



**Faith @ Home**



Part 6

# Dads Matter

Ephesians 6:4



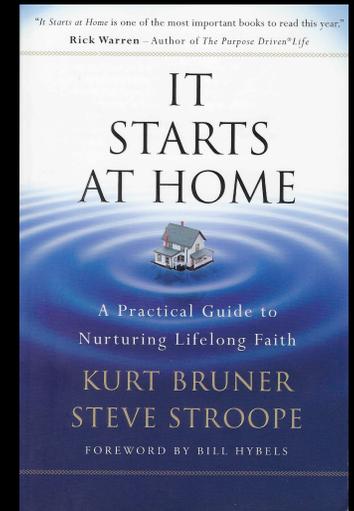
Parent



Grandparent

Grandparents hold a unique and exalted position when it comes to spiritually forming the next generation.

Other than moms and dads, no one carries the stature or inherent authority in the lives of children. In fact, not even moms or dads can fill the role grandparents fill.

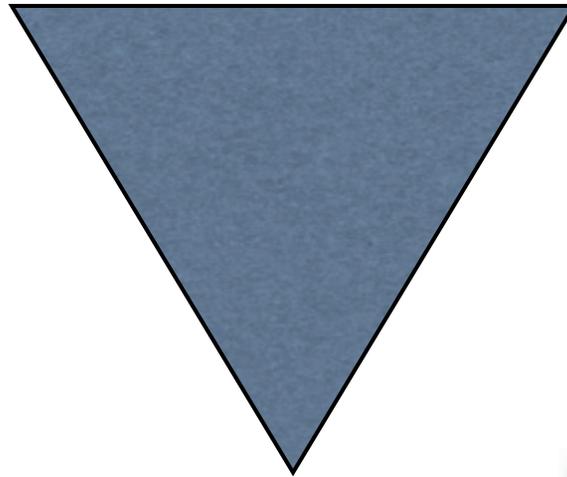
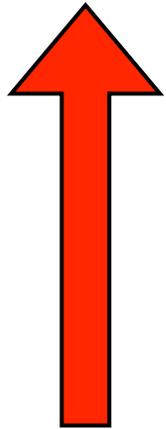


