

TALK IT OVER

Roots and Wings

BOTTOM LINE

Becoming a dad is a single event; being a dad is a continuous journey!

CONVERSATION STARTER

If you could hang out with any dad in a movie, TV show, or book, which dad would it be and why?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [Dad Jokes](#): 3.5 minutes of dad-joke fun

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6 ESV

Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died. ... Every day he walked back and forth near the courtyard of the harem to find out how Esther was and what was happening to her. Esther 2:7, 11 NIV

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this? Esther 4:14 NIV

"We can't change our past, but we can affect our future."
"Character is caught, not taught." – Quotes by Dave VanDonge

TALK IT OVER

Why do you think there are so few examples of good dads in the Bible? Can you think of any others besides Mordecai? We don't become a good dad the day we conceive a child; we become a good dad through daily choice. Discuss. What are some of those choices? One of the most important is "showing up" every day and being present for your child. What does that look like? How does a parent intentionally transplant character? What are some of the most valuable character elements you appreciate that have been given to you? Knowing character is caught rather than taught, what values do you think/pray you are transmitting to those who learn from you? We don't have control over the strengths, talents, and abilities our kids have. Our job is to help them grow in their strengths. What makes this fact so challenging? How can we "empower our kids to grow wings" when their values seem to be running crossways to ours? How might a parent pray for children who are not Christ followers? What elements would you put into your daily prayer for your children? Do you have a request for a child that you would like to share with your group?

ACTION STEP

I will pray for myself and the fathers in my life to step up to the challenge to lead our children well. I will pray for the people for whom I am responsible, with them and for them. We will grow together by ...