

FATHERS MUST BE GATEKEEPERS OF THEIR HOMES



It is apparently appearing that husbands and fathers in the home are increasingly disappearing.

- **Proverbs 8:34-35**
- *'Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favor from the LORD'; (NKJV)*

- **Society has decided over the last few years that fathers are not necessary, that they are expendable. Everyone ought to know that the society is wrong. Fathers are not expendable. Fathers are necessary. Husbands are necessary.**

- **Fathers provide for their family. They are protectors in every sense of the word and provide a solid foundation for the home. They provide security and tranquility. Fathers are called by God to be an integral part of the family.**

- **When fathers are home, children have better self esteem and exhibit pro-social behavior compared to homes where there are no fathers.**
- **When fathers are home, the family is five times less likely to live in poverty.**

- **When fathers are home, children do better in math and reading skills compared to when there is no father.**
- **When fathers are home, the children are significantly less likely to do drugs or engage in risky behavior.**

- **When fathers are home, the rate of child abuse is fifty per cent less than in single-parent households.**
- **When fathers are home, the sons who grow up in those homes are not likely to fall into character flaws unless they decide otherwise.**

- **When fathers are home, daughters that receive the love and attention of a father are much less likely to search for that same attention from men who are far less worthy.**

- **There is something comforting and secure for children who know that the father is around. Fathers provide a solid foundation for their lives.**

- **GODLY MALE LEADERSHIP: Both the Old and New Testament emphasize the importance of godly male leadership in the home, the church and the community.**

- **Men are to set the example. Both single men and married men are to be an "example of the believer in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith and in purity."**
- **1 Timothy 4:12**
- ***'Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity'. (NKJV)***

- **From a biblical stand point,
God's charge to every father is
to be a watchman for his home.
We find the story in the book of
Nehemiah.**

- **Nehemiah and the remnant come home to Jerusalem. They find the entire city lying in total ruins. The walls were torn down and the gates removed. That meant that any invading enemy would be able to come in and plunder them.**

- **That is the way we find our country today. The walls of protection and the gates designed to protect us are lying in ruin.**

- Nehemiah says in Nehemiah 9:36-37: “36. *Here we are, servants today! And the land that You gave to our fathers, to eat its fruit and its bounty, here we are, servants in it!*

- **37. *And it yields much increase to the kings You have set over us, because of our sins; also they have dominion over our bodies and our cattle at their pleasure; and we are in great distress.***

Nehemiah laments that because of their own sins, their enemies have control over every area of their lives. He says, “We are at their pleasure, and we are in great distress.”

- **This is situation in our country. We are living today in a society where ethics and values have been put aside. Frustrations are everywhere. Because of our own sins, the society we have is being torn apart. We were told that fathers were not necessary. We were lied to on every account.**

- **Fathers, you are the gatekeepers of your home. Fathers, you are given the primary responsibility for who and what enters your home. You are given charge to guard your home from every demonic enemy that tries to enter.**

- **Every book, every record, every CD/DVD, every friend your child brings home, every TV program, every Internet site, and every video is the responsibility of the gatekeepers of that household.**

- **Satan has many subtle and clever ways of coming into your home. You need God's wisdom and discernment to be a wise gatekeeper.**

- **If you are a single parent here today, know that God is with you and for you, not against you. You have a difficult job being both mother and father. God knows the job is difficult, and He will help you.**

- **The charge remains the same.
You are the guardian, or
gatekeeper, for your home.
Although it is a job designed for
two people, God will help you
and strengthen you with His
grace and mercy.**

- **Today we need more parents, more fathers, to step up and become gatekeepers for their homes. What good will it do if you have given your family every monetary gift but have not been a diligent gatekeeper?**

- **What good will it do if you work long, hard hours at work to provide a nice home, but that home is filled with the devil's tools?**

- **The greatest gift you can give to your children and to your wife is to give them your complete commitment to be there always for them and with them.**

- **Fathers must hence:**
- **Commit yourselves to be a diligent and wise gatekeeper for your homes.**
- **Commit yourselves to protect your homes from every demonic influence.**

- **Commit yourselves to pray for your families daily for God's protection and safety.**
- **Give your children what they need and want most. Give them your time, your love, and your attention.**

WAYS FATHERS MUST LEAD THEIR FAMILIES:

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○1. LOVE THEM.

- Remember, actions speak louder than words. God wants us to tell our wives, children and grandchildren that we love them and He wants us to show them our love by our actions.

- **Spend time with them--play with them, go for vacations together, assist them in their homework... all of it! Laugh with them... cry with them. Love them. Love God. Most important openly display your love toward their mother. Be there for them.**

- **2. GIVE THEM INSTRUCTIONS.**
- **Teach your children the ways of the Lord.**
- **Don't leave the teaching to your wife alone. She will certainly do more than her part. But you must also be a teacher to your children. Teach them to memorize Scripture. Teach them how to pray.**

- **3. DISCIPLINE THEM AS NECESSARY.**
- **Proper discipline opens channels of communication between father and child, Be fair but firm. Remember, you are building character and shaping a life for the future.**

- **Discipline instills godly principles which will become their foundation for life. It is our responsibility to "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4**

- ***'And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord'. (NKJV)***

○ 4. BE THE EXAMPLE THEY CAN IMITATE.

- **The ultimate key to effective fathering is a godly lifestyle lived before your children. How you live your life will tell them how to live their lives. Your example is your testimony to your children about God, life, love, marriage, family, work and the church.**

- **Gatekeepers must create healthy habits for their families that will create a closer walk with Christ, and in doing so, impact our families, our community, our society, and our world.**

- **We MUST rededicate ourselves to guarding the gates of our hearts, our minds, our families, our church and our nation against the satanic forces that are out to destroy us.**

- **Be a leader in every area of life and let your life speak to your children.**
- **DON'T RUN AWAY FROM YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES. WATCH OVER THEM. THIS IS THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY FOR US MEN. OUR PART CANNOT BE DONE BY SOMEONE ELSE. WE ARE THE MEN. WE ARE THE FATHERS. WE MUST BE THE GATEKEEPERS. Hili ni jukumu letu.**