



Introduction

The problem of fatherlessness...

- Prisons are full of fatherless children
- Apartheid promoted fatherlessness
- Fatherlessness is self-perpetuating

Good fathers reflect and point to the Father.

- Like Paul, you don't have to be a biological father for this to be true of you.
- These things can/should also be true of singles and mothers.

Ephesians 3.14-21 ESV

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen

Outline

Good fathers reflect and point to **the** Father by:

1. Imparting identity to us
2. Prioritizing our inner beings
3. Helping us experience what we have
4. Sending us to represent them
5. Giving more than we know to ask
6. Giving themselves
7. Placing us in families
