

**6-18-23 FATHERS DAY**  
**WHAT AMERICA NEEDS IS GODLY FATHERS**

Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Malachi 4:6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

**Intro:**

This is Father's Day. The concept of fathers and mothers, male and female has been greatly perverted in the day that we live. A few years back we could never have imagined that we would see this day. This month is called gay pride month. The story goes that the movement started in 1969, when the police in New York city raided a bar, The Stonewall Inn, a gay club located in Greenwich Village in New York City. The bar was in involved in illegal activities. It was against the law back then to have a gay bar which the police overlooked because these bars were owned by the mafia, and they bribed the police to stay open. They bribed officials and had all kind of health violations. They served liquor without a license.. Besides being illegal they served bootlegged liquor, and were involve in multiple levels of illegal activity.

The raid had to do with these activities and had little to do with the issue of homosexuality, but like all liberal causes the truth is skewed to further the cause and make gay people look like the poor victims they were not. Just like the liberal media does with Black Lives Matters, and systemic racism, and a host of other liberal matters.

This started what we know as the LGBT movement. And like all perverted movements.. LGBT is not inclusive enough .. it then had to add more acronyms. LGBTQ and now LGBTQIA and in the future who knows what else they will add.. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex Asexual, etc. In fact some give over 80 sexual orientations.

- 1 Abnosesexual
- 2 Abrosexual
- 3 Aceflux
- 4 Aequeseexual
- 5 Aerosexual
- 6 Agentosexual
- 7 Agynosexual
- 8 Akoisexual
- 9 Aliquasexual
- 10 Allosexual
- 11 Amoretrosexual
- 12 Amorplatonic
- 13 Androbisexual

- 14 Androflexibility
- 15 Androsexual
- 16 Androgynosexual
- 17 Anegosexual
- 18 Anthrosexual
- 19 Apothisexual
- 20 Asexual
- 21 Autosexual
- 22 Avansexual
- 23 Bi+ sexuality
- 24 Bisexual
- 25 Blanciosexual
- 26 Burstsexual
- 27 Casssexual
- 28 Ceasesexual
- 29 Ceterosexual
- 30 Coosexual
- 31 Cupidosexual
- 32 Dasflynsexual
- 33 Demisexual
- 34 Femmesexual
- 35 Femsorosexual
- 36 Fictosexual
- 37 Finsexual
- 38 Flexisexual
- 39 Fraysexual
- 40 Gay
- 41 Graysexual
- 42 Gynosexual
- 43 Gynosexual
- 44 Heterosexual
- 45 Homosexual
- 46 Iculasexual
- 47 Kalossexual
- 48 Lamvanosexual
- 49 Lesbian
- 50 Limnosexual
- 51 Lithosexual
- 51 Mascorosexual
- 52 Mosexual
- 54 Mascosexual
- 55 Minsexual
- 56 Monosexual
- 57 Mutosexual
- 58 Narysexual
- 59 Neosexual

- 60 Ninsexual
- 61 Novisexual
- 62 Novosexual
- 63 Nullumsexual
- 64 Omnisexual
- 65 Onesexual
- 66 Pansexual
- 67 Penultisexual
- 68 Polysexual
- 69 Pomosexual
- 70 Proculsexual
- 71 Polyamory
- 72 Queer
- 73 Sanssexual
- 74 Sapphic
- 75 Sapiosexual
- 76 Semibisexual
- 77 Skoliosexual
- 78 Spectrasexual
- 79 Testiculorumsexual
- 80 Taosexual
- 81 Vultussexual
- 82 Zygosexual

**What confusion.** What is odd is that I recently saw a documentary about how scientists are trying to monitor eagles so before the eaglets leave the nest they mark the eaglets. When they do so, they mark them as male and female and point of origin. How is it they can know if a bird is a male or a female but we can't know when human baby is born what it is? People have to wait until the baby decides for itself.