Steve Stroope, *It Starts at Home*, p. 148



Parent

Grandparent



Spiritual Mentor

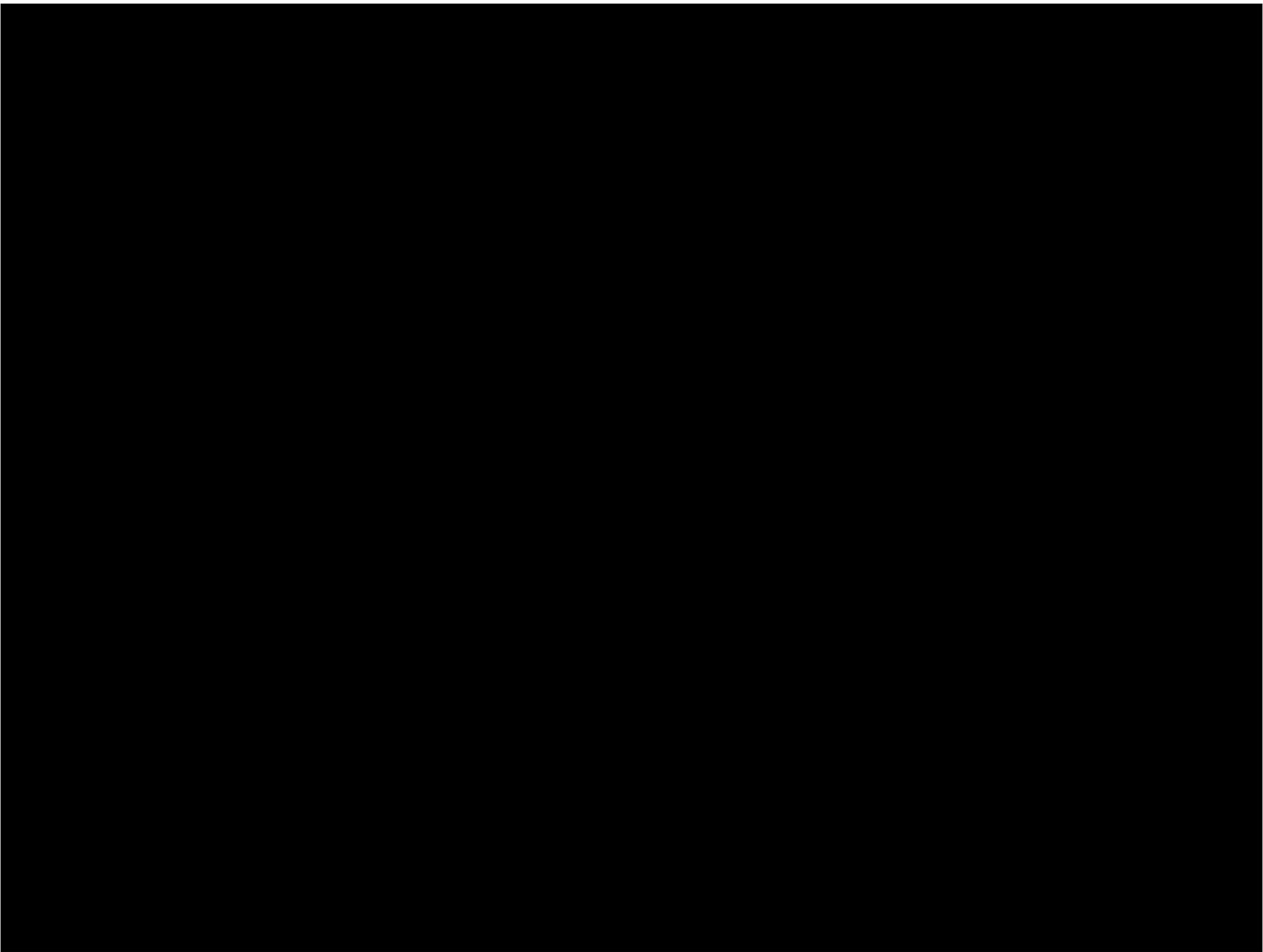


For observant Jews faith was expressed *first and foremost* in the home, *secondarily* in the synagogue. When Christianity emerged, churches and families worked together in an intentional manner toward the same end. But as time passed, many allowed the church to take the lead in the spiritual training of children. And grandparents became passive observers of this all-important process, abdicating their role to the point where many today actually think it is the

