

Every dad knows the feeling—walking through the door after a long day, worn out and ready to collapse. You've given everything at work, and now all you want is a break. But leadership doesn't clock out when you get home.

The most meaningful work often begins after the workday ends. Fatherhood is about presence, not perfection. Every time you choose to stay engaged—listen, laugh, or pray—you remind your children what love looks like in action.

### When You Walk Through the Door...

- **Pause. Pray. Prepare.** Shift your mind from “employee” to “father.”
- **Choose Presence Over Perfection.** You don't have to do everything right—just show up.
- **Create a Rhythm.** Consistent small habits—mealtime talks, bedtime prayers, hugs—build stability.

*“Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” – Deuteronomy 6:6–7*

### Presence Over Perfection

You may not live under the same roof as your child, but your presence still matters. Your voice, your consistency, and your integrity shape who they become. You can't always control circumstances, but you can control how you show up.

### How Heroes Lead at Home

#### When the “Ghost” Temptation says...

- “I'm too tired to talk tonight.”
- “They won't notice if I skip.”
- “It's not my weekend.”

#### Choose the “Hero's” Response...

- “Five minutes of listening can change everything.”
- “Small presence builds big trust.”
- “Parenting doesn't stop at schedules.”

### For Dads Who Don't Live at Home

Even if you're not living with your child, you're still called to lead. Your faithfulness and integrity are noticed and remembered. Every time you show up—whether it's a call, a visit, or just being there when you say you will—you're building trust. Those moments add up.

Be intentional with your time. Don't wait for perfect circumstances. Show up, listen, and let your child know they matter. Consistency speaks louder than words, and it's what your child will remember most.

### 3 Ways to Stay Connected

Continue to show up after work—even if you're not living with your children or married to their mother.

- **Fight for Presence, Not Perfection.** Make the call, send the text, show up when you can.
- **Initiate Contact.** Don't wait for permission—step in with consistency.
- **Respect their Mother.** Honor her role and show integrity, even when it's hard. Respect builds trust, and trust opens doors.

### Challenge For the Week

Identify your "clock-out" moment—that time of day when you're tempted to mentally check out. Then do one thing to stay present:

- Put your phone in another room
- Initiate a conversation with your child
- Offer to pray with them before bed
- Sit and watch their favorite show—even if it makes no sense

Small presence builds lasting impact.