

What Makes A Father

Someone who is more than a sire.

To produce a son takes two things...

1. Covenant (heart to heart, fidelity, more than agreement or contract – impersonal)
2. Intimacy (listening and releasing, understanding)

From a marriage relationship of a husband and wife...

3. One (team, single unity, no singular identity, no longer separate)
4. Leave (emotionally available)
5. Cleave (proven ability to 'connect', partner)

Mark 10:7-12 – (7) For this cause shall a man **leave** his father and mother, and **cleave** to his wife; (8) And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. (9) What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. (10) And in the house his disciples asked him again of the same matter. (11) And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. (12) And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery. (13) And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. (14) But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. (15) Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. (16) And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

In Christ as a new creation... (remember, we are dealing with 'Kingdom' relationships.)

6. They are sons (Rom 8:14 all who are led are sons, Rom 8:29 image of the Son)

1 John 2:12-14 – (12) I am writing¹¹²⁵ to you, little⁵⁰⁴⁰ children⁵⁰⁴⁰, because³⁷⁵⁴ your sins²⁶⁶ have been forgiven⁸⁶³ you for His name's³⁶⁸⁶ sake¹²²³. (13) I am writing¹¹²⁵ to you, fathers³⁹⁶², because³⁷⁵⁴ you know¹⁰⁹⁷ Him who has been from the beginning⁷⁴⁶. I am writing¹¹²⁵ to you, young³⁴⁹⁵ men³⁴⁹⁵, because³⁷⁵⁴ you have overcome³⁵²⁸ the evil⁴¹⁹⁰ one⁴¹⁹⁰. I have written¹¹²⁵ to you, children³⁸¹³, because³⁷⁵⁴ you know¹⁰⁹⁷ the Father³⁹⁶². (14) I have written¹¹²⁵ to you, fathers³⁹⁶², because³⁷⁵⁴ you know¹⁰⁹⁷ Him who has been from the beginning⁷⁴⁶. I have written¹¹²⁵ to you, young³⁴⁹⁵ men³⁴⁹⁵, because³⁷⁵⁴ you are strong²⁴⁷⁸, and the word³⁰⁵⁶ of God²³¹⁶ abides³³⁰⁶ in you, and you have overcome³⁵²⁸ the evil⁴¹⁹⁰ one⁴¹⁹⁰.

So the growth progression is:

- Teknion – infants, darlings, converts (little children)
- Paidion – half grown boy or girl (children)
- Neaniskos – a youth from age 12-40 gr. or age 12-30 heb. (young men)
- Pater – father or parent (father)

There is no step in the developmental process designated SON. We don't grow from child to SON to father. In ALL of the steps we are sons, and the end of the 'growth cycle of a son' produces a true father. Those who have not grown, or have refused to grow, are orphans, fools, bastards or rebels. So, in essence, a father is simply a true son who has brought forth sons of his own.

The defining characteristics of each growth season are:

Infant	your sins have been forgiven you, for His name's sake (because of Him, not you)
Half grown child	you have experienced, understand and can speak of 'father'
Youth/young adult	subdued evil (one), harnessed sin (in own life)
Youth/young adult	divine words-thoughts-reasoning-logic abide in you mind of Christ – childish thinking/reasoning put away abiding – co-habiting, concept of husbandry, living with, one with forcible-mighty-strong-valiant subdued evil (one) harnessed sin (in own life)
Parent/father	you have experienced, understand & can speak of the eternal Ancient of Days (God as Father/Son/Holy Spirit, The One with rule over the angels)
Parent/father	(same as above)

7. They are engravers

Romans 8:29	the engraved image of the Son (the Eternal Word, Mighty God, born as a Child, grew in wisdom and stature, A father to the disciples, the Alpha and Omega)
1 John 2: 12-14	I engrave or chisel on you

How does Abba/Father 'grow' us up in Him?

Through the actions and words of earthly fathers, working in partnership with the Holy Spirit.

How do these earthly fathers partner with H.S. to bring us into maturity as sons?

By chiseling or engraving upon our hearts, one step at a time.

Michael Angelo was asked how he created such magnificent and wonderful sculptures.... "I imagine a man imprisoned inside the marble block. And then stroke by stroke I remove pieces of marble until he has been set free.

It is time for us to become who we were born again to be. True fathers or mature sons who have been fashioned into the likeness of Jesus THE Son.

8. They are governors

Genesis 45:8 - *"Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his household and ruler over all the land of Egypt.*

Genesis 42:6 - *And Joseph was the governor over the land, and he it was that sold to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.*

The mechanism that opens a door or gate, thereby controlling the flow (of resources, power)

9. They are shepherds

2 Samuel 12:1-3 – *(1) And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. (2) The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds: (3) But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.*

Shepherds feed, protect and anoint their sheep. Are you anointing your wife and children?

10. They serve us

John 5:19 - *Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father do: for what things soever he does, these also do the Son likewise.*

John 13:5 - *Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.*