

# Incredible Father

**im**

**Presence.  
Peace.  
Purpose.  
Legacy.**

***A Practical, Biblical Guide  
for Men Who Want To Lead  
Their Children with Confidence,  
Clarity, and Courage***

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## INTRODUCTION

# Fatherhood Matters More Than You Think

**Fatherhood is one of the greatest callings a man will ever receive—and one of the most underestimated.** Most men step into fatherhood without a clear map. We love our kids. We want the best for them. But many of us are figuring it out as we go, carrying our own wounds, fears, and pressures while trying not to pass them on.

**Some of us didn't have a good example.** Some of us had a father—but still felt unseen. Some of us are determined to “do better,” but aren't always sure how. This resource exists for you. Being an incredible father is not about perfection. It's about presence. It's about learning to lead from peace instead of fear, relationship instead of rules, and identity instead of performance. It's about understanding that what you model matters just as much—if not more—than what you say.

**Scripture consistently shows us that fathers shape generations.** Not just through provision, but through blessing. Not just through discipline, but through affirmation. Not just through authority, but through love. God reveals Himself first and foremost as a Father—not distant, not harsh, not absent—but present, attentive, and faithful. “A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling.” — Psalm 68:5. Before we can become incredible fathers to our children, we must first learn how deeply we are fathered by God.

**This guide is both pastoral and practical. It will challenge you, encourage you, and give you clear next steps you can activate immediately. It's written for men who want to lead well—whether your children are young, grown, or somewhere in between.** You don't need to get everything right. You just need to be willing to show up. Your children don't need a perfect father. They need you—present, growing, and leading with intention.



# You Must Know The Father First

## **SECTION 1**



## Before we talk about how to be an incredible father, we have to start with this truth: You cannot give what you do not have.

Many men are trying to father well without first being grounded as sons. We're doing our best. We're providing. We're working hard. We're showing up. But inside, we're tired, anxious, and carrying weight we were never meant to carry alone.

I've learned this the hard way: **Peace at home does not come from making more money.** It comes from trusting God.

When I didn't trust God to provide for me, I trusted myself. And when I trusted myself, I brought stress home. My kids didn't need to hear my fears—but they felt them. They didn't need explanations—but they absorbed the atmosphere.

**Children are incredibly perceptive.**

They know when their father is carrying pressure. They know when he's distracted, preoccupied, or emotionally absent—even if he's physically present.

One of the most subtle mistakes fathers make is confusing responsibility with control. **God never asked you to control everything.** He asked you to trust Him.

*"A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." - Psalm 68:5.*

If God expects you to be a good father, how much more can you expect Him to be a good Father to you? Jesus said it plainly: *"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."* -Matthew 6:33.

**When you seek God first,  
something shifts—not just  
spiritually, but practically.**

You come home with peace instead of pressure. You come home present instead of preoccupied. You come home as a father—not just a provider. This doesn't mean you stop working hard. It means you stop carrying what was never yours to carry.

Some of the greatest damage fathers do is unintentional. We love our kids deeply—but we lead them from anxiety instead of assurance. And anxiety teaches children that the world is unsafe and God is unreliable.



**But when a father trusts God,  
children feel it.**

They sense stability. They learn that provision doesn't come from hustle—it comes from faithfulness. Your children don't need you to have everything figured out. They need you to be with them. Presence is not accidental. Presence flows from peace. And peace flows from trust in your Heavenly Father. Before you can be an incredible father, you must first rest as a son. That rest doesn't make you passive. It makes you grounded. And a grounded father creates a secure home.

# A MOMENT OF HONEST REFLECTION

- Do I truly trust God—or do I feel like everything depends on me?
- When I walk through the door, do I bring peace or pressure?
- What am I carrying that God never asked me to carry?

**You don't have to fix everything today.**

But you do need to place the weight back where it belongs. Because when you trust the Father, you become the kind of father your children need.

## SCRIPTURE TO SIT WITH

*"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." -2 Corinthians 6:18*

## QUIET INVITATION

If you're tired... If you've been carrying fear instead of faith... If you've been leading from pressure instead of peace... This is your invitation to come home first—to God. Everything else flows from there.



# Presence Is The Real Provision

## **SECTION 2**

# One of The Most Common Lies Fathers Believe is This: "If I Provide, I'm Doing My Job."

Provision matters— but provision without presence is not fatherhood. It's distance with good intentions. Many of us grew up believing that being a good father meant working hard, paying the bills, and making sure everyone was taken care of. So we grind. We hustle. We push. And we tell ourselves we'll slow down later. But later isn't promised.

"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town...' yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring." -James 4:13-14.

