

Dads Matter

When A Man Says...

When your father says "it would take too long to explain"

He means: "I have no idea how it works"

When a man says 'oh, don't fuss, I just cut myself. It's no big deal."

He means: "I've actually severed a limb, but I will bleed to death before I admit I'm hurt"

When he says 'I can't find it.'"

He means: "It didn't fall into my outstretched hand, so I'm completely clueless"

When your dad says "I'm not lost. I know exactly where we are."

He means: "No one will ever see us alive again."

Happy To Be A Guy...

1. A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase.
2. Gray hair and wrinkles only add character.
3. Wedding dress - \$2,000. Tuxedo rental – 75 bucks.
4. If a guy shows up at a party in the same outfit, you just might become lifelong friends.
5. You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes.
6. The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades.
7. Christmas shopping can be done for 25 relatives, on December 24th, in 45 minutes
8. Childbirth – 'nuff said.

A Father's Day Top Ten: Contributed by Donald Smith

Things you've been itchin' to say for years now! We often hear "the rules" from the feminine side. Ok- we'll now hear the guys' side - it's only fair – (realizing of course that Father's Day is the only day of the year we could get away with it!).

#10 Whenever possible, please say whatever you have to say during commercials.

#9 Shopping is NOT a sport, and no, we are never going to think of it that way.

#8 Sunday = sports. It's like the full moon or the changing of the tides. Let it be.

#7 "Yes" and "No" are perfectly acceptable answers to almost every question.

#6 Check your oil! Please, check your oil!

#5 Anything we said 6 months ago is inadmissible in an argument. In fact, all past comments become null and void after 7 days.

#4 If something we said can be interpreted two ways, and one of the ways makes you sad or angry, we meant the other one.

#3 If we ask what is wrong and you say "nothing," we will act like nothing's wrong. We know you are lying, but it is just not worth the hassle.

#2 ALL men see in only 16 colors, like the computer's old default settings. Peach, for example, is a fruit, not a color. Pumpkin is also a fruit. We have no idea what mauve is.

#1 Christopher Columbus did not need directions, and neither do we...

 The word, "father" is mentioned over 1,600 times in Scripture. More than praise, prayer, and worship combined. The concept of fatherhood must be pretty important to

God. Being a Christian Father is one of the highest callings any man can ever achieve in his life.

Exodus 20:12

Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

1. 📌 Dad has Influence

-- Readers' Digest ... Dad: He's a mess-maker, ruler-breaker, risk-taker. In general, he's the opposite of Mom, the master nurturer, creator of law and order. But for all his mischief, Dad is doing something quite right. The same daddy-like interactions that sometimes annoy moms will significantly contribute to children's social skills and success in school. Moms and Dads are indeed different... but their distinctive styles of caretaking complement each other perfectly to the advantage of children.

📌 In the Bible, the father is called the **head of his household**, and in 1 Timothy 3:12, he is urged to manage his children and his household in a respectable manner. So the father is charged with the **responsibility of looking after the best interests of his family**: financially, spiritually and socially.

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

📌 ...as a father deals with his own children, 12 **encouraging, comforting and urging** you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

Proverbs 13:24

📌 He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to **discipline** him.

--Brad Froese... A dad has to discipline because he wants the best for his children. Children raised in the discipline of a strong and loving father have greater discipline as adults, and disciplined adults make greater contributors to society.

Kids need to see a godly portrait in their fathers...

📌 **63% of youth suicides** are from fatherless homes

70% of juveniles in state institutions are from fatherless homes

70% of teen pregnancies are from fatherless homes

80% of rapists are from fatherless homes

85% of children exhibiting behavior disorders are from fatherless homes

85% of youths in prison are from fatherless homes

Lucille Ball, shortly before her death, did a remarkable TV interview with Merv Griffin. He asked her a very serious and pointed question: "Lucille, you've lived a long time on this earth and you are a wise person. What's happened to our country? What's wrong with our children? Why are our families falling apart? What's missing?" Lucille Ball answered

without hesitation--"Papa's missing. Things are falling apart because Papa's gone. If Papa were here he would fix it."

Leadership Magazine reported a study affirming the importance of both parents attending church. If only mom attends regularly 15% of the children remain faithful in attendance at church when they become adults. If only dad attends regularly, 55% remain faithful. If neither attends regularly, it drops to only 6%. But if both mom and dad attend church regularly, it rises all the way to 72% of their children remaining faithful in attendance at church when they become adults.

Dads actually do have influence whether it is obvious or not. And, Dads, we need to use our influence positively. And... there is no greater influence than the legacy a father leaves concerning eternal salvation.

Ephesians 6:4

☞ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, **bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.**

"A boy loves his mother, but he will follow his father."