Why is there all this confusion? I believe the reason there is such confusion is because the foundation of the human race has been corrupted. The foundation of the human race is the way God created us male and female, fathers and mothers. When fathers abandon their leadership role the whole world goes haywire.

Without strong fathers humanity goes perverse. Fathers are the backbone of our society. We know that children who grow up without fathers can suffer lasting damage. They are more likely to end up in poverty or drop out of school, become addicted to drugs, have a child out of wedlock, or end up in prison.

I believe the reason we have this confusion with LGBTQTAI with 80 other gender identities is because of the famine in the land of good godly father figures.

Without a strong male father figure in the family we graduate to an effeminate society. Men are not men, women have unnatural feelings about marriage and male figures in their lives. We have the mess that we have going on today,

In fact.. so bad does God predict things will be in the end times that we have this prophecy.

Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Malachi 4:6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

God says he is going to have to send Elijah back to turn the hearts of the fathers back to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers.

This morning for a Father's Day message I would like to preach the message of Elijah the prophet to fathers this day.

I believe more than ever what we need is fathers to step up to the plate and be good fathers. Apparently the transgender.. LGBTQ agenda makes God sick and he wants his preachers to preach and try to turn the hearts of fathers back to being good fathers. Since fathers hearts are not turned, this is the reason this country is a mess.

The problem we have in this world is weak men and weak fathers.

### **WHAT WE NEED IS GODLY FATHERS IN THIS WORLD**

This is Father's Day.. Fathers should be the backbone of the family... the strong ones.. the person who gives stability and backbone to the family..

Just what is a good father? Let me suggest that the best role model for fatherhood is God himself.

When the disciples asked our Lord to teach them to pray .. Jesus said to address God as ..

### **OUR FATHER..**

Since Jesus proclaimed God as our Father.. let me declare that God is the best role model for a father..

**GOD IS OUR FATHER..  
GOD IS THE BEST ROLE MODEL OF A FATHER!**

To follow God is to be godly.. The word godly means to be like God or a follower of God.

More than anything what we desperately need in our nation and our society today is godly Fathers..

This is what I want to talk to you about this morning..

### **WHAT AMERICA NEEDS IS GODLY FATHERS**

Jesus referred to God by the name Father.. More than any other name..  
When we think of the name FATHER.. WE SHOULD THINK OF GOD!

The greatest honor in all the world is to be referred to as Father..  
There is no other name .. greater..

REASON FOR THIS.. you need to be careful who you give that name to..

Only your earthly father deserve the name..  
And your heavenly Father deserves that name..

Matthew 23:9 And call no [man] your father upon the earth: for one is your Father,  
which is in heaven....

No religious leader should assume that name.. we can honor our pastors and God's  
servants.. but the name Father is reserved only for your biological earthly father.. and  
your Heavenly Father..

There is no greater position in all the world.. than that of Fatherhood..  
The Father is the backbone of our nation ..  
The Fathers are the leaders of our society ..  
Fathers should be the stay and the staff of our community...

THERE IS NO GREATER THING THAT COULD BE SAID OF A FATHER..  
THAN THAT HE IS A GODLY .. A GODLY FATHER..

Consider what it means to be a Godly Father..

#### ***I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A GODLY FATHER?***

Definition of godly= to be a godlike person,

Fellow Pastor.. mentioned in passing.. that I considered a certain person to be a  
godly... My friend said to me, I don't think they are godly at all. I said what do you  
mean. He went on to share three of four things that this person was doing that God  
would not do.

TO BE GODLY.....  
IT MEANS..

TO BE LIKE GOD.....

WE NEED FATHERS WHO ARE GODLY.. WHO ACT LIKE GOD..  
WHO FOLLOW GOD..  
WHO IMMATATE GOD..

Just because a person attends church does not mean they are godly,  
Just because a person has a lot of Scriptural knowledge does not mean they are godly..

The devil himself can quote Scripture but he is an enemy of God.