I learned this the hard way with my daughter. She was a great athlete, and I spent a lot of time coaching her. I told myself that coaching was the same as spending time with her. It wasn't. **She didn't need a coach. She needed a father.**

She needed me to be interested in her—not just her performance, but her thoughts, her fears, her joys, and the

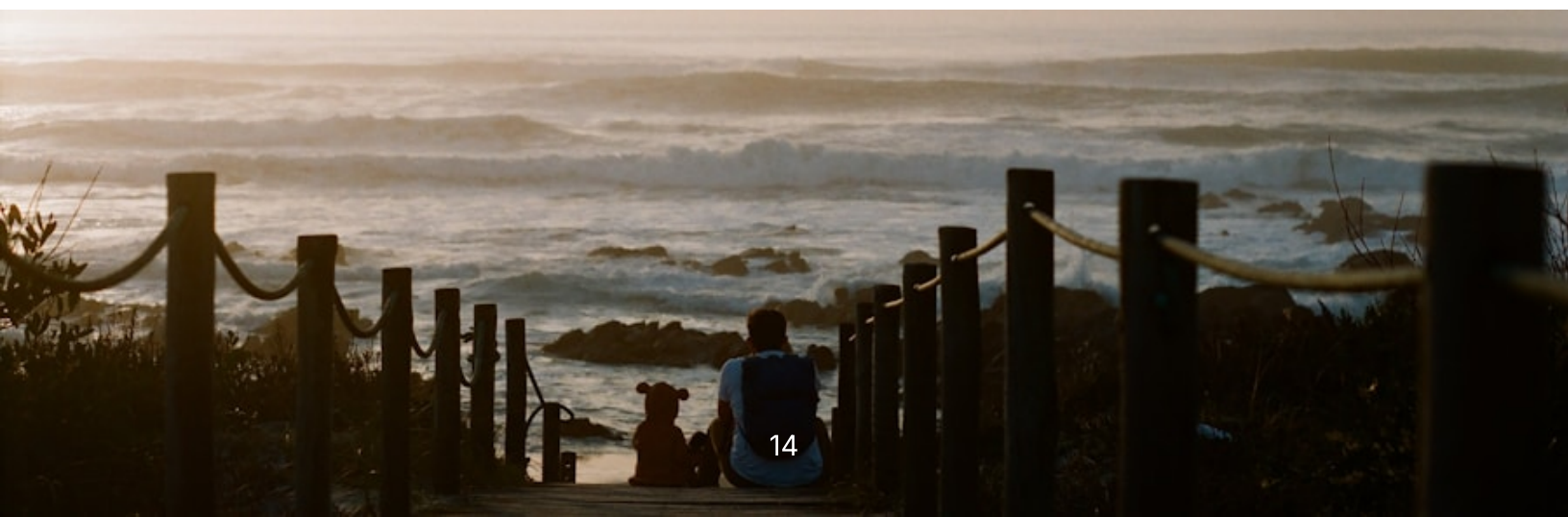
ordinary details of her life. She needed one-on-one time, not instruction. Presence is not about quantity alone. It's about attention.

*"Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger." -James 1:19.*

**Your kids don't need you all the time. They need you when you are with them.**

Phones steal presence. Stress steals presence. Work follows us home and steals presence. And most of the time, we don't even realize it's happening. Here's the truth every father eventually learns—either with gratitude or regret: You don't have as much time as you think you do. Everyone tells you it goes fast. They're wrong. It goes faster than that.

"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." -Psalm 90:12.