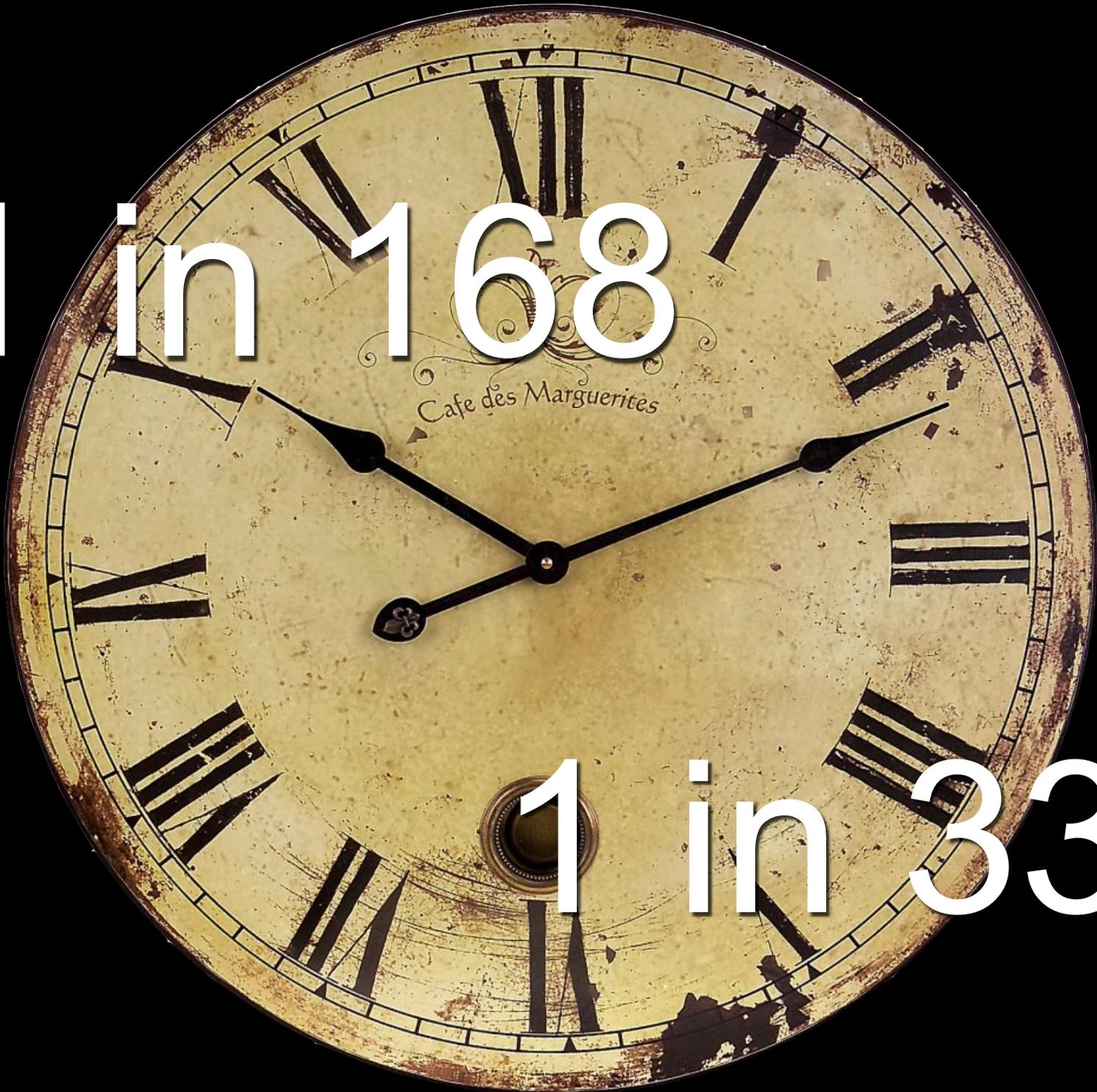
Sunday school's job to instill faith in their children. Clearly, the church is an important partner.



Steve Stroope, *It Starts at Home*, p. 150



1 in 168



1 in 336



20 times



60 times

An antique clock face with Roman numerals and a decorative floral design in the center. The clock is aged and shows signs of wear. The text is overlaid in white with a drop shadow.

7 hrs/51 min

a day

2 days media =

1 year church

# How do we change that?

Fathers, do not exasperate

**MOTHERS AND WIVES**

instead, bring

them up in the training and

instruction of the Lord.

**MEN AS HUSBANDS**

**CHILDREN**

Ephesians 6:4 (NIV)

# How do we change that?

Fathers, do not exasperate

**“CHILD-REARING-BUCK”  
STOPS WITH US**

your children: instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

**THE BIG-PICTURE LESSON  
DADS, YOU MATTER!**

# DADS, YOU MATTER!

“The greatest relational longing that a man has is the need for a ‘heart connection’ with his father.”



Crawford Loritts, *Never Walk Away*, p. 20

# DADS, YOU MATTER!

“As fathers we must understand the truth that, to our families, our presence is more important than anything else—including extra money.”



Crawford Loritts, *Never Walk Away*, p. 22

# DADS, YOU MATTER!

Dad *modeled* several things before me. His *example* convinced me that there are only *three things I do in life that nobody else can do for me.*

First, no one else can walk with God for me. I own that responsibility.

