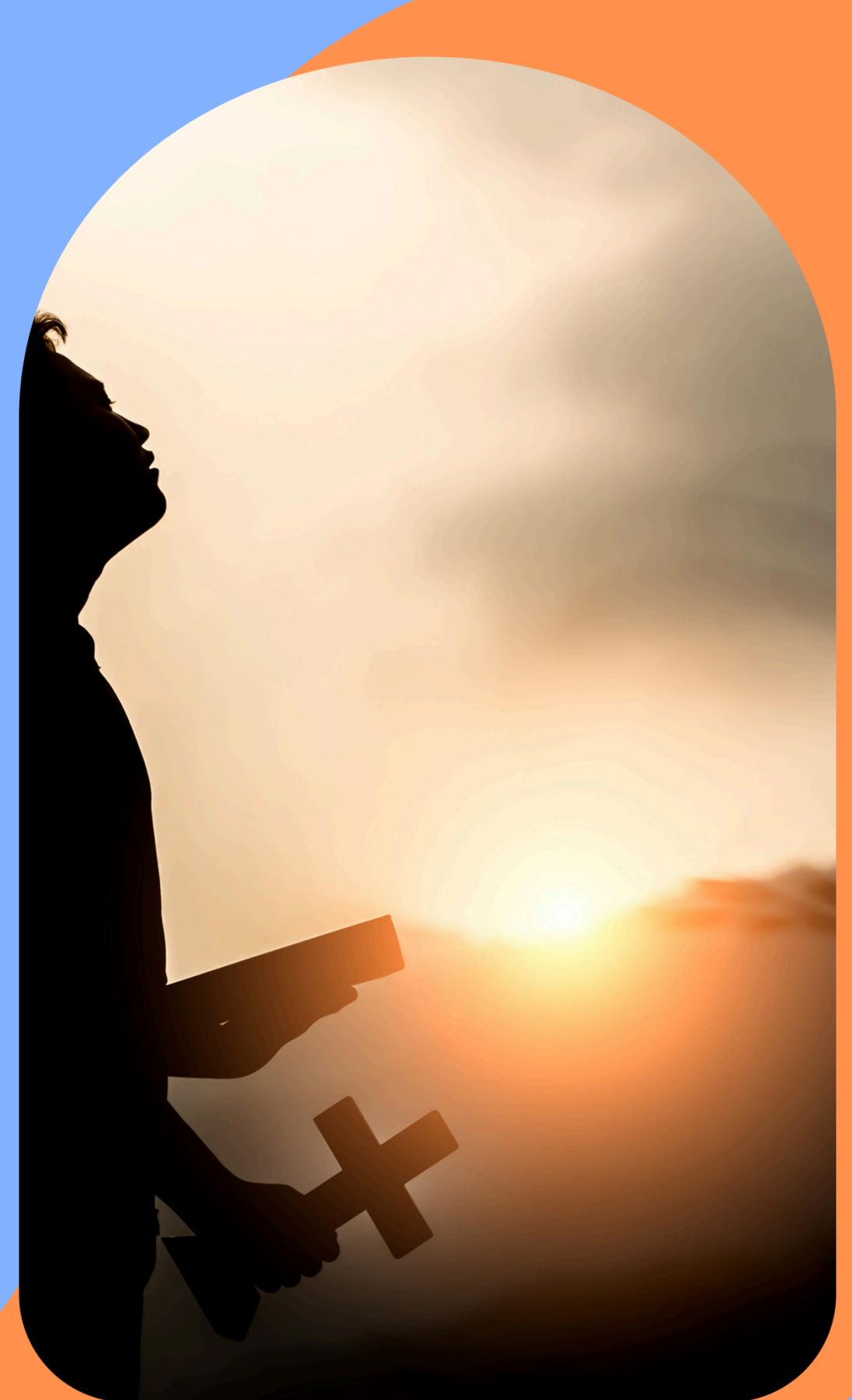
Perpetuate his shortcomings  
in the new generation  
or find better ways to be a  
father or mentor.

**Your choice!**



# The Divine Model

- **You are God's son** whether you acknowledge or ignore it, no matter how you feel about it.
- **God the Father** is the only father who deserves the word **always before** any of **His attributes**.
- The best part is... **You are never less than 100% loved and cared for.** He always wants you to feel like a treasured son.