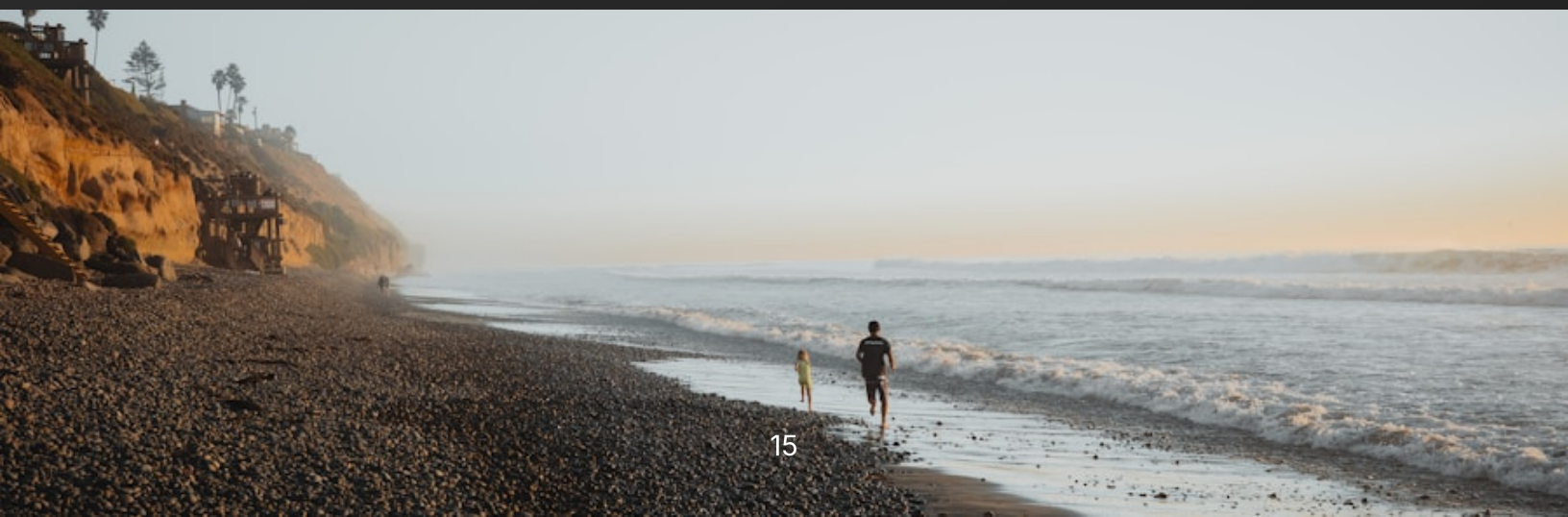


One day your kids are jumping in your lap. The next day they're driving away with car keys in their hands. And once that happens, you never get that version of them back. **Presence today becomes memory tomorrow. And memory becomes legacy.**

*"Train a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." -Proverbs 22:6.*

**Training doesn't happen through lectures. It happens through shared life.** Your children are watching how you handle stress. They're watching how you treat their mother. They're watching what you do when you're tired, frustrated, or disappointed.

*"These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children... when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way." -Deuteronomy 6:6-7.* You are teaching them what adulthood looks like—whether you mean to or not.



# What Presence Looks Like Practically

Presence doesn't require a perfect schedule. It requires intentionality.

*"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time." -Ephesians 5:15–16.*

**Here are a few simple disciplines that make a massive difference:**

## **1. Schedule One-on-One Time**

Put it on the calendar. Treat it like a meeting that matters—because it does.

## **2. Put the Phone Away**

Undivided attention communicates worth. "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." —Matthew 6:21.

## **3. Be Interested, Not Impressive**

Ask questions. Listen more than you talk.

## **4. Show Up Consistently**

You don't have to be perfect. You have to be present. "Let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth." —1 John 3:18.

## **5. Say No to Say Yes**

You can always make more money. You cannot make more time.

## A HARD BUT HEALING TRUTH

Some of you feel regret reading this. You're thinking about missed moments. Seasons you can't get back. Times you were there physically—but not emotionally. Hear me clearly: Shame will not make you a better father. Presence will.

*"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."* -Romans 8:1.

You can't change yesterday—but you can absolutely change today. Your kids don't need a perfect past. They need a present father.

## A SIMPLE STARTING POINT (THIS WEEK)

"So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin." —James 4:17.

**Here's your assignment:** Pick one child. Schedule one intentional moment this week. Show up without distraction. Listen. Be present. That's it.

Presence is the real provision. And when your children look back on their lives, they won't remember how busy you were. They'll remember whether you were there.

# The Cost of Fear- Based Fathering

## **SECTION 3**



**Every father leads from something. Some lead from faith. Some lead from love. Many lead from fear.** Fear-based fathering rarely looks dangerous on the surface. It often looks responsible, driven, and hardworking. But underneath it is anxiety—an unspoken belief that everything depends on me.

I know this well. For years, I carried a quiet fear around money, provision, and security. I worried about paying the bills, keeping businesses afloat, saving for college, and making sure everything worked out. And to be clear—everything always worked out. We were never without what we needed. But fear doesn't care about facts. Fear feeds on control.

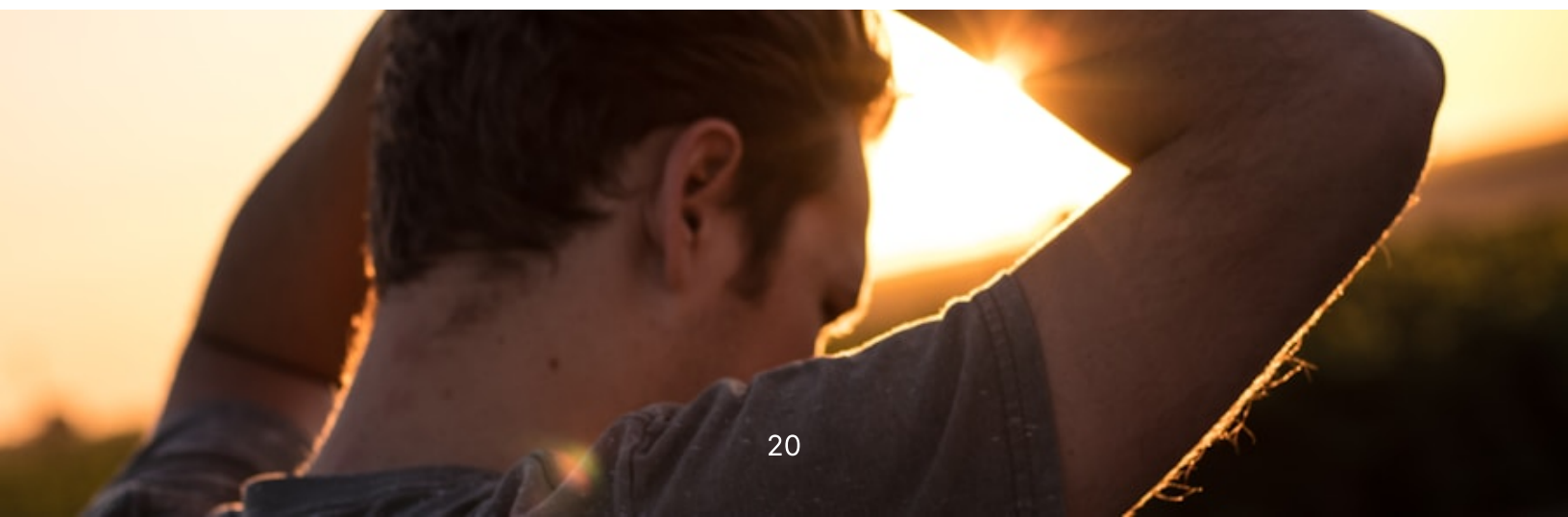
I didn't realize it at the time, but I was bringing that fear home