Crawford Loritts, *Never Walk Away*, p. 28



# DADS, YOU MATTER!

Dad modeled several things before me. His example convinced me that there are only *three things I do in life that nobody else can do for me.*

Second, no one else can be the husband of [my wife] for me. I own that responsibility.



# DADS, YOU MATTER!

Dad modeled several things before me.  
His example convinced me that there  
are only *three things I do in life that  
nobody else can do for me.*

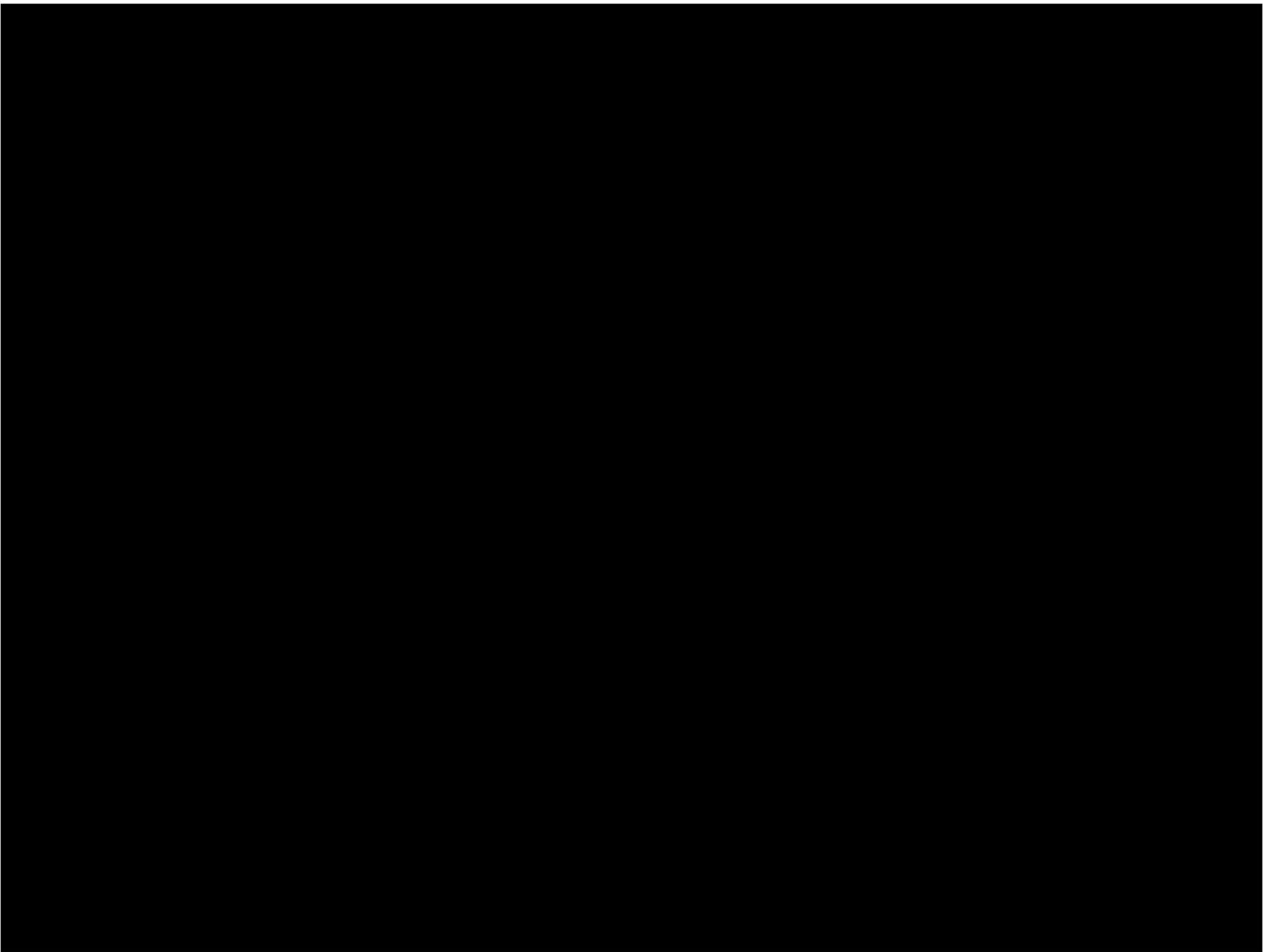
Third, no one can be  
the dad of [my  
children] for me.  
That I own.