# Home...

**Not “the place where,  
when you have to go there,  
they have to take you in.”**

The Death of the Hired Man, Robert Frost

**But a place where you belong,  
where you are always loved  
and welcomed just like the  
story of the prodigal son.**

**God is looking forward to  
seeing you and me at His house  
some day. Soon He will say to  
you, “my dear son, welcome  
home for ever!”**



# Father to His People

**“[Your father] led you through the great and terrible wilderness with its poisonous snakes and scorpions, a thirsty land where there was no water. He brought water out of the flintlike rock for you. He fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers had not known.”**

**Deuteronomy 8:15-16**

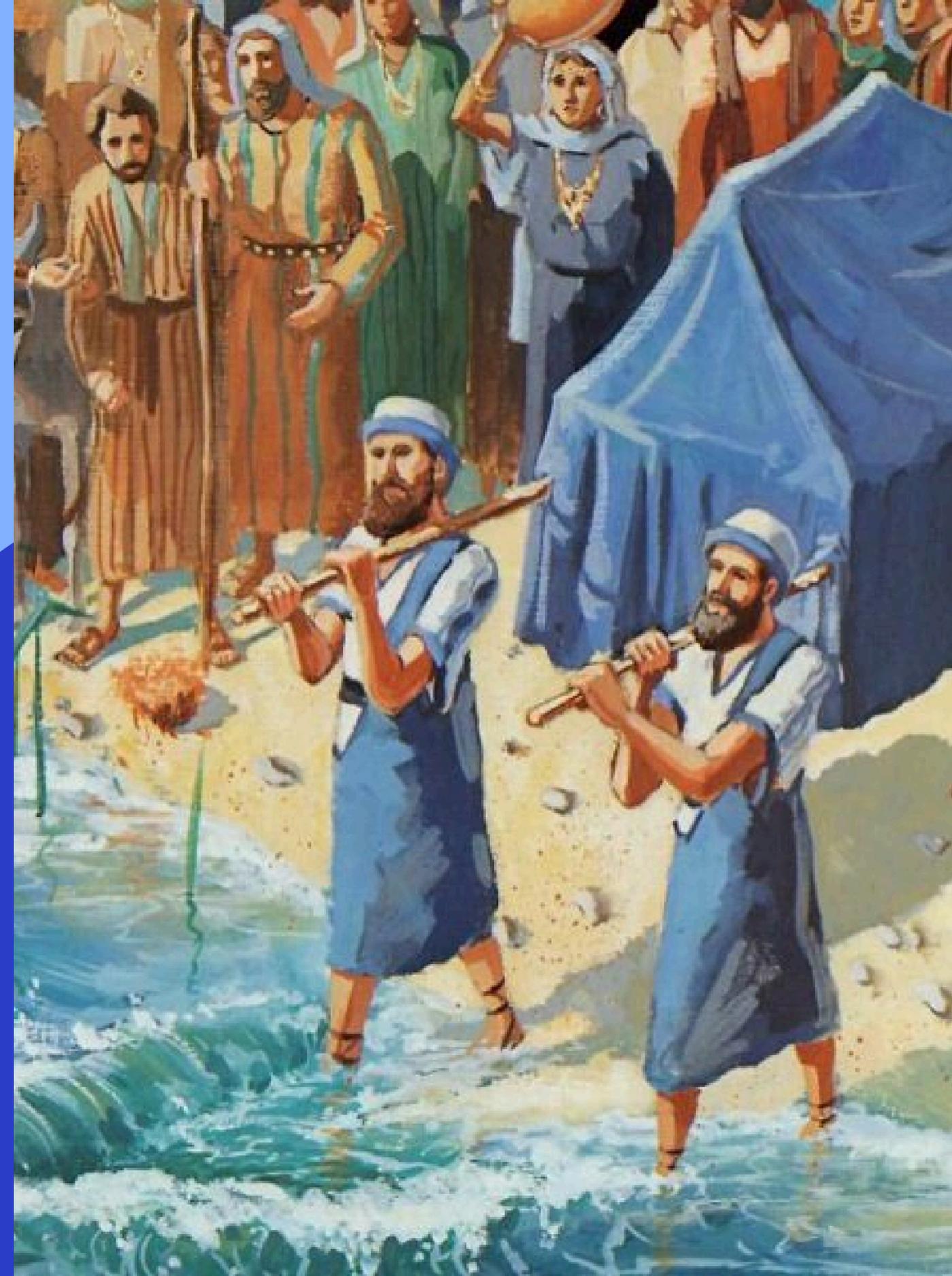


# Father to His People

**“Keep in mind that the Lord your God  
has been disciplining you just as a  
man disciplines his son.”**

**Deuteronomy 8:5**

**God, the Perfect Parent, was training and  
testing the young people on that long  
journey so that they would grow up having  
faith in Him, be like Him, and know His  
perfect principles.**



# A Father's Passion

**What is the mindset of a father who succeeds in loving his children?**

**He surrenders to God every day and allows Him to be in charge of his life.**

**He chooses love over selfishness.**



**A Godly father is made strong by allowing the Holy Spirit to fill him and work through him.**

**This is a supernatural process, and it must happen every day.**



# Know the Enemy

The Devil constantly tries to...

- 1 Separate man from his wife & children
- 2 Introduce every distraction & stir up conflict
- 3 Exploit every kind of weakness
- 4 Induce benign neglect or apathy
- 5 Instigate imbalance or abuse
- 6 Rationalize overwork and prolonged absence
- 7 Take advantage of unmet emotional needs
- 8 Seduce with expensive toys & spending time with them



**Keep in mind the  
enemy is there  
but don't obsess  
about it!**



# Jacob

## Fathers of the Bible

**Otherwise known as not the perfect father.**  
His life show us the pitfalls of...

- **Polygamy** and its effects in one's parenting.
- **Favoritism** and how it affects family dynamics for generations.
- **Failure to lead as father figure** and how it empowered his children to behave in ways that dishonored their father.

**His** spiritual leadership & example were not stellar. God forgave and renamed him Israel.



# Mordecai

## Fathers of the Bible

**Otherwise known as a most honorable father.**  
He embodies the power of divine fatherhood.

- **You don't have to be a father to be great at it.**
- **Love of God & obedience** taught by precept and example day in day out.
- **A sense of value in God** that allowed Esther to be self-assured, not anxious or arrogant.
- **Nurtured poise, kindness, pleasantry,** traits that endeared her to the king that did not hesitate to make her his queen.



