

BISHOP'S FATHERS' SUNDAY MESSAGE

Beloved in the Lord,

It is another opportunity to appreciate the grace of God as we celebrate the special gift of fatherhood. We congratulate all our men and appreciate your contributions to our life and ministry as a Diocese.

A Christian father is first a Christian husband; one who loves and respects his wife and family drawing his strength only from his relationship with God, a living example to his children who makes it easy for them to know and understand God.

As a Christian father, the Bible says, you must also be a good protector and provider for your family, loving them just as Christ loves the church, ready to give your life for them (Eph. 5:25; 1Tim. 5:8). The implication of our theme this year is that a major part of the fulfillment of our godly responsibilities as men and fathers, depends on how responsible we are to the physical, mental, social, and spiritual provision, protection, and position of our families. Our resolve to lead our homes along the Christian path is the only way to assert our godly authority as the heads of our homes and families.

Therefore on this fathers Sunday we charge you as Christian men: To love your wives and families as Christ loves His Church no matter what any family member does. Lead your homes and families even as Christ leads the Church, putting their needs before every other considerations according to the word of God. Remember, as Christian fathers, we must not bring ungodly and fraudulent gains and riches into our homes for they destroy the future and well-being of our families.

Be accessible so that our families can turn to us for support in all areas of their need, knowing that in God's intended way of life for us, giving is our best way to receive. Be content with what you have, focus on godliness and train your children to value the same.

Finally, whenever the Holy Spirit challenges you about your relationship with your wife and children, and your responsibilities in the home, decide swiftly and act on what He has shown you. We must be ready at all times to give up any thing that may jeopardize the godly disposition of our homes and families.

"A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society." One who lives for, and showcases, Christ to his family.

Once again we congratulate all our families as we celebrate and pray for continued godly disposition of all our fathers.

And to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before His throne; to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be all honor, glory and dominion now till the end of the age. Amen.

Your Father, Brother, and Bishop,

† Nath, Aba Ngwa North.
June 2022