Fathers Day - Ephesians 6:4

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Today is Father’s Day. While not as popular as mothers day it is still here. Our job as fathers is a rough one. Men are fixers, something breaks we will fix it or try, when someone gets hurt we will try and fix that as well. Lawn needs mowed we will fix it, Car needs repaired we will fix it. That is why it is so frustrating at times being a father because we cannot fix everything and we know it. Father’s day is a celebration to those who fix things.

As for Children, Fathers let us face it, they are frustrating! They do things that we know will turn out bad and we cannot stop it, they are miniature us’ at times and we really do not like that. They are stubborn, ignorant and are un-tolerable, but we love them anyway. Sometimes we feel that they are the best and worst things to every happen to us, but we raise them to the best of our abilities. We try to impart some of our wisdom on them so hopefully they do not make the same mistakes we did.

This is where this passage of scripture kicks in. The word in the Greek used for provoke is “parorgizō” which means to exasperate or frustrate. We can sometimes as fathers come down hard and harsh on our children. Dave talks about how his children called him a dictator. I was referred to as Der Fuhrer once or twice, but it was out of love that we disciplined like we did. We had rules for the very reasons I mentioned above. We did not have to be put in a situation where we would have to fix something we could not.

The Lord, I am sure, feels like that all the time watching us. There is a reason we are called sheep, because sheep are stupid animals. They will get themselves into trouble without the shepherd being watchful over them. Our Heavenly Father never provokes us to anger, yes sometimes His decisions for our life frustrate us and may lead us to get angry but that is not His intention. His intentions are to form us into His children and have us behave like Christ.

This week remember our fathers, remember the sacrifices they made for us to be here. If they are alive give them a thank you, and let them fire up the grill, because that is something they can fix and semi-enjoy it. Also remember our Heavenly Father in everything you do. Although you may not like the path He leads you sometimes remember it is what is the best for you.

Thank You, and God Bless