

Special Service

FATHER'S DAY



EVERY NATION
CHURCH · PENANG

**Grateful for the gift of both
biological father and spiritual fathers.**

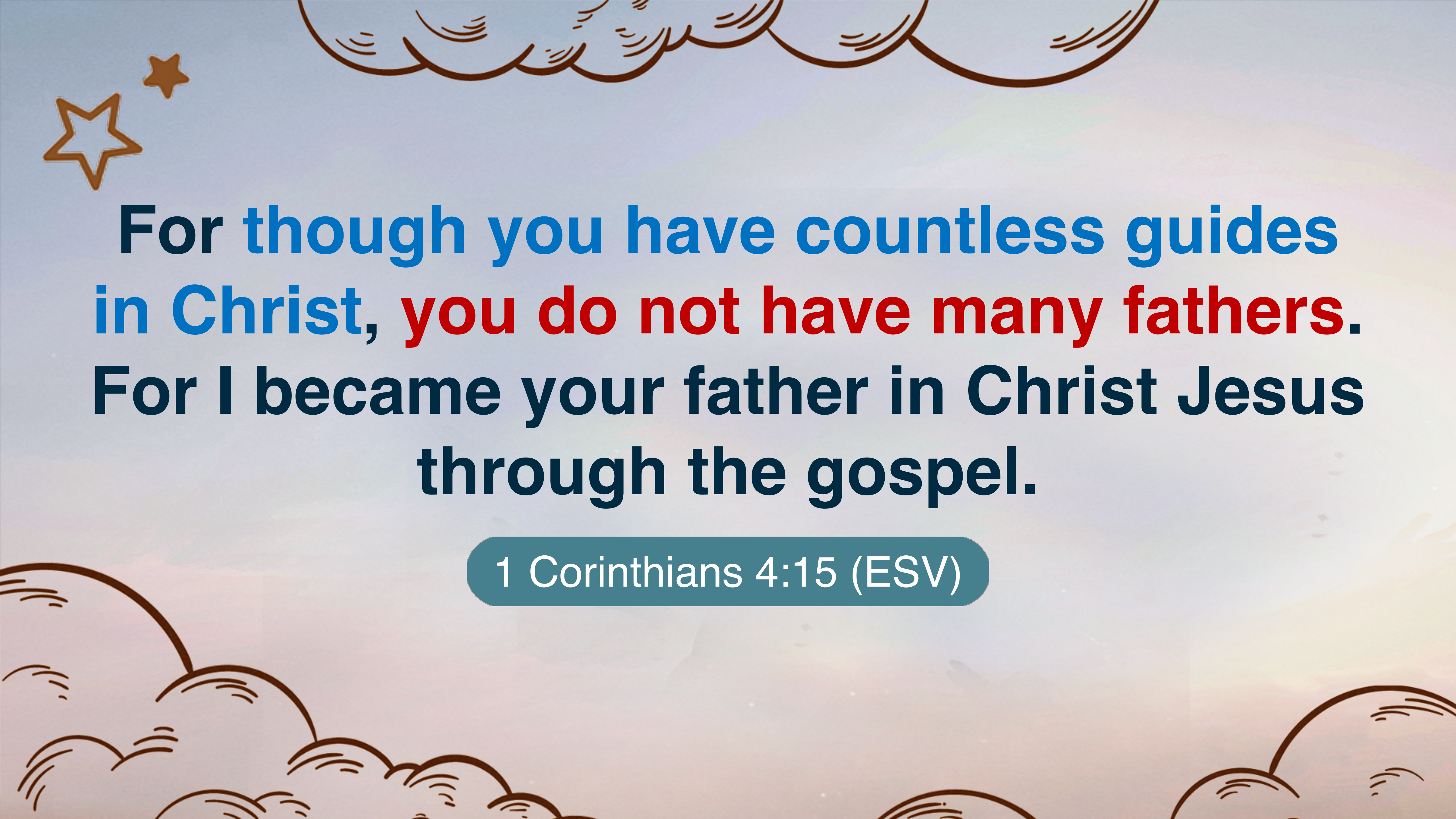


*‘A father’s love doesn’t always come through blood—it flows through
presence, prayer, and purpose.’*

Fatherhood Reimagined: Leading with the Heart of Christ

EPHESIANS 6:4





**For though you have countless guides
in Christ, you do not have many fathers.
For I became your father in Christ Jesus
through the gospel.**

1 Corinthians 4:15 (ESV)



The **world has plenty of voices**,
but what it desperately needs is
godly fathers.



