

GROWTH RESOURCES

THE CALLING OF THE HUSBAND

Father you play a tremendous role in the:

- Moral development of your child.
- In the sexual identity of your child.
- In the forming of your child's self-image.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY NR #1

THE HUSBAND IS THE LEADER IN THE HOUSE

Definition: He makes things happen.

(1 Cor 4:14) I do not write this to shame you, but to warn and counsel you as my beloved children. (v.15) After all, though you should have ten thousand teachers (guides to direct you) in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the glad tidings (the Gospel). (v.16) So I urge and implore you, be imitators of me. (Luke 6:40) A pupil is not superior to his teacher, but everyone [when he is] completely trained (readjusted, restored, set to rights, and perfected) will be like his teacher.

LEADERS ALWAYS ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

- Where are we now?
- Where are we going?
- What must we do to get there?

WHAT GOAL MUST HUSBANDS HAVE FOR THEIR HOUSHOLD?

- **Your goal for you family is that everyone in your household must become like Christ.** *(Rom 8:28) We are assured and know that [God being a partner in their labour] all things work together and are [fitting into a plan] for good to and for those who love God and are called according to [His] design and purpose. (Rom 8:29) For those whom he foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordained them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.*
- **If you do not have a goal for your children, you are in trouble.** *(Psalm 127:3) Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. (v.4) As arrows are in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. (v.5) Happy, blessed, and fortunate is the man w hose quiver is filled with them! They will not be put to shame when they speak with their adversaries [in gatherings] at the [city's] gates.*

GUIDELINES TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS

Model

- You must be a **man of God's Word**.
- You must be a **man of integrity**.
- You must be a man who is **involved in loving relationships** with your family.

Take initiative

- Throughout the OT it says: "Fathers raise your children in the fear of the Lord" - not mothers.
- As man of the house you must be able to **say where you and your household are headed**. You must have a **clear goal, namely to become Christlike**.
- Know how to **handle your children's unique needs and know how to influence them right**.

Evaluate

- As the Holy Spirit to help you today to **bring the same level of focus, purposefulness, strategic thinking, and absolute commitment** that you take to work each day, to your household and children.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY #2

THE MAN IS THE PRIEST OF THE HOUSE

Definition: He makes God known to his wife and his children. He reveals God to the people in his house and take their needs to the Lord.

- (DEUT 6:1-3) They must know My commandments and know My Word.
 - They must know that God is a God who wants better, deeper and more for His children and
 - His Word is not a set of rules or limitations, but rather a love letter with guidelines how to do life the right way.
- (DEUT 6:4) Correct Theology
 - Make sure you serve the right God and introduce and expose your children to the right God.
 - An accurate view of God comes directly from the Scripture and in no other way.
- (DEUT 6:5) Commitment
 - Your children must grow up saying: "yes my father was a preacher/businessman/builder, but above it all my father, is a man of God.
- (DEUT 6:6) Word Centered
 - You cannot get to know God in His fullness, expect through the Word of God.
- (DEUT 6:8) Impress
 - There must be times where you **teach your children formally**. Perhaps after **dinner** for a few minutes.
- (DEUT 6:8-9) Talk to them
 - When? **Through everyday life**. When you sit in the house, when you drive in the car, when you lie down, when you rise up.
- (DEUT 6:10-11) Practice it
 - You mustn't just teach it, but **you must live it and practice that which you teach in your own life**.
- (DEUT 6:12-13) Warning

PRIESTS ALWAYS ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

- Does my family know God?
- Do they have an accurate view of who God is?
- Do we honour God in our household?
- Are we growing in sanctification?

HOW TO BE THE PRIEST IN YOUR HOME

- **Model true worship. Make it a priority.** Set your clock 5 minutes earlier to spend time with God's Word / Prayer.
- Don't be the kind of man that needs to be kicked out of bed by your wife. **Take definite initiative in attending church services and prayer meetings.**
- **Initiate family worship.**
- **Encourage private worship.** Give your children resources (Bible Study Books, Worship Music) to help them grow.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY #3

THE MAN IS THE TEACHER

Definition: He confers wisdom to the lives of his family and build character

(Eph 6:4) Fathers, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to resentment], but rear them [tenderly] in the training and discipline and the counsel and admonition of the Lord.

TEACHERS ALWAYS ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

- What should my child know, do and be? Which skills must he learn in regards with relationships, finances, decision making, studying of God's Word and then finally his heart, character, motives and relationships?
- How does my child learn the best?
- When and how shall they learn in the different seasons of their lives?

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY #4

THE HUSBAND IS THE LOVER

Definition: He gives his family members what they need most. This is a great sacrifice. It is provision and protection.

LOVERS ALWAYS ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

- How are my children and wife really doing?
- Do they experience my approval and acceptance?
- Do we connect on a deeper level?

HOW TO BE THE LOVER IN THE HOUSE

- It starts by modelling it.
- **There is no replacement for time.** Your children long for your attention and they want you to be there for them.
- **Give unconditional love.** *(Psalm 103: 13) As a father loves and pities his children, so the Lord loves and pities those who fear Him [with reverence, worship, and awe].*
How? **He cares and is approachable.**
 - Three more ways:
 - with **words**
 - with **safe touch**
 - by **creating special and unforgettable moments with your children.**

- **You discipline from love and not from frustration.** *(Heb 12:11) For the time being no discipline brings joy, but seems grievous and painful; but afterwards it yields a peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it [a harvest of fruit which consists in righteousness – in conformity to God’s will in purpose, thought, and action, resulting in right living and right standing with God].*



If you would like to speak to someone about your situation, we would love to help you and pray with you. Please contact the El Shaddai FGC Offices or you can email us at info@taniab.co.za