with me. My kids didn't hear long explanations about finances—but they felt the stress. They absorbed the pressure. And because they saw my anxiety, they began to worry too. That's how fear works. It disciplines quietly.

*"An anxious heart weighs a man down."* -Proverbs 12:25.

**Fear-based leadership creates an atmosphere where children learn that the world is fragile, security is uncertain, and God is distant.**

Not because we say those things—but because we model them. The truth is this: What you carry internally, your children experience externally.



## **WHEN FATHERS LEAD FROM FEAR**

they make decisions out of panic  
instead of prayer.

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They react instead of respond.

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They control instead of trust.

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They confuse responsibility  
with self-reliance.

## But God Never Called Fathers To Be the Source. He Called Us To Be Stewards.

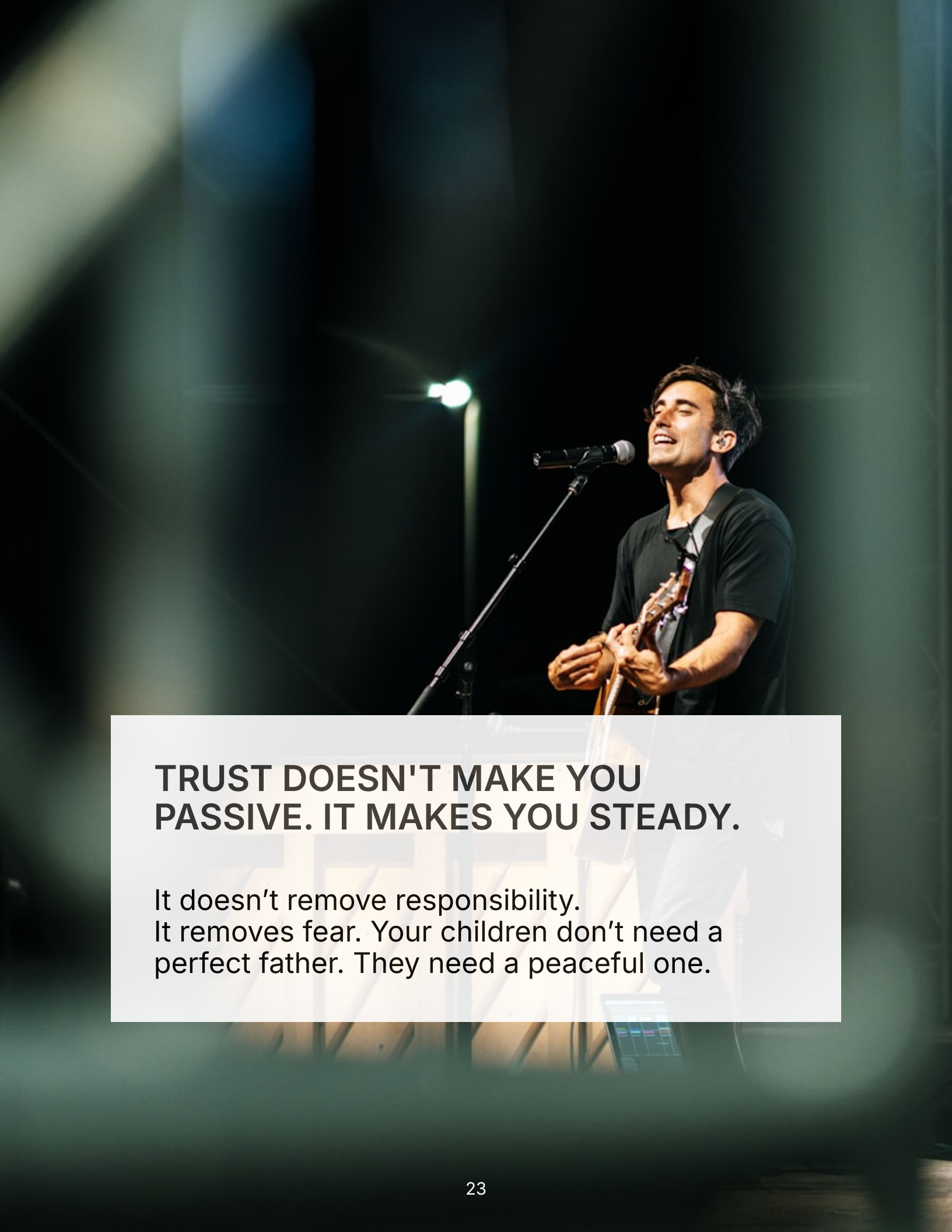
*"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain." -Psalm 127:1.*

Some of the most formative moments in a child's life are not the big conversations—but the emotional climate of the home. Children may not remember what was said, but they will remember how it felt to live there. Fear creates tension. Faith creates peace. And peace is one of the greatest gifts a father can give his children.