Godly fathers :

- ✓ **Present** in their children's lives
- ✓ **Gentle** in their leadership
- ✓ **Rooted** deeply in Christ

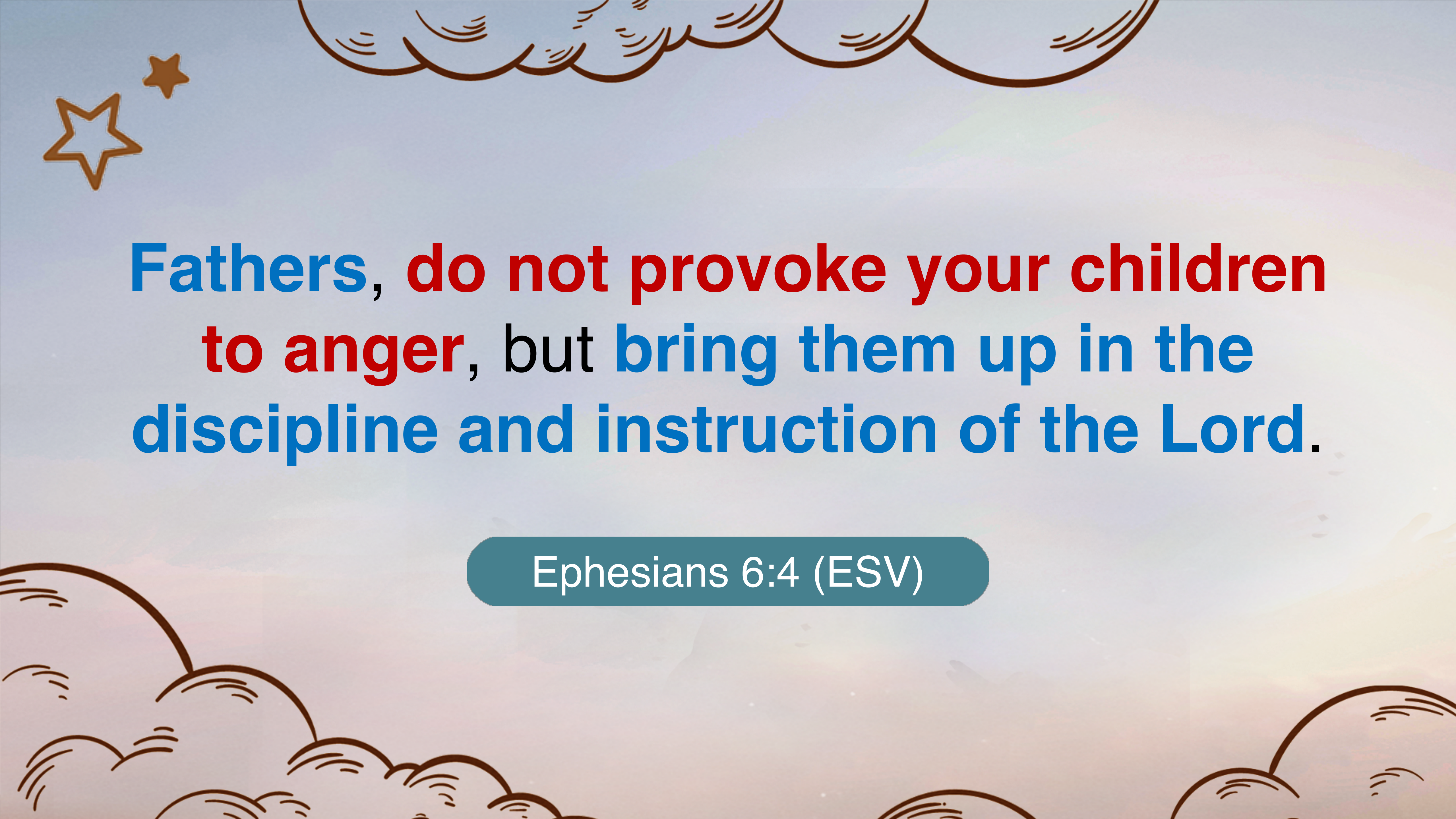
Fathers, You Have the Power to Shape Lives

Whether you're Biological, Adoptive, Stepfather
or Spiritual Father

**Your influence matters —
you shape hearts, futures, and faith.**



Intentional Fathers leave a **Lasting Impact**



**Fathers, do not provoke your children
to anger, but bring them up in the
discipline and instruction of the Lord.**

Ephesians 6:4 (ESV)

Context of Ephesians 6:4

📖 Paul was addressing a Roman world shaped by extreme patriarchal authority.

