

# FATHERHOOD

Fatherhood is one of the most important positions/places a person can hold. In this place, the Lord has given a man the responsibility to bring up children in the nurture and fear of the Lord.

The awesomeness of this responsibility is that the father represents fatherhood to the child, as well as authority. So, as the child grows up, he forms an opinion of fatherhood and authority based on how he sees his natural father. This in turn dramatically affects how the child sees God, who is the essence of fatherhood and authority. Therefore, how the child sees his father determines how he will see His heavenly Father.

If he thinks his father loves Him, he will know God loves him; if he thinks his father was a good provider, he will believe God will supply all of his needs; if he thinks his father listens to him, he will think God always hears his prayers; etc.

The Bible states we need to honor our father:

Ephesians 6:2-3

*“Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”*

First, this is important because all authority originates with the Lord. Opposing or touching authority (our fathers for instance) means we are opposing God.

Romans 13:1-2

*“Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.*

*Therefore he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.”*

Secondly, if we have negative judgments or perceptions of our father, we will have a negative way of perceiving or seeing God. This can create unworthy suspicions of God that greatly affect our walk with Him and our purpose here on earth by causing a separation from Him.

Another issue is that our judgments of our fathers will cause us to become like him when we are in the position of fatherhood. The things we hated most about him will become evident in our own lives. We hated his abuse and we do it; we hated his drinking and we do the same; we hated his temper and we get just as angry; etc. This is a biblical principle that is seen in Matthew 7:

Matthew 7:1-2

*“Do not judge lest you be judged.*

*For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.”*