Jesus said to the religious Pharisees.. YOU ARE OF YOUR FATHER THE DEVIL..

They were more like the devil than God.

TO BE GODLY IS TO BE LIKE GOD TO BE A FOLLOWER OF GOD!

But How does a person become godly:

***II. TO BE A GODLY FATHER YOU NEED TO REALLY KNOW THE TRUE GOD..  
MOST MEN DO NOT KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT GOD TO BE LIKE HIM..***

To be a godly Father you must first come to know God..

A lot of men know about God..  
Some know of God..  
Some have an academic knowledge of the Bible..  
Some think they know God..

But a godly Father really needs to know God in a personal way..  
A godly father needs to know God intimately and personally..

A lot of people think they know God..  
They know of God.. like they know a lot of famous people they may even know a lot  
about famous people, but they have no personal relationship with that person..

Most people know of God.. but they don't really have a personal relationship with God..

To know God is to be born of God..  
To know God is to receive Him into your heart and life..  
This only happens when we receive His spirit into our hearts..  
First God must become your Heavenly Father.. then you can be a godly father.

***1. HOW DO YOU REALLY GET TO KNOW GOD AS YOUR FATHER..***

Only one way .. you must be adopted into His family  
Just like we are born into an earthly family ..  
So too we must be born into a heavenly Family.. and then God becomes our Father..

Ye must be Born Again.. to know God as your heavenly Father..

Galatians 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

Galatians 4:7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

**2. *When you are part of an earthly family you live in the same house..  
When you are adopted into the family of God he comes to live in your house...***

The Bible says that when we are born again the Spirit of God our Father lives in our hearts.. he comes to live in this tabernacle of flesh..

The house of God becomes our earthly physical tabernacle.  
The Bible says we become the temple of God.

I Corinthians 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

We are born again of spirit not flesh..  
God dwells with us and is in us..

Peter talks about his death saying I must shortly put off this tabernacle.. II Peter 1:14

Paul in II Cor. 5:1 says that someday when we die our earthly tabernacle will be dissolved and we will be given a heavenly body or tabernacle..

II Corinthians 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

II Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

The Bible says this is miracle.. we have this treasure in our earthen vessels! Imagine the miracle that takes place when you get saved. The Holy Spirit is a hidden treasure!

**3. *You will be taught of God your father.. through his Spirit..***

Children need to learn they need to be taught.. so God will teach us through his spirit.. and through His word..

I Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned.

I Corinthians 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Think about it to learn spiritual things you need to be taught of God!! To be taught of God you need to have the Holy Spirit in your heart!

#### ***4. As a child of God you come under his chastening hand and he will discipline you ..***

When you are born again you become a child of God!!!

Because of this God deals with us.. and disciplines us.. a godly father will want to discipline and teach his children. We become imitators of God!

Hebrews 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Hebrews 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Hebrews 12:9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected [us], and we gave [them] reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

Hebrews 12:10 For they verily for a few days chastened [us] after their own pleasure; but he for [our] profit, that [we] might be partakers of his holiness.

Hebrews 12:11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Self in 1974.. I was born again into the family of God..

God started teaching me..

God started disciplining me..

God started to guide me..

God started to lead me..

Before that 1974 I knew of God, but did not have a personal relationship with Him  
Before this.. I was doing my own thing.. going my own way..



Things changed in 1974 for me.. it affected every area of my life..  
It affected my dress..  
It affected the friends I associated with ..  
The places I went .. etc..  
It affected my habits..

### **GOD BECAME MY HEAVENLY FATHER..**

Pharisees claimed God as their Father.. but they were really children of the devil..  
Your relationship to Christ is greatest evidence that God is your Father..

John 8:42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

John 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? [even] because ye cannot hear my word.

John 8:44 Ye are of [your] father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

John 8:45 And because I tell [you] the truth, ye believe me not.

John 8:46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

John 8:47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear [them] not, because ye are not of God.