# DADS, YOU MATTER!

*Everything else* that I do, somebody else can do. In terms of ministry opportunities and leadership, somebody else can fill my shoes. But I must make sure that I'm not pursuing "blood money" rather than giving my heart to my family.





One of the most reliable predictors of whether a boy will succeed or fail in high school rests on a single question: *does he have a man in his life to look up to?*



Too often, the answer is no. High rates of divorce and single motherhood have created a generation of fatherless boys. In every kind of neighborhood, rich or poor, an increasing number of boys—now a startling *40 percent*—are being raised without their biological dads.



Making the problem even larger is the number of boys growing up with fathers who are physically present but *emotionally distant* and *uninvolved*.



One of the biggest needs in our generation is for men to step into the lives of boys to train them, equip them, and cheer them on to grow up as they begin the process of “manning up.”



Dennis Rainey, *Stepping Up*, p. 58

And I'm not just talking about fathers getting involved with their sons. I'm also talking about a generation of boys who are growing up with *no male figure* in their lives—boys who are desperate for a man to show them how to be a man.

Dennis Rainey, *Stepping Up*, p. 58



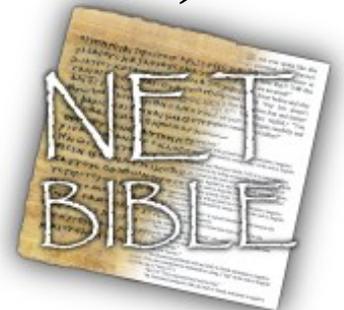
# How do we change that?

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4 (NIV)

# How do we exasperate or provoke our children to anger?

Studies indicate that the factor that causes rage in teenagers more than any other is having to face life without adequate direction from their parents. Instead fathers should provide for the physical and spiritual (non-material) needs of their children.



As odd as it may sound, all of us need daily doses of discipline and denial. We need to have boundaries and realize consequences. Those of us who never experience consequences end up self-destructing. We don't know what "no" means. When significant people in our lives who love us do not take a stand and tell us, "No, you're not going to do that" at critical points in our lives, we end up following the path of a fool.

Crawford Loritts, *Never Walk Away*, p. 58



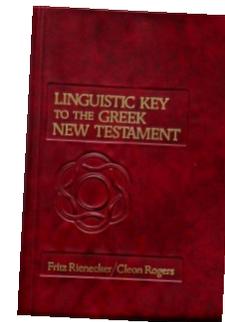
# What is the new habit we're supposed to form ?

NOURISH UP TO MATURITY



your children; instead, bring them up in the training and

TO NURTURE, TO PROVIDE FOR WITH TENDER CARE



# What is the new habit we're supposed to form ?

**“TRAINING/DISCIPLINE” = DIRECTING & CORRECTING YOUR CHILDREN.**



them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

**“INSTRUCTION” = VERBAL CORRECTION**



v)

Today's children need guidance. They need accountability. They need to be taught that there are consequences for their actions (or for their inaction). Otherwise their lives will run amok.