# The Godly Father in Action

## Take the Time

**Time isn't the main thing.  
It's the only thing.**

*Miles Davis*

**Every second is  
of infinite value.**

*Johan Wolfgang von Goethe*

**The future has a way  
of arriving unannounced.**

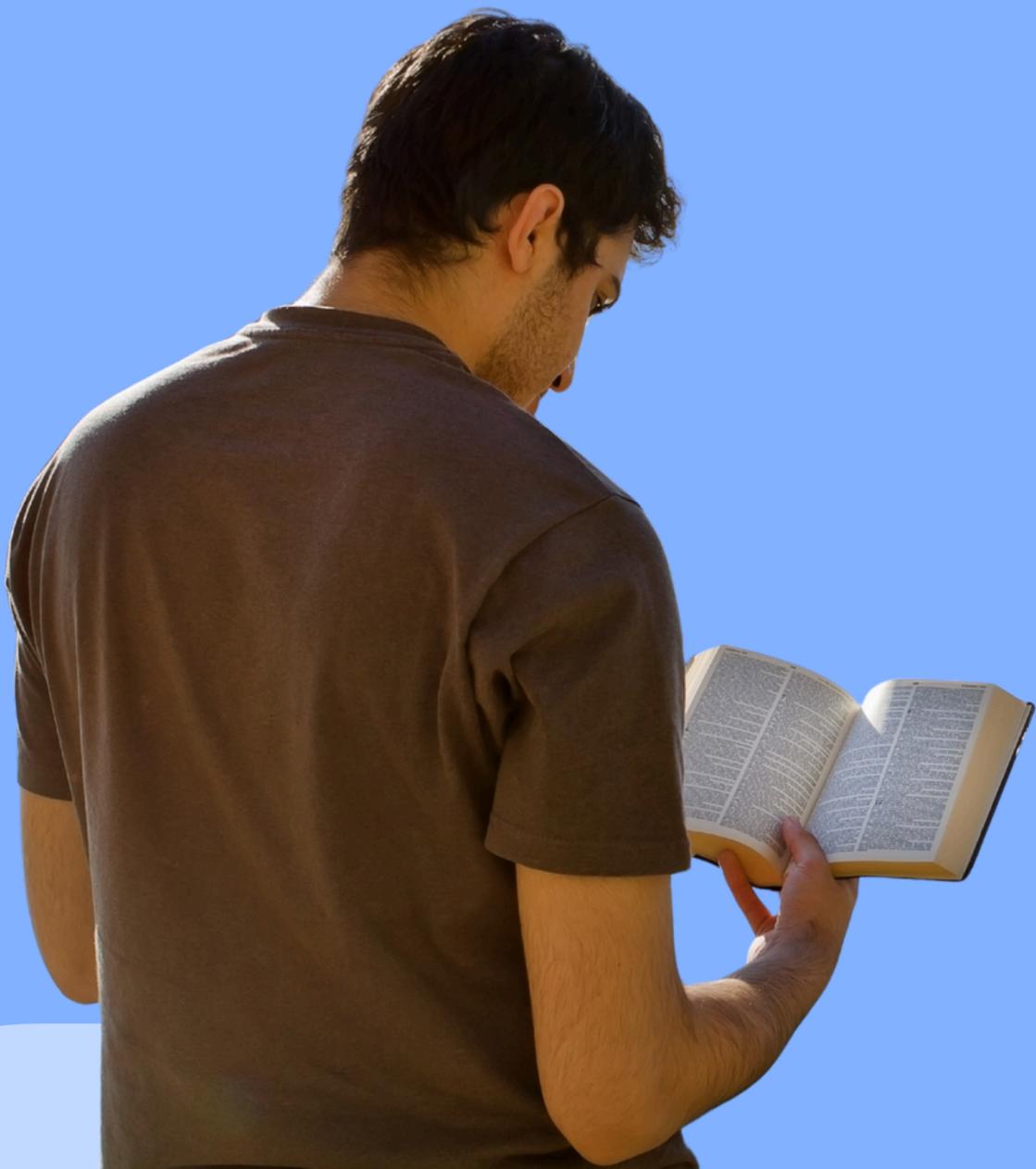
*George F. Will*



# The Godly **Father** in Action

## God First...Always

**Nothing else  
works well  
if this  
relationship  
is not  
in good shape.**





# The Godly Father in Action

## Protect the Queen

In the world there is no  
heart for me like yours. In  
all the world, there is no  
love for you like mine.