You cannot be like God the father if God is not your father and you have not His Spirit...

***If any man have not the spirit he is none of his.. Rom. 8:9***

### ***III. TO BE A GODLY FATHER YOU NEED TO BE AN IMITATOR OF GOD..***

Once we get to know God and Understand who God is..

To be Godly we need to be like God.. and that means we should imitate Him..

Jesus claimed that everything he did because of his Father's example..

He followed his Father's example..

So too.. we should follow God's example in our lives..

Jesus said.. he wanted to be about His Father's business...

Jesus said, my Father works .. so I work....

Jesus said,, he did all that the Father showed him..

Jesus said.. I do nothing on my own..

John 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

John 5:20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.

### **CONSIDER SOME OF GOD'S VIRTURES THAT MEN SHOULD TRY AND IMMATATE**

#### **Consider Even the Lord's prayer... as an example of the virtues of Fatherhood..**

As we pray to our heavenly father this is a perfect example of what every earthly father should reflect in his family..

*Matthew 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.*

*Matthew 6:10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as [it is] in heaven.*

*Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.*

*Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*Matthew 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

*Matthew 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:*

*Matthew 6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

#### **1. JESUS TOLD HIS DISICPLES TO ADDRESS GOD AS OUR FATHER..**

Our Father who art in heaven...

ADDRESS GOD AS YOUR FATHER Children honor their parents by calling them Father.. PRAY OUR FATHER HOLLOWED BE THY NAME..

The God image of the home should be the Father.. Our Father who art in Heaven

Good to protect the name of your Father..

Children should address their Fathers with respect..

New thing with letting kids dishonor parents.. I notice the trend that more and more parents are letting their kids call them by their first names?

I think children should honor their parents by the way they address them.

#### **2. Jesus said when you pray say.. "thy Kingdom come.."**

Every Father should rule his home..

In many families across the nation.. there is

Standing next to every good king is a good and godly queen..

STARTS AND ENDS.. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM..

The Ruler of the home should be the Father.. For thine is the Kingdom..

EVERY FATHER SHOULD BE ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD..

SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD.. And then God will bless our homes.

Psalms 127:1 {A Song of degrees for Solomon.} Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh [but] in vain.

Psalms 127:2 [It is] vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: [for] so he giveth his beloved sleep.

A fellow once flew a plane over my Dad's business and they presented him the picture with the title on it. Joe's Kingdom. That was true.. it was like his own little Kingdom.

The Bible commends men when they rule their houses well. This is a characteristic of godliness. It is also a qualification for a pastor. The pastor needs to be a role model for fatherhood.

I Timothy 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

I Timothy 3:4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

So when we have God as our Father.. he teaches us how to be a good father.

So many times I see women making the decisions in the home while fathers stand idly by and submit to the will of the wife. Who is ruler of the home?

I remember being chairmen of the deacon board at a certain church. We were without a pastor and I meet with the men of the church and discussed what we should do. I suggested we call an interim Pastor. We all agreed and then we took it to the congregation for a vote. One of the men that was in the meeting and voted and agreed to bring the matter to the church for a vote ... then in the business meeting he voted against the recommendations of the deacon board at the meeting. He voted against his own decision? What happened between the meeting and the vote. He went home and talked to his wife and she must have read him the riot act because she didn't want to go along with the decision of the deacons. Yet he was a deacon! So you can quickly see who ruled in that house.

A godly father needs to be the leader of his house.

**3. *Jesus said... pray God the father For Your Daily Needs***

Every father should seek to be like God the Father in the home and be the chief bread winner.. in that home..

#### THOSE WHO FEED LEAD

Paul said, that men should take care of their own and provide for his own house..

II Thessalonians 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

Ephesians 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with [his] hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

#### **4. EVERY FATHER SHOULD BE JUST AND MERCIFUL... GOD THE FATHER FORGIVES OUR SINS...**

The Bible teaches that God is merciful, longsuffering, and willing to forgive.