*"For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." -2 Timothy 1:7.*

At some point, I had to face this hard truth: My fear was rooted in a lack of trust—not in God's ability, but in His faithfulness. I believed God could provide. I wasn't fully convinced He would. And when fathers don't trust God, they unintentionally teach their children to trust only themselves. But when a father learns to trust God—really trust Him—something shifts. The home softens. The pressure lifts. The atmosphere changes.

*"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you." -1 Peter 5:7.*

A man with dark hair, wearing a black t-shirt, is performing on a stage. He is playing an acoustic guitar and singing into a microphone. The background is dark with some stage lights visible. A white text box is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

**TRUST DOESN'T MAKE YOU  
PASSIVE. IT MAKES YOU STEADY.**

It doesn't remove responsibility.  
It removes fear. Your children don't need a  
perfect father. They need a peaceful one.

## What Fear Teaches Children (Whether You Mean To or Not)

- Fear says:  
"You're on your own."  
"Everything is fragile."  
"God might not come through."
- Faith says:  
"You are safe." "We will be okay." "God is faithful." "The righteous are as bold as a lion."  
—Proverbs 28:1.

# A Better Way to Lead

Fear-based fathering says, "It's all on me." Faith-based fathering says, "God is with us." This doesn't mean you ignore wisdom, planning, or responsibility. It means you stop letting fear drive your decisions.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." —Proverbs 3:5–6.

When fathers trust God, they make clearer decisions, they apologize faster, they lead with humility, and they bring peace into the home. And that peace shapes children more than lectures ever could.

# A Question Every Father Must Answer

- Am I leading my family from fear or from faith?
- What am I anxious about that God has already promised to handle?
- What would change in my home if I truly trusted God?

You don't have to get this perfect. You just have to be willing to shift. Because when fear loses its grip on you, your children gain something priceless. They gain peace. They gain security. They gain a picture of a Father in heaven who can be trusted. "*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*" —Psalm 23:1. **That's not poetry. That's a promise.**

# The Power of A Father's Words

## **SECTION 4**



**Words are never neutral. Every word a father speaks—or withholds—shapes the emotional, spiritual, and psychological environment of a home.** Long before children can articulate theology or process logic, they are being formed by tone, affirmation, correction, silence, and presence. A father's words don't just inform. They form. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits." — Proverbs 18:21.

**Throughout Scripture, fathers spoke blessing over their children—not casually, but intentionally.** These blessings shaped identity, direction, and destiny. When Jacob gathered his sons at the end of his life, he didn't just say goodbye—he blessed them (Genesis 49). Fathers don't just describe who their children are. They often define who they become.



## THE COST OF FATHERLESSNESS

To understand the power of a father's words, we also have to face the reality of their absence. The statistics around fatherlessness are sobering: Children from fatherless homes are significantly more likely to experience incarceration, substance abuse, depression, and poverty. A majority of incarcerated youth grew up without an engaged father.

Father absence is one of the strongest predictors of behavioral issues and academic struggle. This isn't about shame. It's about truth. When fathers are absent—physically or emotionally—something essential is missing. But here's the good news.

# The Redemptive Power of An Engaged Father

Research consistently shows something remarkable: When a father actively follows Jesus and is engaged in church, the likelihood that his children will follow Christ as adults increases dramatically.

Even more striking: If only the mother is spiritually engaged, children may follow—but often drift later. When the father is spiritually engaged, the faith of the family becomes far more stable and enduring. Why? Because fathers model authority, direction, and identity.

When a father submits his life to Jesus, it sends a powerful message: "This matters. This is real. This is worth giving my life to." *"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."* —Joshua 24:15.





## A Picture from Creation: The Elephants of Kruger Park

There's a powerful story from Kruger National Park in Africa. For years, poachers targeted the older male bull elephants for their tusks. As these mature bulls disappeared, young male elephants—without older males present—began behaving aggressively. They attacked and killed rhinos, animals they normally would never touch. Wildlife experts realized what was missing. The older bulls weren't just bigger. They were regulators. They corrected the younger bulls. They modeled restraint. They brought order simply by being present. When older bull elephants were reintroduced into the park, the violence stopped. The young bulls didn't need lectures. They needed fathers.

# Words Shape Atmosphere

Science echoes what Scripture has always taught. Studies on water have suggested that when words of anger, hatred, or contempt are spoken over water, its molecular structure becomes disordered; when words of gratitude, blessing, and peace are spoken, the structure becomes ordered and beautiful. Your children are far more complex than water—but they are no less affected by words. Tone matters. Affirmation matters. Correction matters. And silence matters. Sarcasm, anger, and constant criticism don't toughen children—they wound them.

