



Father – Heart turning

“He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.” – Malachi 4:6. The state of family today suggests that hearts of fathers are turned to a lot of stuff in this world other than to their children. The Father shares the moniker “father” with dads granting inherent power to turn from stuff and set right priorities in the home. Do your priorities reflect a heart turned to your children?

Dad - Underline a rating on the priorities your dad exemplified day to day:

Provision for family;	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
His personal hobbies & interests;	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
Relationship with Mom in marriage;	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
Praying together as family; and	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
Discussing the word of God as absolute truth.	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>

Student - Circle a rating on the level of respect your dad exemplifies today for each category.

(Dad - encourage honesty and listen well to the ratings. Accept affirmation and steer clear of being defensive.)

Dad - Give a specific example on where you rated your dad *high*, and another where the rating is *low* or *so-so*.

Student - Do the same.

Discussion time:

Dad - discuss your dad's priorities in life and how they impacted you

Family - share a perspective on your dad's priorities

Dad - talk of a life situation that dictated priorities through a period of time

Family - share priorities that dominate your schedule today

Dad - tell of a relationship that caused you to revisit priorities in life

Family - discuss relationships you prioritize

A personal, passionate and growing relationship with the Father through His Son is foundational for heart-turning. Discuss how you each can prioritize that relationship to a new level by reading scripture & praying together, and/or discussing Sunday's church service.

Let the heart-turning begin!

We commit to: _____

Prayer guide: Lord, thank You for the many gifts and blessings in my life. I praise You for the family You have blessed me with. I know my children are much more likely to catch what I have got than to do what I say so guide me in my efforts to be the husband and father they need to see every day. Strengthen my personal, passionate relationship with You. Help me prioritize physical presence, engage emotionally and lead spiritually by example, to reflect the selfless, sacrificial example You lived to turn hearts to Your Father. Amen.