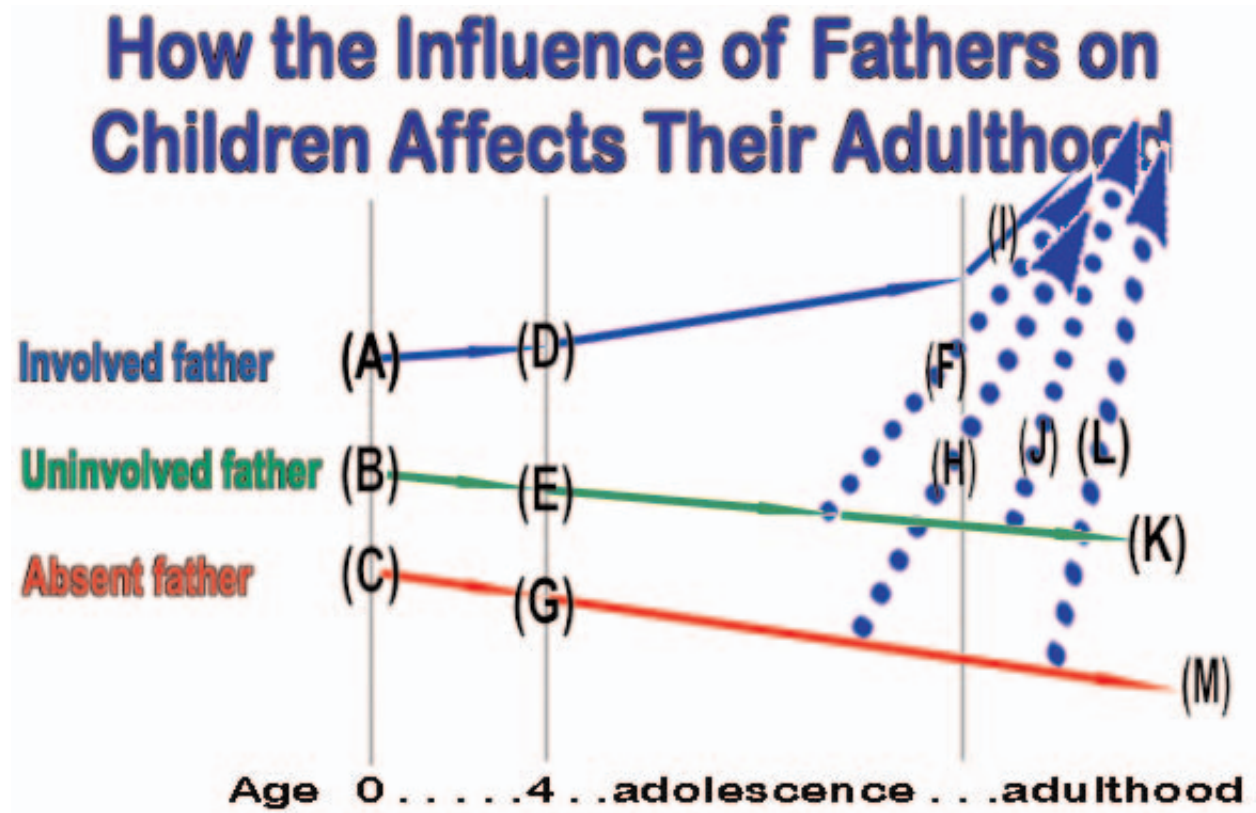


RESTORATION MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
Jesus In Your Home video series
The Home

Section 3: Segment 6

Topic 2. Why We Need Fathers



- In the diagram, **How the Influence of Fathers on Children Affects Their Adulthood**, discuss the path of your own life using the appropriate letter code. (Ours was B to E to F.)

- Describe the key events and circumstances that got you where you are today. Include any meaningful people and their impact on your life.

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- If you're in Group K, can you look back and see God's attempts through particular encounters or situations to help you change?

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- Almost all the senior adults with whom we speak are in Group K. Their desire for the pleasures of retirement seduced them, even those who once were on the A to D to I path. If you're one of these seniors, describe how you got enticed into self-gratification.

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- If you're a parent or grandparent, talk about your history with your children and grandchildren. What can they learn from your life choices?

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- On a spectrum, would you consider your faith community to be biblically conservative or secularly liberal?

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- If you're a man, do you have close relationships with other men who are able and willing to confront you if need be?

- Recall our description of a “Momma’s boy”:

1. He’s always looking for recognition in everything he does. His motive may be camouflaged, but it’s there all the same: “Momma, Momma, look at me!”— and “Momma” might be his wife, his boss, or even his buddies.

2. He consistently looks for people who will empathize when his feelings are hurt. He often has a “hang dog” expression when things don’t go his way. He’s waiting for someone to ask what’s wrong so he can get their emotional support. He’ll do anything to avoid the accountability and confrontation that a mature man would give him.

3. He is controlled and manipulated by the women in his life. He’s fearful of displeasing them, and he can’t face the turmoil that any confrontation with them might bring.

- Do any of the statements apply to you? Yes or no? If yes, in what ways do they apply, and how has your “Momma’s boy” status compromised your other relationships?

- Do your children show more respect to your wife than they do to you? To whom do your kids go for permission?

- Do they or your wife ever hide information from you or go around your back to get their way?

- Are you able to love your wife as Jesus would, no matter how she treats you? Yes or no? If yes, how do you demonstrate this level of love to her?

•When you're hurt by your spouse, do you withhold affection from him or her?
Or, do you go to Jesus for the strength to love your spouse even if he or she never
changes? Describe your response when you've been hurt by your spouse.

•If you're a woman, does any of the Group K mothering description apply to you?
Yes or no? If yes, describe your interaction with your husband, your children or
close friends.

• Do you often fail to see the whole picture? Ask others close to you for input.

• Are you a woman who tends to mother her husband? Do you take control of areas
in which the Bible has assigned him responsibility? In particular, are you anxious
about family finances?

• Has it occurred to you that your control is destroying the intimacy in your mar-
riage? Are you willing to cry out to God for inner change in your heart?

• Can your husband give you input without feeling apprehensive about your
response?

- Do you always have to get your own way, or do you concede but pout or withdraw affection?

- Do your decisions really consider the feelings and values of others? (See Proverbs 14:1.)

- Are you a woman who can't trust your husband because of your past?

- Are you quick to point out faults in your husband or in other men, thinking, "Isn't that just like a man?"

- Are you a meddling mother-in-law? Have you had a hand in hindering or dissolving the marriage covenant of one of your children? What do you need to do about this?
