



A FATHER'S LOVE

PRECEPT

Hebrews 12:11

¹¹ For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child. Yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness [right standing with God and a lifestyle and attitude that seeks conformity to God's will and purpose].

PROMISE

Many fathers quietly carry burdens that no one sees, and their sacrifices can become so familiar that we stop noticing them. Let's not take our Fathers—or God—for granted. Gratitude costs us nothing, but it means everything to the one who has sacrificed for us. Listen to our Father; one of the greatest ways to honour a Father is to value his counsel. Even if you don't always agree, listen first. Many fathers are expected to be strong but often carry silent burdens. Pray for them, for they are the leaders of the family, and the enemy is always after us. Silent burdens can be emotions that are hard to express. A father's love points us to God's love. So honour your father, cherish your family, and above all, draw near to your Heavenly Father, whose love has never failed and never will.

DISCIPLINES. Hebrews 12:11 says, "For the time being, no discipline brings joy, but seems sad and painful..." Discipline is hard to receive; it hurts. Correction doesn't mean failure or that they don't love you; it just means that they care. Hebrews 12:6 says, "For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child." Punishment means that God and your father love and see you as his child. Discipline is the hardest form of love to receive, but also the hardest to give. Proverbs 13:24 tells us, "Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them."

PROTECTS. Proverbs 4:1, 6 says, "Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding...Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you." Our father's instructions are wisdom that will protect and watch over us. Proverbs 15:5 tells us, "A fool despises his father's instruction, but he who receives correction is prudent." Be prudent, make wise decisions, and consider all possible consequences.

STEADFAST. Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Steadfast refers to God's unshakable, unfailing, and enduring love — a love that never fails or never gives up. Come to Him just as you are, and He will love you exactly where you are while leading you to where you need to be.

PRACTICE

1. **Fatherhood.** What is a meaningful way we can show our appreciation that aligns with how our fathers best receive love?
2. **Father's love.** What is one practical way you can mirror God's unconditional love to someone in your life who is difficult to love? How can we pray you regarding this?

PRAYER

I. Fathers

- Thank God for their steady love and quiet courage.

II. Ministries

- Pray that God will open doors for meaningful connections.

III. Life Line

- Pray that our online presence fosters sincere connection and community.

IV. Life Sports

- Thank God for the gift of sports and the strength to participate.

V. Life Kids

- Pray for more volunteers and for children to know God's love.

VI. Life Link

- Pray that our ushers will serve our brethren filled with the Holy Spirit.

VII. Life Worship

- May they use their gifts to glorify God and help others grow closer to Him.