

## Ideal Father - cont.

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fell on his neck, and kissed him” (Luke 15:20). Fathers, are we forgiving when our children confess their sins, repent, and come back to us?

The ideal father mercifully comforts his children. Paul wrote: *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; who comforts us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort them that are in any affliction, through the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God”* (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). Fathers, are we merciful and comforting toward our children in their times of affliction?

### Like Father Like Son

Yes it is good to think about our fathers on Father’s Day. But, what about the rest of the year? What about today? Fathers, let us honor our Father in heaven by following his example all year around. Fathers are truly honored when they follow the example of their heavenly Father (Matthew 5:48). Fathers, give your children the right example to follow and something to honor. *“Children’s children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers”* (Proverbs 17:6).  
- Chris Reeves -

## Sentence Sermons

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- God wants us to be comforted in life, but not comfortable with life.
- Kindness is the language that can be easily understood all over the world.
- Faith makes us hopeful, not hopeless.
- The “straight and narrow” way never needs repair because it never wears out.
- Everything in life begins with God.

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ  
290 Warfield Blvd.  
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website  
wbcoc.org

Assembly Times  
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!  
For More Information Call  
(931) 647-1324

Published and Edited By  
Chris Reeves  
(615) 389-3250  
chrisreevesmail@gmail.com  
TheGoodTeacher.com

# THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

# The Ideal Father

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*Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which Jehovah thy God giveth thee.*

- Exodus 20:12 -

*A son honors his father, and a servant his master: if then I am a father, where is mine honor?*

- Malachi 1:6 -

*For God said, Honor thy father and thy mother: and, He that speaks evil of father or mother, let him die the death.*

- Matthew 15:4 -

*Honor thy father and thy mother; and, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*

- Matthew 19:19 -

*Jesus answered, I have not a demon; but I honor my Father, and ye dishonor me.*

- John 8:49 -

*Honor thy father and mother (which is the first commandment with promise).*

- Ephesians 6:2 -

## Honor Thy Father

Those of us who were raised on God's word were raised to honor our parents. This is a good thing. To show respect and care for our parents is important to forming our own character.

It is appropriate to honor our earthly fathers. They have born us, they have raised us, and they have cared for our every need, so it is appropriate to honor them.

Fatherhood is a great responsibility, it is greatly needed today, and it is vital to all (Ephesians 6:4). It is important to the child to be raised the right way. It is important to the parents because it teaches them sacrifice and discipline. It is important to God because he gets faithful children one day. It is important to the growth of the church. It is important to an orderly society. It is important to neighbors to have godly people acting the right way.

When we honor our fathers once a year on Father's Day, we should think about this honor. However, men seeking to be good fathers can learn from God on how to be a father. No matter what time of the year it is, fathers can learn from God our Father (1 Corinthians 8:6; Hebrews 12:9; Malachi 2:10). Let's see what they can learn. Who is the ideal father?

## The Ideal Father

The ideal father knows the needs of his children. Jesus said, "... your Father knows what things ye have need of, before ye ask him" (Matthew 6:8). Fathers, are we too

preoccupied to know our children's needs? If we know them, do we actually take care of them?

The ideal father provides for the needs of his children. James wrote, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can be no variation, neither shadow that is cast by turning" (James 1:17). Fathers, are we too busy to provide for our children's needs, both physical and spiritual?

The ideal father sacrificially loves his children. John wrote, "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are..." (1 John 3:1). Fathers, are we sacrificially loving our children and giving them our love?

The ideal father disciplines his children. Proverbs 3:12 reads: "For whom Jehovah loves he reproveth, even as a father the son in whom he delights." Fathers, are we disciplining our children?

The ideal father forgives his children when they repent (Acts 8:22). Jesus said the following concerning the father of the prodigal son: "But while he was yet afar off, his father saw him, and was moved with compassion, and ran, and was moved with compassion, and ran, and