Roman Law: *Patria Potestas* – “**The Father’s Power**”

⚖️ Fathers held **absolute legal control** over their families:

- 👤 Could **sell children as slaves**
- ⚔️ Could **punish or even execute** them
- 🏛️ Children were seen as **property, not people**

#1: Don't Provoke - Reflect the Heart of God

 Eph 6:4 (First Part)

*Fathers, do not **provoke** your children to anger...*

The Greek word for “**provoke**” is *parorgizō* which means:

- To **exasperate**
- To **enrage**
- To **agitate to the point of resentment**

#1: Don't Provoke - Reflect the Heart of God

Fathers can provoke their children by:

- **Harsh discipline** – reacting in anger instead of correction.
- **Inconsistency** – saying one thing and doing another.
- **Neglect** – being physically present but emotionally absent.
- **Perfectionism** – setting unreachable expectations.
- **Comparison** – “Why can’t you be more like your brother/sister/cousin?”
- **Public shaming** – correcting a child in front of others to “teach a lesson.”

#1: Don't Provoke - Reflect the Heart of God

God's Fatherhood is different:

- In Psalm 103:13 God is described as a **compassionate Father**, showing mercy to those who fear Him.
- In Hosea 11:3–4, God portrays Himself as a **tender and nurturing Father** teaching His child to walk, healing them, and leading them with kindness and cords of love.

#1: Don't Provoke - Reflect the Heart of God

Our tone and attitude can either **draw**
children toward the Father or **drive**
them away from Him.





#1: Don't Provoke - Reflect the Heart of God

Let us **reflect the heart of our Heavenly Father** that is full of grace, truth, and compassion.



#2: Bring Them Up – Nurture with Patience

 Eph 6:4 (Second Part)

*Fathers, ...**but bring them up**....*

The Greek word for “bring them up” is *ektrephete* which means:

- To **nourish**
- To **cherish**
- To **feed**
- To **care for tenderly**

#2: Bring Them Up – Nurture with Patience

- Fatherhood is more than **providing**; it's nurturing with **patience and intentionality**.
- It's not a **passive** role, but an **active commitment** to raise children in a thriving environment.

#2: Bring Them Up – Nurture with Patience

In the biblical worldview, fatherhood is **not a position of dominance**, but **a calling to nurture and shepherd** the lives God has entrusted to you.



#2: Bring Them Up – Nurture with Patience

Fatherhood is **a calling to nurture and shepherd** the lives God has entrusted to you. This includes:

- **Physical nurturing** – providing food, shelter, and safety.
- **Emotional nurturing** – creating a stable, loving environment where children feel secure.
- **Spiritual nurturing** – leading them to know and love the Lord.



#2: Bring Them Up – Nurture with Patience

Fathers, you're not just raising children—you're **shaping hearts with the grace of God.**



#3: Train and Instruct – Disciple in the Lord

 Eph 6:4 (Third Part)

...in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

In Greek,

- “Discipline” – *paideia* – means training, correction, or instruction through action.
- “Instruction” - *nouthesia* – means to verbal teaching, counsel, or admonition; spoken truth with the aim of guiding the mind and heart.

#3: Train and Instruct – Disciple in the Lord

 Eph 6:4 (Third Part)
...in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Together, these two terms point to a balanced approach:

- Discipline with grace.
- Permissiveness with boundaries.

#3: Train and Instruct – Disciple in the Lord

The goal is not merely to raise “good kids,” but to **raise godly children.**

“Of the Lord” means:

- **Instruction rooted in Scripture**, not culture.
- **Discipline that reflects God’s character**, not human anger.
- **Teaching that points them to Christ**, not just personal opinion.

#3: Train and Instruct – Disciple in the Lord

We cannot give what we do not have.

If the instruction we are to give is “of the Lord,” then
we ourselves must be walking with the Lord.

Let the Word of Christ dwell richly in us, so it may overflow into our home.



Summary



Ephesians 6:4 isn't a to-do list. It's a God-breathed vision for fatherhood. A vision that says:

- **Don't provoke**—but reflect the heart of your Heavenly Father, who is compassionate and slow to anger.
- **Bring them up**—not with force or fear, but with gentle and patient nurture, just like Christ tenderly cares for His Church.
- **Discipline & Instruct them**—not merely in morality, but in the life-giving Word of the Lord, shaping souls for eternity.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