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." —Ephesians 6:4.

Discipline without affirmation produces rebellion. Rules without relationship produce resistance.



# Fathers, Your Words Matter More Than You Know

Your children need your words—but they also need your actions. You can say all the right things, but children believe what they see. When your words and your life align, your voice carries weight. When you bless your children—privately and publicly—you anchor their identity. That's why coming-of-age moments matter. That's why public affirmation matters. That's why saying "I'm proud of you" matters more than most men realize. Your children are listening—even when they act like they're not.

## Reflection

- What words am I regularly speaking over my children?
- What words do they need to hear more often?
- Where have I been silent when I should have spoken life?



# Healing Father Wounds & Breaking Generational Cycles

## **SECTION 5**



## Every father becomes a father carrying a story.

Some men carry affirmation. Some carry absence. Some carry wounds they never chose—but now have to face. Whether we admit it or not, the way we were fathered shapes how we father. I didn't grow up without a dad—but I did grow up with a father wound. Not the kind that comes from abandonment, but the kind that comes from pressure, performance, and approval that always felt just out of reach. I grew up in Houston in a tough environment. Crime was normal. Survival mattered. Strength mattered. And approval mattered more than I realized.

From an early age, I learned that performance got attention. Sports. Achievement. Hard work. Somewhere along the way, I picked up a belief that quietly shaped my life: If I perform well enough, I'll be valued. That belief followed me into adulthood—into work, into ministry, into fatherhood—and eventually, into my relationship with God. "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." —Proverbs 4:23.

## THE MOMENT THAT MARKED ME

One day, I worked hard to clean the yard. I mowed the grass. I raked. I washed all the cars. I washed my dad's motorcycle. I organized his tools. When I finished, I sat on the front porch and waited for him to come home. I wasn't waiting for money or a reward. I was waiting for approval. I wanted him to see my effort, to tell me he was proud, that he loved me and approved of me. When he arrived, he looked around and said, "Yeah, it all looks good..." Then he stopped. He pointed to one thing I hadn't done: the water hose wasn't rolled up. He said, "You do everything half-ass. Look at that water hose." In that moment, everything I had done right disappeared. Only the one thing I missed mattered.

That wasn't about a hose. That was about identity. What landed in my heart that day was this belief: No matter how hard you work, it's never enough. You're always one mistake away from failure. That moment didn't make me quit; it made me perform. I became an overachiever—not because I was confident, but because I was still that insecure little boy trying to prove he wasn't "half-ass." Unhealed father wounds don't usually produce broken men—they often produce driven ones. They create men who work harder than everyone else, struggle to rest, carry quiet anxiety, fear failure, and bring pressure home.

I loved my kids deeply. I was present—but not fully at peace. I carried fear about money, provision, and responsibility. Without realizing it, I brought that fear into my home. Fear leaks. "An anxious heart weighs a man down." —Proverbs 12:25. My kids didn't hear my internal dialogue—but they felt it. And what fathers carry internally, children experience externally. That's when I had to face a painful truth: You can love your children sincerely and still wound them unintentionally.



# When the Wound Follows You Into Faith

My father wound didn't just shape my work ethic; it shaped my spirituality. I believed in God, served God, obeyed God—but I didn't always rest in God. I related to Him the same way I related to my father—through performance. If I did enough, worked enough, achieved enough, everything would be okay. I believed God could provide. I wasn't fully convinced He would. That's not sonship. That's striving. "For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons." —Romans 8:15. I didn't need more discipline. I needed deeper trust. God wasn't asking me to perform better. He was inviting me to come home.

## Forgiveness Before Reconciliation

Healing began when I chose to forgive my father—without conditions. I released him from the debt I felt he owed me. Not because everything was resolved—but because I didn't want the wound defining me anymore. And then... six years passed. No reconciliation. No closure. But forgiveness doesn't require response. It requires obedience. "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." —Ephesians 4:32. Then one day, unexpectedly, I received a phone call while driving on Highway 635 in Dallas. My dad was ready—ready to repent, ready to turn to Jesus, ready to be baptized. Before he passed away, I had the honor of leading my father to Christ. That's not sentiment. That's redemption. "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." —Psalm 34:18.



# God Heals Fathers by First Making Sons

You cannot become the father your children need until you receive how deeply you are fathered by God. When I stopped striving and started trusting, something changed. I became more present, more peaceful, more patient—not because life got easier, but because my foundation got stronger. “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” —1 John 3:1. Adopted sons make secure fathers.

## You Can Become What You Never Received

Some of you reading this didn't have a good father. Some of you had one—but still carry wounds. Hear this clearly: Your past does not disqualify you. It prepares you. What you don't heal, you pass on. What you allow God to heal, you redeem. “He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.” —Psalm 147:3. You can be the father you never had. You can stop the cycle. You can lead from wholeness, not fear.

## **A MOMENT OF HEALING (ACTIVATION)**

- Where did I learn to strive instead of trust?
- What lie about myself have I been living from?
- What does God want to heal in me so it doesn't pass to my kids?

Bring that honestly to Him. God doesn't shame wounded fathers. He restores them.

