

What are fathers supposed to be?

Fathers are meant to live in such a way that their children come to understand who God is. The essence of being a father is found in God and His relationship to human beings. A father should be the head of his family. That does not mean that he is the dictator in his family circle. The biblical idea of fatherhood is care and responsibility. A father who truly reflects God's nature to his family takes up responsibility for his children's welfare at every level. His mission is to see to it that his children are protected, nurtured, and trained. He is to invest and sacrifice himself in doing well for his children. This is how a father reflects the nature of God for and toward his children.

God has invested Himself in doing well to the human beings whom He created. He has provided a beautiful environment for us to live in. He gave us bodies which are capable of enjoying a sunset and a good steak. When humans rebelled and decided to abuse themselves and their environment, God did not turn from them and let them go their own way to ruin. The rain still falls. The crops still grow. God still does good even to those who rebel most violently against Him.

God invested Himself and all that He is for our benefit. He devoted all of His resources to provide a way that rebellious human beings could become His true children once again. He sacrificed the Christ as the payment for sin. As a good Father, He continues to call rebels back. Those who continue to go their own way will finally be separated from God and all of the good things which He supplies. Those who give their allegiance and obedience to Him will live with their good Father and share in everything He has for all eternity.

You can pray for God's strength, so that you can be the father God calls you to be.