Father’s Day Pastor Rick Baker

June 20 2021

**Making Kids Great Again!**

Eph 6:4; Col. 3:21

1. If you are a Christian father, you are the father of children who have the full attention of the Heavenly Father

“*Fathers...”*

God the Father establishes the identity of the family, delegating the father role to human men... Eph. 3:15

* An heritage (Psm 127)
* Warning of spiritual barriers to Jesus caused by anyone (Mk. 9:42)
* High expectations, resources and accountability as a father entrusted with that identity by God!

1. Don’t mess up your children by abusing your position of power and authority.

“*Do not provoke /stir up discontent in your children...they will become angry/lose heart”*

Bad fathering produces significant emotional disabilities... *These results reflect an absence of Christ/Christlikeness*

* Anger
* Losing heart

1. Do set up the right soul space for your children to give them every opportunity to physically, emotionally, and spiritually succeed.

“...*instead bring them up in the discipline and instruction...”*

Balanced fathering... *How the Lord builds us.* (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

* Healthy physical correction “paideia”—discipline, training through material (physical) consequences (Heb.12:7)
* Healthy verbal direction “nouthesis”—instruction, admonition

... “of the Lord”

**Father your children in Christ-approved ways**

* Be fathers first!
* “Pick up your kids”; the state is waiting to seize their hearts and minds.
* Know God’s ways so you can raise kids God’s way.
* Pick the right fight—fight for your faith, not just for your freedom.
* Choose the right weapons to be used the right way—spiritual; sharpen your family arrows in the Lord!