*Maya Angelou*



# The Godly Father in Action

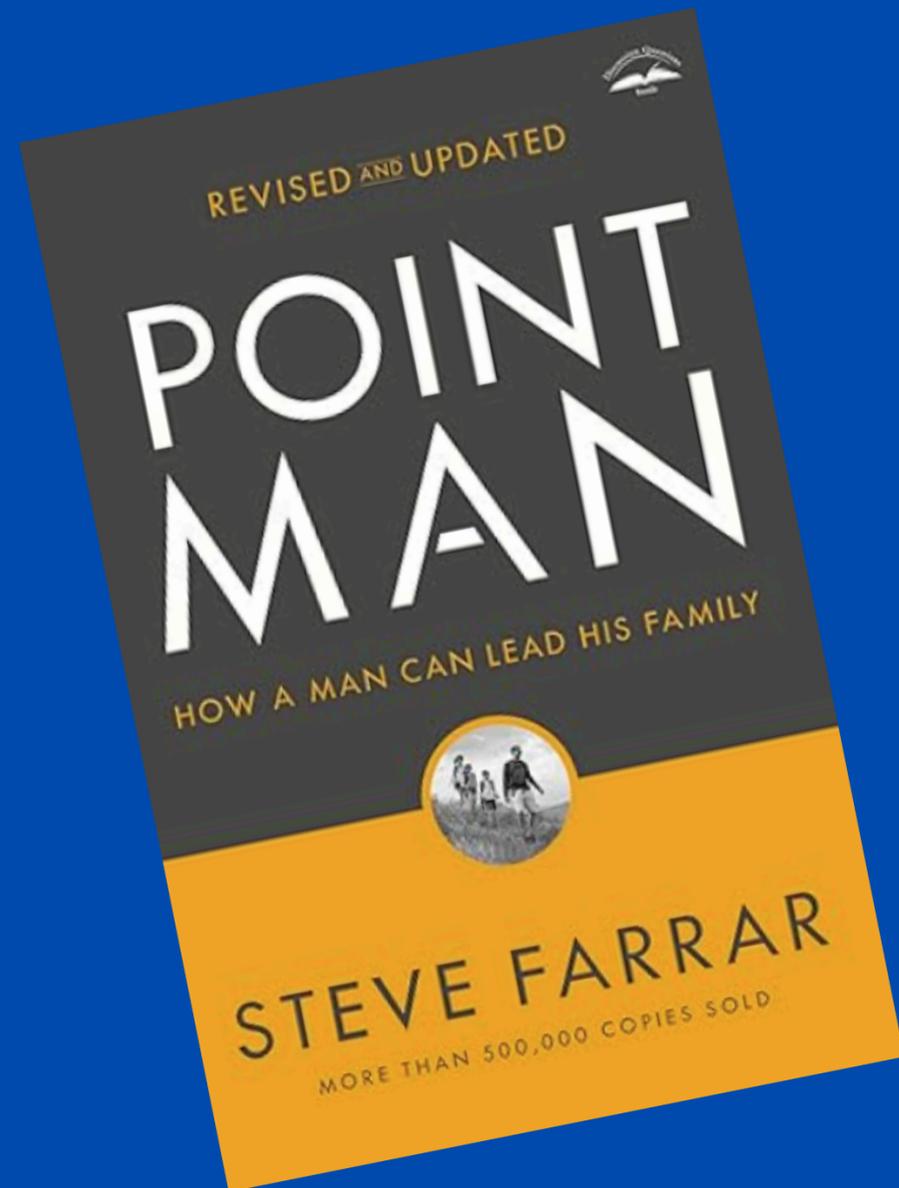
## Be their Anchor Point

Children are a gift from the Lord;  
they are a reward from him.  
Children born to a young man  
are like arrows in a warrior's  
hands. How joyful is the man  
whose quiver is full of them!

*Psalm 27:3-5*

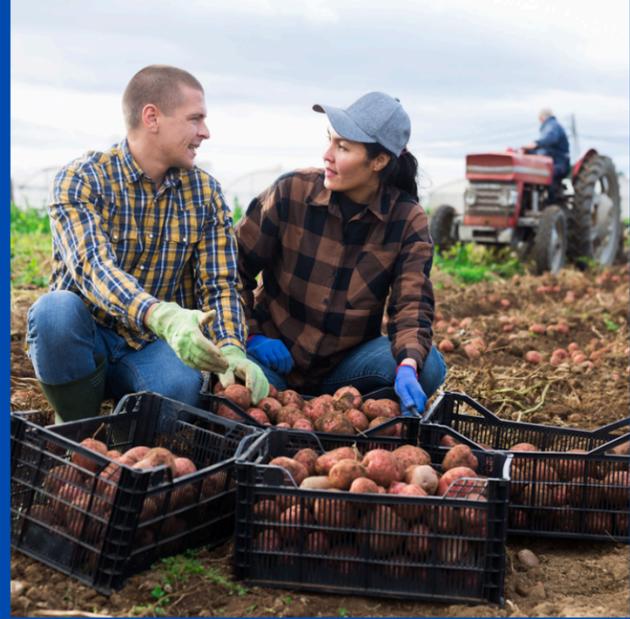


It is a challenging  
time to be a  
father



The Industrial Revolution destroyed much of the way fathers raised their sons for the previous three thousand years of more.

*Steve Farrar*



Regardless of their occupation, men usually trained their sons from age 7 in their trade or in farming. Sons learned by being with their dad and emulating his work and attitude.

*Steve Farrar*

The emergence of factory jobs for ever changed that family dynamic.



Schooling became more widely available. So, children were also away from home for much of their childhood.