## **A PRAYER FOR FATHERS**

Father God, I bring You the places in me that were shaped by pain, pressure, and unmet approval. I forgive my father where he fell short. I receive Your love where I lacked it. Heal what was broken. Restore what was lost. And make me the father my children need—rooted in Your love, led by Your Spirit, and guided by Your truth. Amen.

## **WHAT MAKES HEALING POSSIBLE**

- Homes become safer.
- Words become gentler.
- Presence becomes easier.
- Legacy becomes intentional.

# Building Legacy: Becoming the Father Your Children Remember

## SECTION 6



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**Legacy is not something you leave behind someday. It is something you are building right now.**

Every conversation. Every response under pressure. Every word spoken—or withheld. Your children are not just growing up in your home. They are growing under your leadership. One day, your children will talk about you. They'll talk about how you handled stress, how you treated their mother, how safe it felt to be around you, how you talked about God. They won't remember every lesson you tried to teach. They will remember the tone of your life. "The righteous man walks in his integrity; blessed are his children after him." —Proverbs 20:7. Integrity doesn't mean perfection. It means alignment.

## **Legacy Is Built Through Intention, Not Accident**

Children don't drift into healthy adulthood on their own. They are led, named, and sent. One of the most important lessons I learned as a father is this: If you don't intentionally mark the transition from childhood into adulthood, your children will try to define it on their own. Culture will gladly step in and do it for you. That's why we chose to do something intentional with both of our children.

# Marking the Moment: Public Affirmation & Commissioning

When each of our kids reached their teenage years, we didn't want them to simply age into adulthood. We wanted them to know something had changed. So we created coming-of-age celebrations for both of them. These weren't casual parties. They were intentional moments. We gathered family, friends, coaches, mentors—people who had poured into their lives. And in front of everyone, I publicly affirmed them. I told them who they were. I named the strengths I saw in them. I told them I was proud of them. I made it clear that a new season had begun. We weren't just celebrating who they had been. We were commissioning who they were becoming.

Before Jesus ever preached a sermon, His Father publicly affirmed Him: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." — Matthew 3:17. That declaration wasn't private. It was spoken—out loud—for others to hear. Identity came before assignment. Too many children are trying to figure out who they are without ever hearing it from their father.

## Why This Matters More Than You Think

When a father publicly blesses and commissions his child, something shifts. Insecurity gives way to confidence. Striving gives way to stability. Confusion gives way to direction. Your words help anchor identity. Your affirmation creates emotional and spiritual security. This isn't about hype. It's about clarity. "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." —3 John 1:4. And here's the good news: It's never too late. Whether your child is 13, 18, or 30—your words still carry weight.



# A Simple Rule of Life for Fathers

1. Be With God — Your children need to see that your strength comes from dependence, not self-reliance. "Apart from Me you can do nothing." —John 15:5.
2. Be Present at Home — Schedule what matters. Presence builds safety.
3. Speak Life Consistently — Say the words your children need to hear: "I'm proud of you." "I see you." "I love who you are becoming." "Encourage one another and build one another up." —1 Thessalonians 5:11.
4. Lead with Peace — Your emotional regulation sets the temperature of your home.
5. Mark the Moments — Don't let important transitions pass unnoticed. Celebrate growth. Name identity. Commission maturity.

## A Word to Fathers Who Feel Behind

Some of you are reading this thinking, "I wish I had done this sooner." Hear me clearly: Start now. Humility today can restore what distance created yesterday. "Behold, I am making all things new." —Revelation 21:5.

## **A Final Commissioning for You**

Fatherhood is not a burden. It's a calling. God chose you—with your story, your wounds, your growth, and your redemption—to lead your children. You don't have to do this perfectly. You don't have to do it alone. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." —Joshua 24:15.

## **A Prayer of Commissioning**

Father God, Thank You for trusting me with the hearts of my children. Give me wisdom, courage, patience, and peace. Help me speak life, lead with integrity, and love with consistency. Heal what needs healing in me, and let my children rise secure, confident, and rooted in You. Amen.

## **Final Charge**

You don't have to become an incredible father someday. You can be one today. Show up. Speak life. Trust God. Mark the moments. Your children—and the generations after them—are worth it.

# A Father's Guide to Coming-of- Age & Commissioning

How to Publicly Affirm, Bless, and Launch Your Child  
into Adulthood

## **Children do not drift into adulthood well.**

If fathers do not intentionally mark the transition from childhood into adulthood, culture will gladly step in and do it for them.

Throughout Scripture, fathers named identity, spoke blessing, and sent their children forward with clarity and confidence. Before Jesus ever performed a miracle or preached a sermon, His Father publicly affirmed Him:

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." —Matthew 3:17.

Identity came before assignment. Your children need the same gift.



## **WHAT COMING-OF-AGE MOMENT IS (AND IS NOT)**

This is not: a birthday party, a graduation celebration, or a performance review.

This is: a spiritual and emotional marker, a public affirmation of identity, and a declaration that a new season has begun. It tells your child: "You are no longer just growing up. You are being sent forward."