2. ☞ **Dad needs Honor and Respect**

One time a little boy was asked to define Father's Day and he said, "It's just like Mother's Day, only you don't spend as much on the present."

☞ **Honor = regard highly; treat with courtesy.** The Hebrew word used for honor means literally, "To make heavy." In other words don't take your parents lightly. Give them the respect and reverence they deserve.

Ephesians 5:33

...the wife must respect her husband.

☞ **Respect = to have profound reverence; to be in awe of**

-- James Howell... *Respect a man, he will do the more.*

☞ I say, **"There's nothing that motivates a man like his own cheering section."**

☞ Men need to **feel significant.** Some jokingly comment about men: "you get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness." It goes to a man's greatest need; the need to feel important. Just as certain as most wives need to hear loving words from their husbands, husbands need to hear encouraging, respectful words from their wives.

Nagging and criticizing will only discourage men. What they really need is positive reinforcement. And this is not just about a fragile ego that needs constant bolstering. Though it may be true that men tend to have fragile egos; they really do deserve respect as well. Think about a Dad's responsibilities and obligations... Biblically, he's the Head of the home, Principle provider, and Primary protector; He is responsible for Godly instruction and training; He's typically the final disciplinarian, and ultimately, he is God's representative to his kids.

When Jesus taught us to pray, He taught us to say, "Our Father, who art in heaven." When I pray "Our Father," the first person I naturally think of is my earthly father.

Phillips, Craig and Dean...

*Lord, I want to be just like You; 'Cause he wants to be just like me
Want to be a holy example; For his innocent eyes to see
Help me be a living Bible, Lord; That my little boy can read
I want to be just like You; 'Cause he wants to be like me*

These are significant charges that a father must carry. And they need to be respected and honored for their contributions.

Proverbs 4:1

👂 **Listen**, my sons, to a father's instruction; **pay attention** and gain understanding.

Like Foghorn Leghorn... "I say, boy, pay attention, boy."

I'm thankful for a Dad who... Provided even when it was difficult; Was involved in church; Loved my mom; Spanked me when I was defiant; Tickled me & wrestled with me; Prayed often on Saturday mornings; Made me go to church & youth group; Apologized when he was wrong; Advised me when I wasn't sure; Followed God's call; Urged me to "broaden my shoulders" when things were unfair; Still advises me today when I need help; Asks me for advice when he needs help; Honored his parents; Taught me to think for myself; Interested me in studying Scriptures; Told me he loved me; Was/is a Godly man.

Erma Bombeck wrote about fathers:

"When the Lord was creating fathers he started with a tall frame. An angel standing nearby said, 'What kind of father is that? If you're going to make children so close to the ground, why have you put fathers up so high? He won't be able to shoot marbles without kneeling. He won't be able to tuck a child into bed without bending. He won't even be able to kiss a child without stooping.' God smiled & said, 'Yes, but if I make him child size, who will the children have to look up to?'

"And when God made the father's hands, they were large.... The angel shook his head & said, 'I don't think you want to make hands like that. Large hands are clumsy. They can't manage diaper pins, small buttons, rubber bands on pony tails, or even remove splinters caused by baseball bats.'

“God smiled again & said, ‘I know, but they’re large enough to hold everything a small boy empties from his pockets at the end of the day – yet small enough to cup a child’s face in his hands.’

“Then God molded long, slim legs & broad shoulders. The angel nearly had a heart attack. ‘Boy, this is the end of the week, all right!’ he said. ‘How’s he going to pull a child close to him without the kid falling between his legs?’

“God smiled & said, ‘A mother needs a lap but a father needs strong shoulders to pull a sled, balance a boy on a bicycle, or hold a sleepy head on the way home from the circus.’

“God was in the middle of creating two of the largest feet anyone had ever seen when the angel could not be contained any longer. ‘That’s not fair,’ he said. ‘Do you honestly think that those large boats are going to get out of bed early in the morning when the baby cries? Or walk through a small birthday party without crushing at least 3 of the guests?’

“Again God smiled, & He said, ‘They’ll work. You’ll see. They’ll scare off mice at a summer cabin, or leave footprints that will be a challenge to follow.’

“God worked throughout the night, giving the father few words, but a firm voice & eyes that saw everything. Finally, almost as an afterthought, he added tears. Then He turned to the angel & said, ‘Now are you satisfied that he can love as much as a mother?’ And the angel was silent!”

Happy Father’s Day

Dads have Influence

Dads need Honor and Respect

Men’s Huddle

Men, the church needs you. The world needs godly men. You already have influence. You are already leaders. Lead toward God! Set a godly example of following Christ.

Dads need honor and respect, so be honorable and respectable. Make it easy for your wife and kids to give you the respect you want.