**Spending  
time with your  
kids must be  
priority**



4.5 hours a  
week



9.5 hours a  
week

How much  
time is  
enough to call  
it good  
fathering?



**In 2008 children under age  
13 were watching TV**

**3.3 hours a  
day**

**Add time spent playing video games,  
internet, social media. Today this  
makes an average of 5.5 hours a day**

**Kids in the USA are being  
raised by the media as much  
as their parents.**



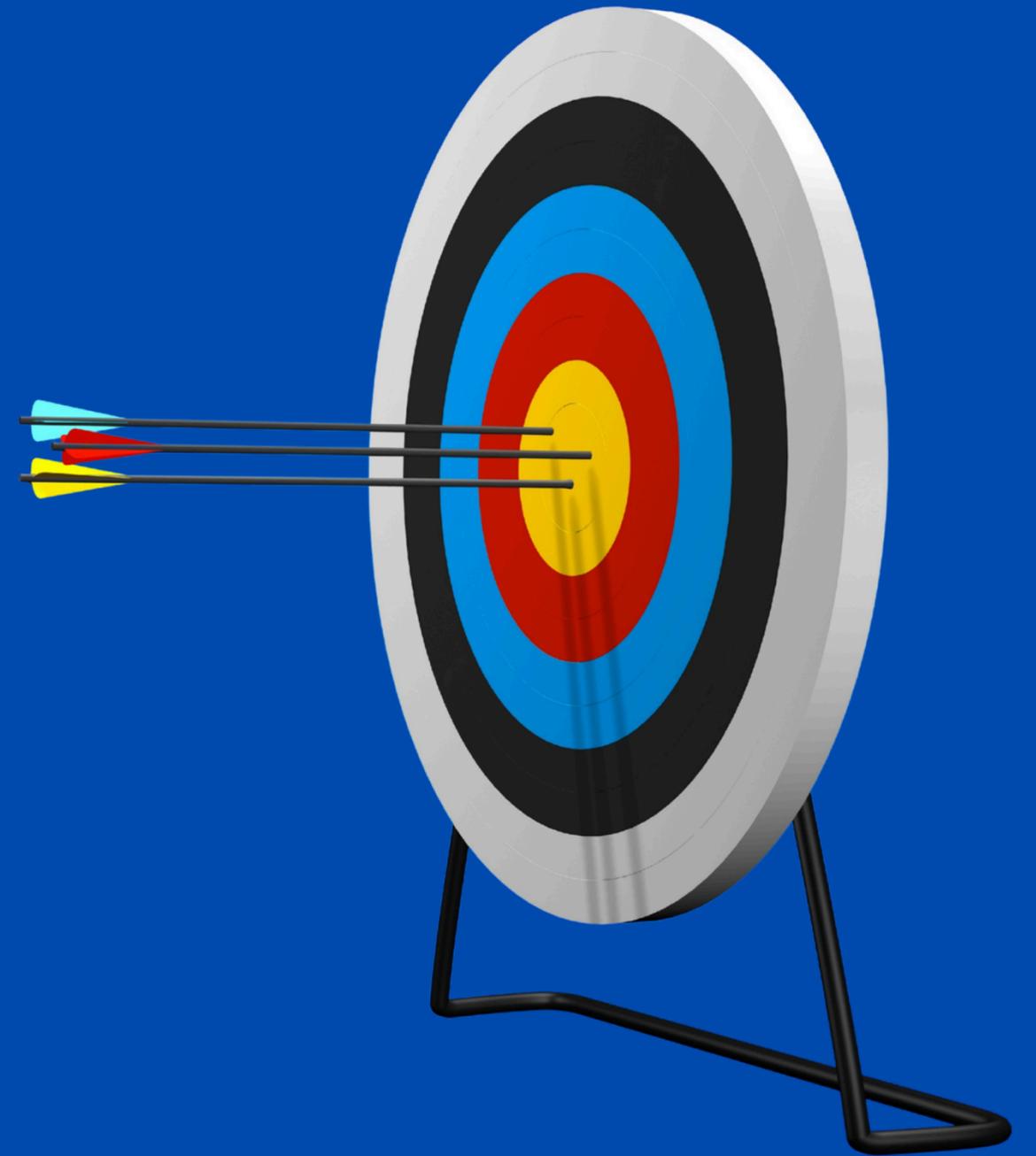
# Children are...

