

What Was Your Dad Like?

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Text: Luke 15:20

“...But while the son was a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him.”

Introduction

1. An estimated _____ children are growing up without fathers in the home.
2. _____ of all children who exhibit behavioral disorders are from fatherless homes.
3. _____ of homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes.
4. _____ of high school dropouts are from fatherless homes.

A Father to the Fatherless

1. There is a _____ for children without a dad.
2. There is a _____ of widows.
3. There is a need for _____.

Psalm 68:4, 5

“Sing to God! Sing praises to His name. Exalt Him who rides on the clouds - His name is Yahweh - and rejoice before Him. A father to the fatherless and a champion of widows is God in His holy dwelling.”

What if Your Dad Wasn't Perfect?

1. We can become _____.
2. We carry our _____ into all our relationships.

3. We need to cry out “_____!”

Romans 8:14 & 15

“All those led by God’s Spirit are God’s sons. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, ‘Abba, Father!’”

What Kind of Dad Have I Been?

1. There have been times when I just plain _____ it.
2. I don’t feel like I _____ well, but I want to _____ well.
3. It is not too _____.

Hebrews 12:1, 2

“Therefore since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us, and run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before Him endured a cross and despised the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of God’s throne.”

Conclusion

1. “We must therefore begin by believing _____ is our _____.” Thomas Merton
2. We must _____ all to the Lord and _____ His love completely.
3. We must become the _____ for others and _____ love one-another.