

# Summer at Freedom Week 4 Study Guide

## 6-15-25 "5 Roles of a Father"

### Overview

This guide summarizes the key points from the sermon "5 Roles of a Father," emphasizing the biblical roles fathers are called to fulfill, reflecting God the Father's example. These roles are Instruction, Correction, Provision, Protection, and Inspiration.

### 1. Instruction

- **Definition:** Fathers provide biblical instruction beyond practical skills, teaching spiritual disciplines like prayer, reading the Word, and living with integrity.
- **Key Scriptures:**
  - **Ephesians 6:4:** Fathers, train children in the Lord's instruction, not provoking them to anger.
  - **Psalms 32:8:** God promises to instruct and guide.
  - **James 1:5-6:** Ask God for wisdom if you lack it.
- **Application:** Learn from God and spiritual mentors to teach your children how to live godly lives. Lack of knowledge is not an excuse; seek instruction to grow.
- **Discipline:** Discipline is about teaching, not just punishment. It reflects love and aims to educate (Proverbs 3:11-12, Hebrews 12:11, Proverbs 12:1).

### 2. Correction

- **Definition:** Correction adjusts errors, intentional or unintentional, to align with righteousness.
- **Key Points:**
  - Correction is positive, making "crooked things straight."
  - Fathers must model correct behavior to lead effectively.
  - Balance correction with nurture; avoid undermining each other's roles (Colossians 3:21).
- **Application:** Correct lovingly, as you would want God to correct you. Address personal hypocrisy before correcting others.

### 3. Provision

- **Definition:** Fathers provide for their family's needs, reflecting God's provision (Philippians 4:19, James 1:17, Deuteronomy 8:18).
- **Key Points:**
  - Provision includes time, resources, and love, not just money.
  - Provide sacrificially, like God gave Jesus (John 3:16), without expecting reciprocity.
  - Failing to provide denies faith (1 Timothy 5:8).

- **Application:** Check for selfishness, poor stewardship, or lack of trust in God as barriers to provision. Seek godly counsel.

## 4. Protection

- **Definition:** Fathers act as a spiritual covering, protecting their family from harm and equipping them to face spiritual battles.
- **Key Scriptures:**
  - **Isaiah 54:17, Psalm 46:1, Isaiah 41:10, Deuteronomy 31:6:** God is our refuge and strength.
  - **Psalm 91:1-2:** God is a shelter and covering.
- **Application:** Foster a safe home through teaching God's Word, modeling faith, and providing loving discipline. Equip children to fight spiritual battles.

## 5. Inspiration

- **Definition:** Fathers inspire their families by speaking life and encouragement, reflecting God's belief in us.
- **Key Scriptures:**
  - **Psalm 139:17, 1 Peter 2:9, Ephesians 2:10, Matthew 10:29-31:** God values and calls out greatness in us.
  - **Proverbs 16:24:** Gracious words bring healing.
- **Application:** Speak positive, encouraging words to spark dreams and passions in your family, mirroring God's inspiration.

## Reflection Questions

1. Which role do you find most challenging, and why?
2. How can you rely on God's instruction and wisdom to grow as a father?
3. Are there areas (e.g., selfishness, hypocrisy) hindering your ability to fulfill these roles?
4. How can you create a safe, faith-filled environment for your family?

## Prayer Focus

- Ask God to help you embrace Him as Father to fulfill these roles.
- Repent for areas of failure and commit to growth in sonship and fatherhood.
- Seek the Holy Spirit's guidance to overcome past experiences or an "orphan spirit."

## Action Steps

- Study the referenced scriptures daily.
- Seek mentorship from godly men in your church.
- Practice speaking life and encouragement to your family this week.