**Their father's  
mission field,  
mission project,  
hobby,  
highest priority after  
God and wife.**

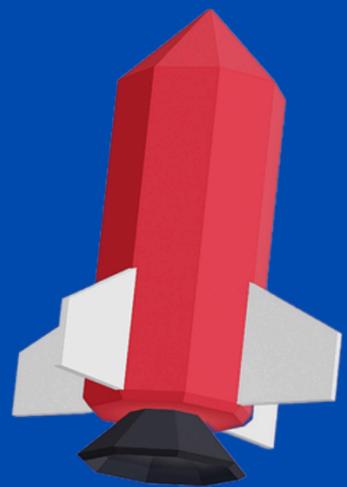
**It is impossible to be too  
involved in their lives.**



# What are You Aiming at?



**A successful  
life launch  
for your children  
for here and  
for **eternity**.**



**The bow is in your hands,  
release “the precious arrows  
with all the sureness of eye  
and strength of arm we can  
borrow from our God  
and Father.”**

*Stu Weber*





**You are the God your  
young children will see.**

**Don't need to be perfect.**

**Just love them like God  
the Father loves.**

# Accurate Picture of the Father

Your children will have a positive impression of God when...

- 1 You make them feel recognized & affirmed.
- 2 You consistently discipline with love.
- 3 They hear love & justice in your words.

