

Sequim Community Church
"The Father's Heart"
1 Thessalonians 2:10-13
Rev. Rick Dietzman, June 21 2026

God our Father initiates with us and shows us what to do. He is present, involved, loving, and personal.

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! 1 John 3:1 (NLT)

It starts with character and caring

We were devout and honest and faultless toward all of you.
1 Thessalonians 2:10 (NLT)

We treated each of you as a father treats his own children.
1 Thessalonians 2:11 (NLT)

What all kids need and want from dad:

- I want you to tell me I'm pretty / valuable.
- I want you to take time to play with me.
- I want you to encourage and listen to me.
- I want you to share with me who you really are.

What most adults need and want from dad:

- I want you to be involved in our life and family.
- I want you to ask me questions then listen to me.
- I want you to call me regularly and share what is going on in your life.
- I want my children to get to know you. Please spend time with them.

DADS CALL: Pleading (coming along side and calling to)

What are we to initiate? 1 Thessalonians 2:12-13

- That we are called to share in God's Kingdom and glory
 - That we are to live our lives in a worthy manner
 - That these are not merely human ideas, but the word of God
- The Apostle Paul said:

I became your father in Christ Jesus when I preached the Good News to you. So I urge you to imitate me. 1 Cor. 4:15-16 (NLT)

DADS COMFORT: Encouraging (coming along side with soothing speech)

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord. Ephesians 6:4 (NLT)

The goal is not to control our children but to cultivate them

Recommended Reading: Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child by Dr. John Gottman

DADS CHARGE: Urging (testifying, convicting, impressing)

You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Deut. 6:5-7 (NLT)

We teach through providentially provided moments of life

CONCLUSION

You accepted what we said as the very word of God—which, of course, it is. And this word continues to work in you who believe.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NLT)

6. What does verse 12 tell us about how we might serve and minister to our own children or other close relatives we care about?

7. What traits or gifts do you think a person needs to teach God's Word to others?

8. Verse 13 says that when we receive God's word, it works in us who believe. How has God's word worked its way into your own life?

Application

How do you balance truth and love in your relationships with others?

Think of a person in your life and write down a specific thing you can do for them in the following areas.

Calling:

Comforting:

Charging:

Get discussion questions in word format & link to Bible App plan for this week at www.sequimcommunitychurch.org/downloads