It amazes me how many men are so hard on their children. They are like a volcano ready to erupt all the time. Who wants to live next to a volcano?

If we are going to be like God, we need to be tenderhearted willing to forgive.

I John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I have seen men who would not forgive the short comings of their children. Sometimes not talking to them for years. This is not like God.

Matthew 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

Matthew 6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Remember the lesson from the prodigal son. He was ready to receive his son back.

Many fathers would not be able to see through the failures of their children. The prodigal's father was ready to forgive and rejoiced when he came back and repented.

#### **5. EVERY FATHER SHOULD BE A LEADER AND GUIDE IN THE HOME.. Lead us not into temptation deliver us from evil**

The guide of the Home is the Father of the home ..

The Lord said pray to your heavenly father.. "LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION"

But deliver us from evil..

Many an ungodly father has lead their family right into temptation and in fact evil...

A godly father will look at how decisions he makes may affect his family for good or for bad.

A decision, to live in a certain area could make or break their families. Remember Lot who lost his family to Sodom and Gomorrah!

***EVERY FATHER SHOULD SHOW WISDOM.. TO LEAD HIS FAMILY NOT INTO TEMPTATION.. BUT DELIVER THEM FROM EVIL..***

Many times.. fathers.. do not lead their families away from evil..

The protector of the Home is the Father.. Deliver us from Evil..

#### ***IV. THE GREATEST CHARACTERISTIC OF GOD IS WRAPPED UP IN THE CONCEPT OF SACRIFICE***

- 1. IF GOD DID NOT SPARE HIS ONLY SON SO MEN COULD BE SAVED.. WHY DO WE THINK HE WILL EXCUSE OUR LACK OF DEDICATION FOR HIM..***

***Abraham was an example to us of the dedication we are suppose to manifest towards God..***

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Romans 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

I Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

Earthly fathers should be willing to make sacrifices for God and even their families to serve God.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

One of the things I always tried to show my children is that you never give anything up for God, he gives back 100 fold. We have never lacked while serving God.

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 19:29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

God provides all our needs. A Godly Father shows how when you follow God he will provide and care for all your needs and show this to his children

## **2. A GODLY FATHER WILL PUT GOD FIRST LIKE ABRAHAM..**

A godly father will put God first.. Even above his children.. GOD COMES FIRST..

Abraham showed his son Isaac how God he put serving God even above the love he had for him..

Genesis 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, [here] I [am].

Genesis 22:2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only [son] Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

Genesis 22:3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

Genesis 22:4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

Genesis 22:5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

So many people think that if you put God first you will loose your children. It is just the opposite..

When we used to have family devotions with our children I used to ask them who comes first in your life. The answer was Jesus. Jesus comes first and mom and dad come second.

## **3. A GODLY FATHER WILL SHOW THAT HE IS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE LORD..**

How is it we complain ... when you realize what it cost to purchase our souls out of sin..

Hebrews 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Hebrews 12:4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.

A Godly Father will commit his life to Christ. He will endure in the faith and never give up. He will not grow weary in well doing. He will show in his character that he would be faithful even unto death if necessary.

This is a characteristic of godliness.

A godly man is a man who will endure hardness and difficulties in the Christian life.

II Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Children need to see men of God who have

Back bone  
Stamina  
Character  
Endurance  
Conviction  
Fortitude  
Steadfastness  
Stability  
Consistency

### **CONCLUSION:**

In this message we have tried to show the characteristics of God our Father.. and how we should manifest his virtues in being earthly fathers..

This is what America needs.. GODLY FATHERS... GODLY MEN..

I think that such men could change America.

However, there is a famine in the land of godly men...

My challenge to the men who are listening to this message is that you need to be a godly father for the sake of your family, and for the sake of our church and for the sake of our nation.

Happy Fathers Day..

This is my Father's day challenge to each and every man of the church.. If we do these things we indeed will be godly men and fathers..