## **WHEN TO DO IT**

There is no perfect age—but intentional timing matters. Common seasons: Ages 13–16 (early adolescence). Ages 17–18 (launch into adulthood). Any age if the moment was previously missed. It is never too late to bless and commission your child.

## **WHO SHOULD BE PRESENT**

Invite people who have earned the right to speak into your child's life: immediate family, grandparents, coaches, mentors, pastors, trusted family friends. This is a community moment, not a private one.

## HOW TO PREPARE (FATHER'S WORK)

- Who is my child—really? (Strengths, character, wiring, heart)
- What do I see God forming in them? (Leadership, compassion, courage, creativity)
- What do they need to hear from me? (Approval, pride, security, belief)
- What season are they leaving—and entering? Write your thoughts down. This is not a speech you improvise.

## THE STRUCTURE OF THE COMMISSIONING MOMENT

1. Gather Everyone — Set the tone and purpose.
2. Name the Transition — Say clearly: "Today marks a transition from childhood into adulthood."
3. Public Affirmation (Father Speaks) — Name strengths, affirm character, declare pride. Say plainly: "I am proud of you. I see you. I am pleased with who you are."
4. Blessing & Commissioning — Lay hands and pray identity, direction, and courage.
5. Community Support — Invite a few trusted voices to briefly affirm or pray.

## WHAT THIS MOMENT DOES

- Anchors identity
- Reduces insecurity
- Replaces striving with confidence
- Creates emotional and spiritual safety



## **A WORD TO FATHERS WHO FEEL LEFT BEHIND**

If you're thinking: "I wish I had done this sooner..." Start now. Humility and intentionality today can redeem what distance created yesterday. Your words still matter. Your voice still carries weight.

## **A PRAYER FOR FATHERS**

Father God, Give me courage to lead my child with clarity and love. Help me see who they are becoming—not just who they've been. Let my words bring life, confidence, and peace. And may my child walk forward secure, known, and blessed. Amen.

## CONCLUSION

# The Father Your Children Will Remember

One day, your children will look back and remember what it felt like to be raised by you. They will remember your tone. Your presence. Your patience—or lack of it. Your peace—or your anxiety. They may forget many of the words you spoke, but they will never forget how safe they felt in your presence. Being an incredible father is not about grand gestures or flawless execution. It's about consistency. It's about humility. It's about choosing relationship over control and trust over fear.

You will make mistakes. You will miss moments. You will wish you had done some things differently. That doesn't disqualify you. What matters most is what you do next. Scripture reminds us that legacy is built one faithful step at a time: "The righteous man walks in his integrity; blessed are his children after him." —Proverbs 20:7. Integrity doesn't mean perfection. It means alignment—between what you believe and how you live.

You were never meant to do this alone. God has given you His Spirit, His wisdom, and His grace for the task of fatherhood. And when you lead from peace, presence, and purpose, your children are shaped in ways that extend far beyond your home. So start where you are. Be present tonight. Speak life tomorrow. Mark the moments that matter. Trust God with what you cannot control. Your children—and generations you may never meet—are being shaped by the man you are becoming. And that makes this calling not just important... but sacred.



# Encouragement for Ongoing Growth and Community

You've begun a journey—perhaps for the first time, perhaps in a fresh way—toward a deeper, more incredible relationship with God. This relationship is a living, growing connection. Just as with any relationship, there will be highs and lows, easy days and difficult ones.

**Don't walk alone.** Surround yourself with others who are also pursuing God. Healthy community provides encouragement, accountability, and wisdom. We grow best together—sharing victories, bearing burdens, and praying for one another.

**Stay engaged in the daily disciplines.** There will be days you feel distant or distracted, but persistent time in prayer, worship, and the Word will keep your relationship with God vibrant and fresh.

**Celebrate progress, not perfection.** Growth is measured not in leaps, but in faithful steps over time. God delights in your desire to know Him and promises to finish the good work He has started in you.

**Be open to new adventures with God.** The more you trust Him, the more you will see Him leading, providing, and surprising you—often in ways you could never imagine.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

## Final Call to Action

Whatever your story, wherever you find yourself today, remember this: God is closer than you think, loves you more than you imagine, and desires relationship above all else. Keep seeking, keep asking, keep trusting. Your life will be a testimony to the power and beauty of knowing God.

Thank you for allowing this book to be part of your journey. Now—take the next step toward an incredible relationship with God!



# Stay Connected

If you've made it this far—well done.

You've taken a step that most men never do. You've invested in your soul. You've chosen growth over comfort, and that's what makes you *incredible*.

I'm proud of you.

Remember—being an Incredible Man isn't about perfection. It's about showing up, leading with integrity, and pursuing the man God created you to be. The road is long, but you don't have to walk it alone.

You can stay connected with me and the movement at **IncredibleMan.org** — where men like you are growing stronger in faith, leadership, health, and purpose. Join our community, get coaching, receive weekly encouragement, and keep building a life that's rooted in God and driven by purpose.

I'm honored to walk this journey with you.

**With you in the fight,**

Pastor Dustin Sample  
Founder, *Incredible Man*