

# Good Spiritual Father vs “Fleshly Father”<sup>1</sup>

## GOOD SPIRITUAL FATHER

Takes his childhood wounds to Jesus for healing  
Takes his fleshly reactions to the cross  
Forgives others, God and himself  
Takes responsibility for sins he sown  
Honors and respects his authorities  
Is flexible and led of the Holy Spirit  
Believes the best, believes in you  
Confesses the sins of his fathers  
Touch, time, gifts, help, on your side  
Hears God, is in agreement with Mom  
Appreciates/respects the opposite sex  
Encourages you for your own good  
Finds time to be available to you  
Will bless you when you are led to leave  
Prays for you without ceasing  
Willingly imparts spiritual gifts and wisdom  
Sees potential gifts, talents & callings in you  
Trusts you to step out (with room to fail)  
Isn't afraid to discipline or correct you  
Has a heart to restore the brokenhearted  
Will pay a debt they do not owe  
Will fellowship with other fathers  
Moves toward the current move of God  
Is not threatened by your other relationships  
Teaches you dependence on God also  
Teaches you Truth from God's Word  
Has the heart of a true worshipper of God  
Is happy when you succeed more than he  
Has the 'team' concept of service  
Makes you feel comfortable / protected  
Helps, wanting nothing in return  
Willing to admit his weaknesses

## "FLESHLY FATHER"

Takes his hurts out of the nearest person  
Automatic reactions w/o leading of the Spirit  
Holds resentment, judgments, bitterness  
Blames others for what he is reaping  
Undermines his own authority with dishonor  
Under fleshly inner vows in his own strength  
Has bitter expectations that you will fail again  
Repeats the sins of his fathers and more  
Loves you the way he wants to receive love  
Controls, dominates, competes, pouts  
Undermines feminine contributions  
Flatters you and manipulates for his agenda  
Is too busy to spend quality time  
Will cut you off if you are led to move on  
Will pray if you ask him  
Doesn't want to lose (spiritual) advantage  
Only sees you as you are now  
Will not release you for fear of your failure  
Will either avoid correction or will over react  
Withdraws from high maintenance children  
Will hold your debts over your head  
Will hide from accountability to his peers  
Weds you to his beliefs, past moves  
Tries to control who you hear and who you serve  
Keeps you dependent on him  
Teaches you his doctrinal bias  
"Attends" or sends you to a worship service  
Is threatened when you succeed more than he  
Has a 'golfer caddy' idea of your service  
Threatens to expose you or attack you  
Expects something for helping you  
Will not admit weakness or mistakes

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<sup>1</sup> The following chart of GOOD SPIRITUAL FATHER vs “FLESHLY FATHER” came from this website:  
[www.cwline.com/what-is-a-good-father.htm](http://www.cwline.com/what-is-a-good-father.htm) Copyright 2000 Carlotta Waldmann Cross Walk Life, Inc.

Is interested in what you are doing  
Is relationship oriented and sensitive  
Communicates well and listens well  
Hears God and leads by the Holy Spirit

Only what he is doing / his vision  
Is task oriented  
Feels bothered and put upon by you  
Influences or controls for his own agenda

