

Sound Bytes

From two of Dr. Ken Canfield's books.

I have 5 children. If each of my kids has 3 children, and each of those grandchildren has 3 children, my fathering choices will likely influence at least 65 people. Add two more generations, and the number grows to 605 people – and that doesn't count the people outside my immediate family that my descendants will impact. – [They Call Me Dad](#)

When we stay in close contact with our children and make daily efforts to be aware of what's going on in their lives, we're reminding them over and over again just how important they are to us and how much we love them. – [They Call Me Dad](#)

Most dads want to be good models. We want our children to aspire to be like us in many ways, including our spiritual commitment. It's a natural desire, but it often leads us to put on false fronts of strength or even perfection. If you want to become a dad of destiny who helps his kids learn to outthink the world, you'll want to be transparent about your own walk with God, meet their spiritual needs and give them special instruction. – [They Call Me Dad](#)

Modeling is where our true influence as dads of destiny shows up, because godliness is caught more than it is taught. The challenge to be a positive role model for our kids is one we will face every day of our earthly existence. Our children, like private eyes are watching our every move. – [They Call Me Dad](#)

Though they may not admit it, your children want to connect with you. They need you to encourage them in their goals and pursuits and validate them as beloved children. But don't expect perfection. They will fail sometimes, even in their relationships. When they do, show them grace and find common ground. – [They Call Me Dad](#)

Fathering is not a sprint; it's a marathon. – [The Heart of a Father](#)

...Awareness – the extent to which a father knows his children and their world. The aware father knows his children's characteristics, growth needs, and daily experiences. He knows what events are happening in their lives, but he is also aware of how his children will think and feel, and how they'll react to those events. – [The Heart of a Father](#)

We too often think of involvement with our children as a one-way street – it allows a father to get to know his children better. But, we have to remember, the opposite is also equally true and important: It allows children to know their father – his values, what makes him laugh, how he drums his fingers at a traffic light. – [The Heart of a Father](#)

As fathers, many of us need to reach a point of resolution in our feelings toward our fathers. – [The Heart of a Father](#)

Now is the time to decide: "It will be a challenge, but I'm going to place fathering among the very highest priorities in my life." – [The Heart of a Father](#)

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