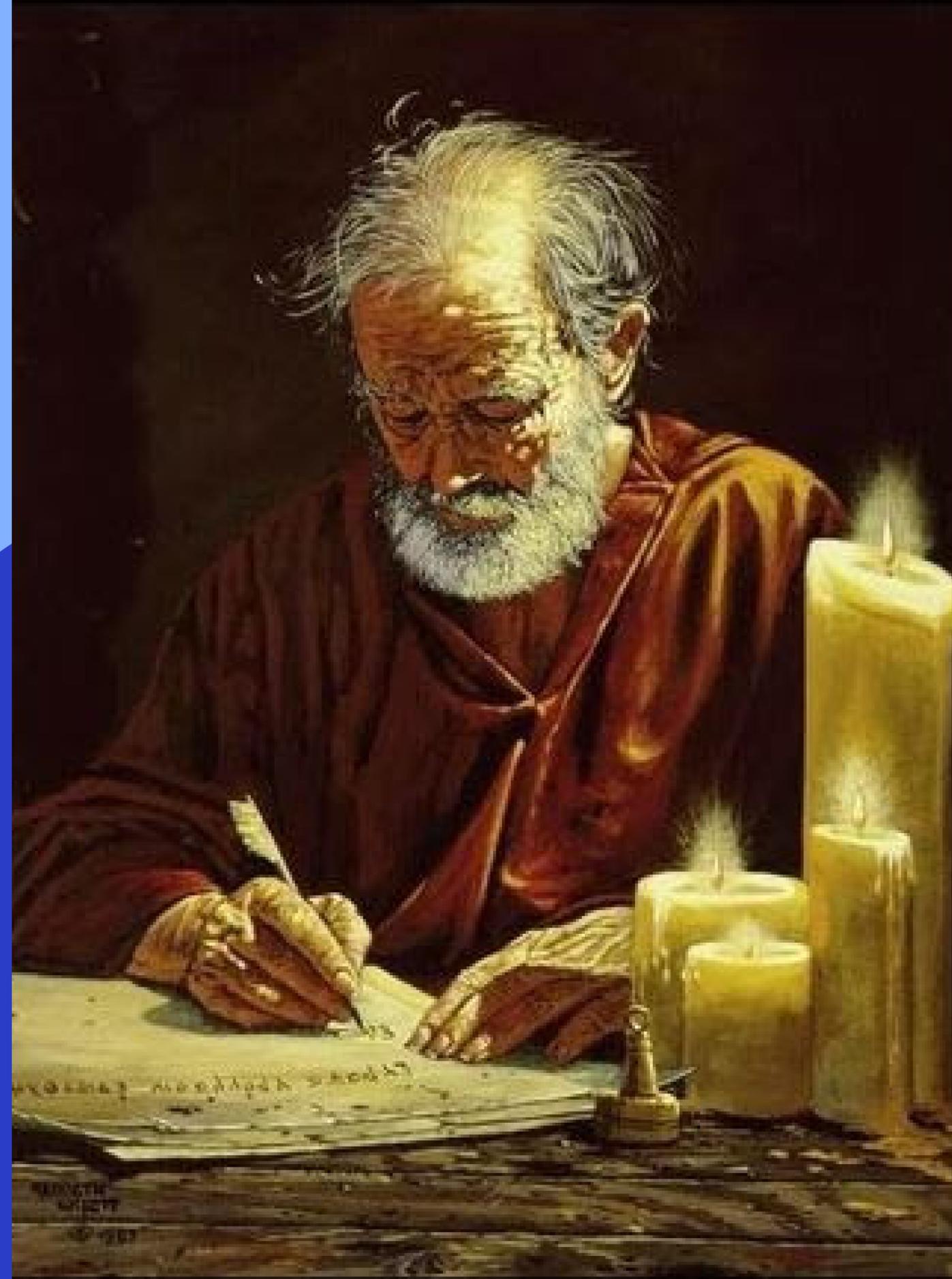




An emotionally distant  
father, who is angry, critical,  
impatient, neglectful,  
paints an  
**inaccurate picture**  
**of God**  
for his young children.

Paul spoke of a godly father as, “one who manages his own household competently, having his children under control with all dignity.”

*1Tim 3:4*



**Some fathers take it as  
they must control  
every word and action  
of everyone  
in the family!!**

**WRONG!!**



# A Better Approach

Periodically take a moment to express what is right and wrong to do in particular situations.

Correction must take place the minute a child acts or speaks inappropriately.



But suggestions for appropriate behavior must occur at another time, when emotions are not running high and the child is in learning mode.



# Best Approach

**Lead by example.**  
Actions speak louder  
than words.



# The trick to being a great father is...

“not too much and  
not too little”.



# Learn... About Developmental Stages

and interact  
with your children  
as appropriate  
for their age.





# And as the Super Nanny told us..

**“Your child needs  
discipline, just like  
he/she needs food  
and water.”**

*Jo Frost*

Your 5-Step Guide to Shaping Proper Behavior

**“Your role is not to make your child happy every moment of the day regardless of the personal cost, but to raise her to be a thoughtful, kind, productive citizen of the world.”**

*Jo Frost*

Your 5-Step Guide to Shaping Proper Behavior





**“I wonder how many children diagnosed with ADHD may not have a neurological condition but rather be suffering from a lack of time being put in on education in the early years to help develop those brain circuits and increase the ability to focus and concentrate.”**

*Jo Frost*

