



7 Steps

to being
a great
DAD

by Tom Trimble

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Psalm 127:3 (NKJV)

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

1 Be a good man first.

The pre-flight safety speech is the same on every airplane. While explaining procedures during a sudden change in cabin pressure, passengers are instructed to secure their own oxygen masks first before helping their children. The captain knows an unconscious parent is no help to a child; to be effective they must attend to their own wellbeing first. This is true spiritually as well. Becoming a father is a great responsibility. Every new dad is impacted by the importance and gravity of fatherhood. However some try to be a good dad without being a good person. This is impossible, because our actions flow from our nature, (and our nature is also where change happens). The good news is that we are invited to be partakers of the Lord's divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). To be a good father you and I must strive to be like our heavenly Father. This is the most important principle we can consider.

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If we want to work on being better fathers, we must work on our relationship with Jesus Christ. Great dads make God number one in their lives. We also need the fruit of the Spirit mentioned in Galatians 5. (To possess these attributes we must be filled with the Holy Spirit, so we start by obeying and experiencing Acts 2:36-39.)

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.
Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJV)*

The Fruit of the Spirit counteracts the works of the flesh mentioned in Galatians 5:19-21, things like “outbursts of wrath.” Allowing the Spirit of God to pour His peace, longsuffering and self-control in us will help us obey another scripture: “Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged,” (Colossians 3:21).