

Fatherhood  
-Growth barriers-

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- (1Co 4:15) For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

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- (1Jn 2:12) I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

- (1Jn 2:13) I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father.

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1) Grow through offences

- (Col 3:13) bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

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2) Grow in Accountability/Discipline

- (Heb 12:5) And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.
- (Heb 12:6) For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

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2) Grow in Accountability/Discipline

- (Heb 12:7) It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?
- (Pro 27:6) Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

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3) Grow through suffering

– (1Pe 2:19) For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.

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3) Grow through suffering

– (2Ti 1:8) Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

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3) Grow through suffering

– (2Co 1:3) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

– (2Co 1:4) who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

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### 3) Grow through suffering

- (2Co 1:5) For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.
  
- (2Co 1:6) If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer.

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### On the road to "Fatherhood"

- 1) Grow through offences
- 2) Grow in Accountability/Discipline
- 3) Grow through suffering

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