

# ROLES OF A FATHER

## SAFETY

- Protection (strength, sacrifice, confrontation, courage)
- Provision (endurance, work, selflessness)
- Play (peace, joy, lightheartedness, childlikeness)

## INTIMACY

- Attention (present, listening, deeply knowing)
- Acceptance (validating, forgiving, emotionally mature)
- Affirmation (encouragement, support, speaking identity)

## LEADERSHIP

- Managing (deciding, directing, instructing, counseling)
- Molding (challenging, correcting, disciplining)
- Modeling (genuine, integrous, a living role model & example, proven over time)

# EVIL FATHERING

## INSTEAD OF SAFETY, DANGER

- Opposite of protection: puts you in emotional & physical harm
- Opposite of provision: steals from you
- Opposite of play: makes your life miserable & works you to the ground

## INSTEAD OF INTIMACY, PUSHED AWAY

- Opposite of attention: intentionally ignored and told to go away
- Opposite of acceptance: shamed and humiliated
- Opposite of affirmation: condescended

## INSTEAD OF LEADERSHIP, MANIPULATION

- Opposite of managing: led astray, deceived, taught left was right and right was wrong
- Opposite of molding: consistently & harshly punished regardless of behavior and for no reason
- Opposite of modeling: exposed to evil and trauma as normal

# SELF-RELIANT FATHERING

## SELF-RELIANT SAFETY

- Self-reliant protection: helicopter-parenting, over-sheltering, making you feel controlled and not trusted
- Self-reliant provision: thinking every problem can be solved with more money, trying to buy your love with gifts and vacations or buy your success with private schooling or lessons
- Self-reliant play: using humor as a crutch / escape, not taking you or hard situations seriously

## SELF-RELIANT INTIMACY

- Self-reliant attention: asking you questions so much you feel you're being interviewed, doesn't have a life and instead lives vicariously through you
- Self-reliant acceptance: almost as if you can do no wrong, like you are the one calling the shots, and thus missing out on character development
- Self-reliant affirmation: words begin to feel empty because they are said so flippantly and generically and without corresponding actions

## SELF-RELIANT LEADERSHIP

- Self-reliant managing: makes decisions like a dictator, always has to be right, always trying to "teach you a lesson"
- Self-reliant molding: thinks a harsher punishment will result in you being more obedient, anytime you're learning or doing something he has to present the other side of the coin instead of celebrating / encouraging you
- Self-reliant modeling: puts intense pressure on his own perfection, to the point where he is unable to receive constructive criticism and inclined to hide his own flaws rather than admit mistakes and ask for forgiveness

# ABSENT FATHERING

## ABSENT SAFETY

- Absent protection: whenever hurt or threatened or scared or negatively impacted by a person or circumstance, your dad wasn't there standing up for you or fighting back those threats
- Absent provision: you were scared to ask for things, shamed for eating when you were hungry, or for breaking something or losing something or needing something
- Absent play: you were expected to be quiet and sit still and stop asking questions, told to 'act your age' even though what he meant was to act older than your age

## **ABSENT INTIMACY**

- Absent attention: dad was too busy or not interested enough to get to know you or spend time with you doing the things you like
- Absent acceptance: no matter what you did, you weren't enough or didn't fully belong. Maybe your dad was embarrassed by you in certain settings
- Absent affirmation: no matter what you did, it could have been better. You weren't celebrated, and if you were, it was for doing something your dad wanted you to do, not for who you are

## **ABSENT LEADERSHIP**

- Absent managing: when faced with life circumstances or decisions, your dad wasn't there to help you navigate it and you had to figure it out on your own
- Absent molding: your dad didn't teach you what he knew or train you how to live. If he ever disagreed with your behavior or tone, he still wouldn't do anything about it
- Absent modeling: your dad was a "do as I say, not as I do" guy. He didn't take responsibility for his actions

# **OUR HEAVENLY FATHER**

## **HEAVENLY SAFETY**

- Heavenly protection: Luke 10:19, 2 Samuel 22:3-4, Proverbs 18:10
- Heavenly provision: Luke 12:22-32, Philippians 4:19, Matthew 6:31-32
- Heavenly play: 1 Timothy 4:4, Psalm 16:11, Matthew 18:1-3

## **HEAVENLY INTIMACY**

- Heavenly attention: Zephaniah 3:17, Psalm 139, Hebrews 4:13, Isaiah 9:6
- Heavenly acceptance: Romans 8:1, Romans 15:13, Hebrews 4:16
- Heavenly affirmation: Psalm 149:4, Psalm 147:11, Genesis 1:26-31, Jeremiah 29:11

## **HEAVENLY LEADERSHIP**

- Heavenly managing: Psalm 121:1-2, John 16:12-13
- Heavenly molding: Hebrews 12, 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Heavenly modeling: Hebrews 4:15, 1 Peter 2:21