



# FATHERHOOD 101

An Introductory Guide by BRIDGET ELESIN



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# INTRODUCTION

I truly want to appreciate the men that have given me opportunity to talk to them about fatherhood. Being a woman, most men wonder why I am the one talking about fatherhood, I wonder too! But the truth is that this is God' mandate and purpose that real fatherhood be restored, and He uses anyone that is available to bring His will for mankind to pass. 1

Corinthians 1:27 tells us that God's power is not resident in our wisdom as He uses the foolish things to put to shame the wise.

I see my assignment in the light of Prophetess Deborah in the bible in the book of Judges 4, she led Barak a man to war, because He requested that He will only go to war, if she goes with him. Every day I make myself available to go with men to war with the enemies of their destinies as we fight to restore true fatherhood in our homes in Jesus name, because at the end only God's name will be glorified in this assignment of building men to become better in every way as men, husbands and fathers.

Most times when I see things go wrong in my country and community I ask myself indeed where the fathers are? Where are the men that God has raised to give direction in their homes? Where are the men He has ordained to be priests, coaches, mentors and fathers in the home?

Today, we can see from the happenings in our society that Fatherhood has been rubbished and we cannot stand by and watch another generation grow up without their fathers because of the poor choices made by their parents.



Back in the day a home without a father meant tragedy, either the father went to war and died, he was sick and died or the lady got impregnated and the man left. Whatever the case was it was seen as tragedy not to have a man in the home but today what we see and hear is frightening. The younger generation now has the term “baby mama” to describe women that have kids by men who wouldn’t stay with them to raise their children. Boys that do not know the responsibility of fatherhood are becoming fathers. Men have become so preoccupied with their jobs that they have forgotten their primary assignment of being fathers.

Fatherhood started with God in Genesis 1 where God created (gave birth to) Adam and gave him responsibilities and instructions but as a result of his self-will, Adam refused to be guided by His father (God) and a pattern was set when Cain also went the way of self will and killed his brother.

God later found Abraham. A man that was teachable and obedient. He understood what real fatherhood was from God and as a result he was made the father of many nations. God could boast of Abraham that he would instruct His children to follow after Him and obey Him because Abraham followed and obeyed Him.

## WHO IS A FATHER?

A father is a male parent or individual progenitor of human offspring. Fatherhood is much more than being a sperm donor, it's about responsibility. Fathering a child alone does not make you a father but taking up the role of being a leader in words and in deeds; providing, protecting, coaching and mentoring them using biblical truth is what makes you a father.



Many men today are where and what they are today because they didn't have any male figure in their lives to correct them and be their friend. Nobody was there to initiate them into manhood. From my study, the Jews till date still have a tradition of initiating their sons into full manhood by the age of 13. This rite of passage is taken seriously as the sons are taught from God's word about what real fatherhood entails. So it is very important for men to be taught how to be men and fathers.

# How To Be A Father

How do we remedy this issue of fatherless generations? How do we solve the issue of absentee fathers? What needs to be done to restore fathers back to God's original idea of fatherhood?



1. Fathers need to take the lead in their homes by demonstrating obedience to God.

Abraham's obedience to God earned him the title of father of nations

Genesis 17:1-12. In Genesis 18:17, God said he could not hide what He wants to do from Abraham knowing that Abraham will be a father of Nations that will command to keep God's ways.

When fathers fail to live for God and fail to teach their children how to live for God and obey Him, they turn their children to wicked and vile men, like the sons of Eli.

Jacob one of the patriarch in the bible failed to an extent in his role as a father as he did not teach his children how to be impartial and fair. He showed favoritism and this affected his children in the way they treated their own brother Joseph.



2. Fathers need to make fatherhood a priority,  
How many fathers will take going for their daughter or son's recital over a business dinner at work? Many fathers have chosen career over their children, not because they want to but because they fail to make the main thing the main thing.. Businesses will come and go but your children will always be there as you love them through every stage of their lives.



Fatherhood is a huge responsibility of teaching your children strong values and morals through your daily interactions, affirmations and validations. You teach them that you love them as you meet their needs even when you say no to their request, they know Daddy loves them and wants the best for them. It's time to make fatherhood a priority. You can do it and you should do it.

3. Fathers need to know that they must be the best of themselves to be a great father. Learn to grow as a man in all areas of your life. Take care of yourself by learning from other men, giving yourself a time to unwind and relax plus being accountable to mentors and peers that will help you grow in every way.



Fatherhood becomes easy when you have people you can call on to walk you through difficult phases, it becomes easy when you are good to yourself and reward yourself by resting well, exercising and eating right. It's a man that is good to himself that can be good to others. Live long for your family by ensuring you take care of yourself.





## **Connect With The Author**

I am Bridget Elesin and I am passionate about helping men master fatherhood. I coach men to become better men, husbands and fathers. If you have a fatherhood story to share or you need help with mastering fatherhood. Kindly send me a mail - [bridgetelesin@gmail.com](mailto:bridgetelesin@gmail.com) or follow me on

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