Your 5-Step Guide to Shaping Proper Behavior

# Dreaded Teenage Years

It will all depend on the kind of relationship you already established and the assumptions you have about your child.

- 1 Showing interest vs invading privacy.
- 2 Consistently speak to your child lovingly but in a firm way.
- 3 Your child's thoughts & feelings are valuable and worth knowing.
- 4 Ask questions in calm times, listen to the answers, expect good things from them.
- 5 Your child is not your adult friend.





The father's work is to prepare the hearts of his children to receive Jesus as their savior... to make sure everything possible happens to allow God to become rooted in the hearts and minds of his children.

*Richard D. Phillips*

# A Father's Prayers



His sons used to hold feasts in their homes on their birthdays, and they would invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would make arrangements for them to be purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, “Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.” This was Job’s regular custom.

*Job 1:4-5*

We would not offer a sacrifice for your children today but you can pray just as fervently as Job did.



# Called to be a Servant- Leader

- 1 Not perfect but a servant
- 2 A spiritual leader
- 3 Some body that do justice, love mercy and walks humbly before the Lord. (Micah 6:8)



# Called to be a Servant- Leader

- 1 Lead by principle with love.
- 2 Establishes boundaries and requirements..
- 3 Holds the children accountable early on.



# Called to be a Servant- Leader

- 1 You don't give up on your children. Your child's fate is not sealed until the end of his/her life.
- 2 Pray for your children and with your children .
- 3 Deuteronomy 6:4-9

The truth and values structure in the mind of almost all children is formed by age 7.