Dr. Kevin Lehman, *Have a New Kid by Friday*, p. 55



**What is the new habit we're supposed to form ?**

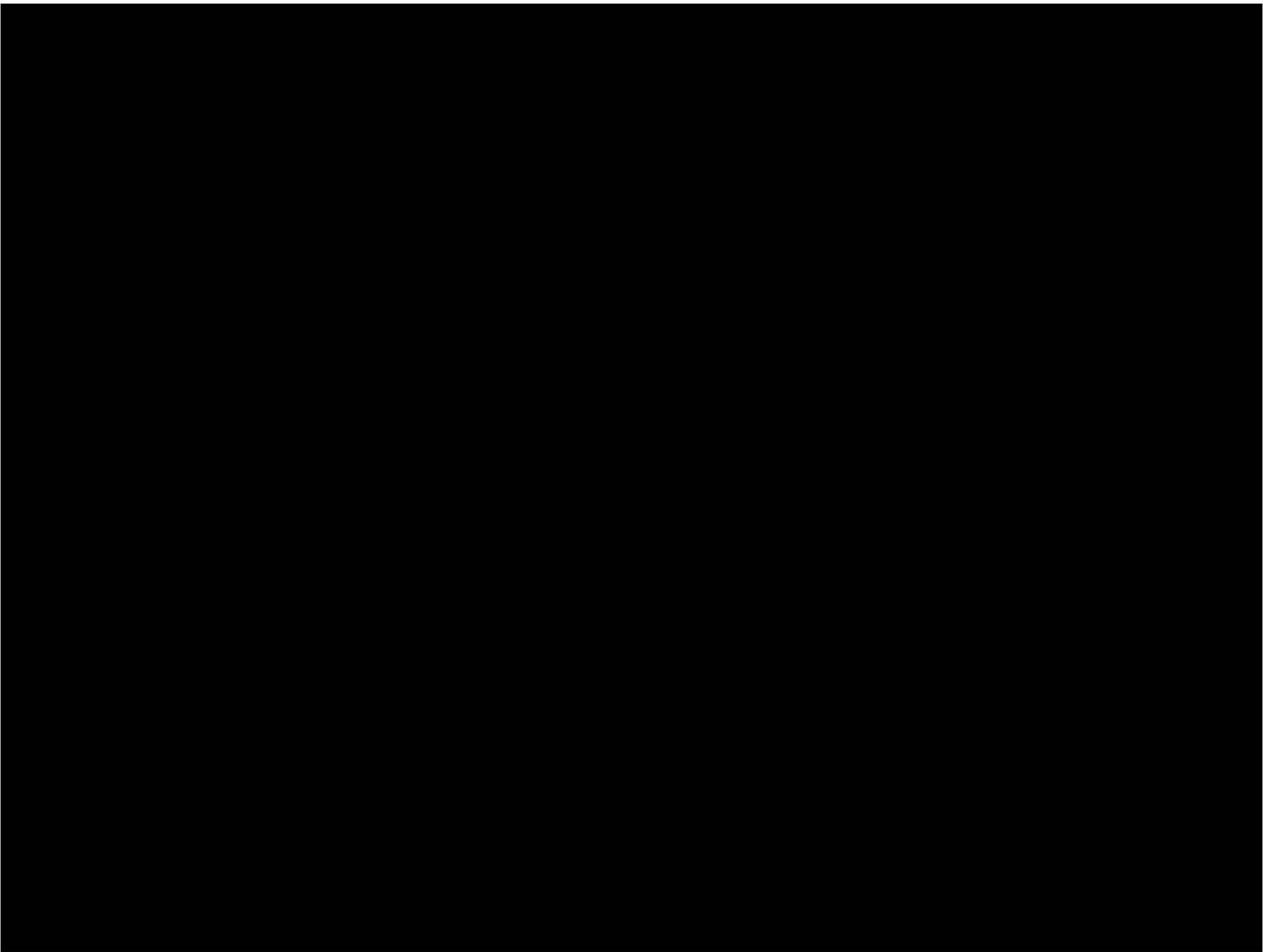
Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4 (NIV)

# What is the new habit we're supposed to form ?

<sup>5</sup> Love the Lord your God with all *your* heart and with all *your* soul and with all *your* strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give *you* today are to be on *your* hearts. [THEN] <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children.

Deuteronomy 6:5 – 7 (NIV)



The Intentional  
Husband

The Intentional  
Father

The Intentional  
Grandfather

The Intentional  
Single Man



FOR MEN



FOR MEN



TOOLS FOR MEN



TOOLS FOR MEN



**Discipline**

*With Young Children*



*LIFE SAVERS*

**Influencing  
Grandchildren**



*LIFE SAVERS*

