

Expectations of Fathers from The Father

June 20, 2021

Deuteronomy 5:16, *“Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the Lord your God gives you.”*

Ephesians 6:1-3, *“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³ so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”*

1 Corinthians 1:9, *“God is faithful.”*

Deuteronomy 21:18-21, *“If any man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father or his mother, and when they chastise him, he will not even listen to them, ¹⁹ then his father and mother shall seize him, and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gateway of his hometown. ²⁰ They shall say to the elders of his city, ‘This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey us, he is a glutton and a drunkard.’ ²¹ Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death; so you shall remove the evil from your midst, and all Israel will hear of it and fear.”*

1. God expects men to provide for their family.

1 Timothy 5:8, *“But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”*

2. God expects husbands and fathers to be protectors.

1 Corinthians 11:1, *“Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.”*

Ephesians 4:27, *“Do not give the devil an opportunity.”*

3. God expects fathers to read God's word and pray for their children every day.

Deuteronomy 6:5-7, *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up."*

Job 1:5, reads, *"Job...rising up early in the morning and offering burnt offerings according to the number of them all (according to the number of his children); for Job said, "Perhaps my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually."*

James 5:16, *"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."*

"Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak, and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid. One who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds, a son who will long to know You, who is the foundation stone of knowledge and salvation. Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up to the storm. Here let him learn compassion for those who fail.

Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high, a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men, one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past. And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor so that he may always be serious but never take himself too seriously.

Give him humility so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, and an open mind of true wisdom, and the meekness of true strength. Then I, his father, will dare to whisper, 'I have not lived in vain.'

- Gen. Douglas MacArthur