In The Image Of God

June 20, 2021
In The Image Of God

Father = The Originator Of A Family

A Father Is Called To Nourish, Protect And Uphold The Family

God Our Father Is The Originator Of The Family. He Provides, He Protects, And He Upholds
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God Is The Father Of All Who Believe

(John 1:12 NIV) Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God
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Paul Teaches That God Is Our Heavenly Father

(Gal 4:4) But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, (5) to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. (6) Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." (7) So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.
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God Is A Father Like No Other
He Has Created Us In His Image

(Gen 1:26-31 NIV)  Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."  (27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
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God Has A Heavenly Call On Our Lives

• That We Would Be Made In His Image

• That We Would Be Conformed To His Image
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Why Do We Do What We Do?

We Are Different From The Rest Of Creation

There Is A Reason We Are Different, It Is Because We Are Made By Our Heavenly Father, In His Image
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Images Are Important = Icon -- Character

Images Model For Us What The Finished Product Is Supposed To Look Like

God Has Created Us In His Image
• Looking To Him We See A Picture Of What We Are To Become
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The World Rejects God & Wants To Push It’s Own Image Upon Us

Believers Are Given Reason To Rise Above The World’s Messages

Man Is Exalted Above All Other Creatures Of The Earth
   We Are God’s Workmanship
   We Are A Copy Of The Creator
God Wants To Restore Relationship With Man

(John 3:16-17 NIV) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (17) For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."
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Until Our Minds Are Transformed -- We Can Never Fully Know What It Means To Be Made In The Image Of God

(Rom 12:2 NIV) Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Transformed Minds Require Renewed Images
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God Gives To His Children Characteristics Which Are Like Him:

• A Spiritual Life
• An Intellect
• A Moral Component Of Life
• A Personality
• A Social Life
• A Rational Mind
• A Drive Towards Dominion
• The Ability To Create
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The Value Of A Human Life Is Limitless

• We Are Called To Be Like Him

(Eph 5:1 NIV) Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children
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In Order To Keep His Image Fresh In Our Hearts:

• We Must Hear About Him
• We Must Talk About Him
• We Must Study Him
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We Find His Image In The Word:

- Abba Father
- Ever Present Help
- Great King Over All
- Eternal Heavenly Father
- He’s Our Rock & Strength
- He’s The Potter
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Application: Dad’s Must Make An Impact

• Fathers Must Protect
• Fathers Must Teach
• Fathers Must Model
• Fathers Must Instill Values
• Fathers Must Empower
• Fathers Must Aid In The Development Of His Children’s Values
• Bottom Line: No Dad, No Conscience
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- 63% Of Youth Suicides Are From Fatherless Homes
- 71% Of All High School Dropouts Come From Fatherless Homes
- 90% of Homeless & Runaway Children are from Fatherless Homes
- 85% Of All Youths w/Behavior Disorders Grew Up In A Fatherless Home
- 80% of Rapists Come From Fatherless Homes
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Children From A Fatherless Home Are:

• More Likely To Commit Suicide
• More Likely To Run Away
• More Likely To Have Behavioral Disorders
• More Likely To Commit Rape
• More Likely To Drop Out Of School
• More Likely To Abuse Drugs
• More Likely To End Up In A State Institution
• More Likely To End Up In Prison
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We Need Fathers Who Will Be Image Bearers:
• Protect
• Teach
• Model Godliness
• Instill Values
• Empower Their Children

We Need Fathers Who Will Impact Families
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(Eph 6:4 NIV) Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

(Col 3:21 NIV) Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

One Way You Can Exasperate & Embitter Your Children -- Is To Never Be There

Part of God’s Call To The Christian Father Today =  Just Be There!!!
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The Goal Here Is Not Perfection, Rather It Is Positive Impact

Don’t Underestimate The Power Of Engaging Your Kids

Be An Image Bearer For Your Family
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By Being There --You Can Teach Them:

• Kindness
• Patience
• Honesty
• Courage
• Justice
• Obedience
• Love For God
• Show Them – Teach Them To Be IMAGE-BEARERS!