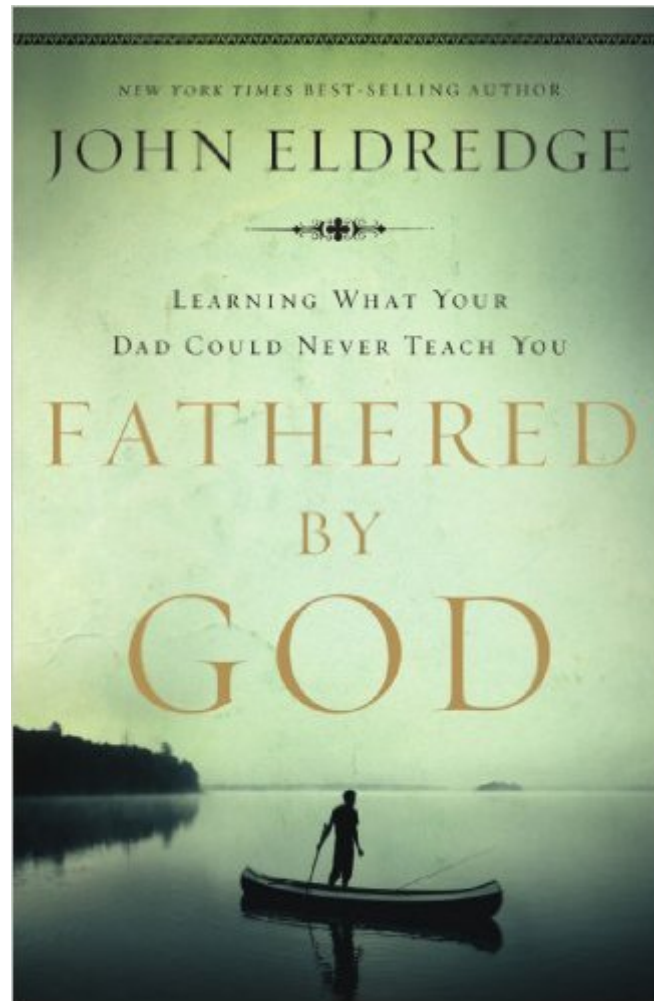


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Fathered By God: Learning What Your Dad Could Never Teach You



Synopsis

There is a path leading to authentic manhood, cut by men who have gone before us, sons following in the footsteps of their fathers, generation after generation. There are perils along the trail, even disasters?all the more reason to rely on the guidance of a Father who has gone before. But in an age when true fathers are in short supply, how do you find the path to manhood? How do you steer clear of the dangers? John Eldredge calls men back to a simple and reassuring truth: God is our Father. In life's trials and triumphs, God is initiating boys and men through the stages of manhood from Beloved Son to Cowboy to Warrior to Lover to King to Sage. *Fathered by God* maps out the path of manhood?not more rules, not another list of principles, not formulas, but a sure path men have followed for centuries before us. Find that path and become the man God sees in you.

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Customer Reviews

...if not for the fact that it's essentially *The Way of the Wild Heart* in paperback, with a few chapters removed from this version. It sure would have been great to know that before I ordered it. So I'm publishing this review, as a service to my fellow .com customers. If you've read *The Way of the Wild Heart*, then you've pretty much read this one, too...

Fathered by God is indeed a re-release of part of *The Way of the Wild Heart*. *The Way of the Wild Heart* was like two books (a book on being parented by God and then how, in turn, to be a parent to children). Because of the volume of material and confusion with the title *Wild at Heart*, another of

John E's books, it has been split. Fathered by God is a product of that split--a book solely on being parented by God. The author's website is clear about this, but makes no mention and the publishers failed to put any information on the book. So yes, the book is not meant for those who have already read *The Way of the Wild Heart*, but is a focused version to help the book be more palatable to new readers.

This book is simply a re-release of *The Way of the Wild Heart: A Map for the Masculine Journey*. When I received it and was anticipating something new, that is a bit of a let down. I wish I had read the reviews first. ;) From the website: "In 2006 John released *The Way of the Wild Heart*--a deep and full book with guidance for men and for those raising boys. The title proved to be confusing; many people mistook it for *Wild at Heart* and missed out on it's contents. *Fathered by God* is a slimmer version of *The Way of the Wild Heart* and our hope is that the nine out of ten men who loved *Wild at Heart* but missed out on this message will discover it now, and discover in it all that they need to carry on the journey." What this means is, if you have never read "*Way of the Wild Heart*" and aren't raising young men of your own, then this book is great, and you should definitely buy it. But for those who, either read "*Way of the Wild Heart*" already or are raising their own men, get "*Way of the Wild Heart*" instead. As for the text itself, it is exciting and absorbing. Reading it, one continuously gets that feeling of "Yes, that's what I wanted to say but I didn't know the words." It is encouraging and comforting. But it is also challenging, the message challenges you to stand up, grow up, and be a Man.

I have not read Eldredge's book "*Way of the Wild Heart*" so the material in this book was all pretty new to me. I am a pretty big fan of Eldredge's work especially his book "*Wild At Heart*." "*Wild At Heart*" has influenced my life more than any non-religious book I have ever read and I feel Eldredge has continued to masterfully pass his wisdom and insight in this book. Like he did in "*Wild At Heart*," this book just really speaks to a man's soul and helps him understand the path of manhood as God designed it. There are so many "uninitiated men" (as Eldredge refers to them in this book) in our society because they have not been fathered and taught how to actually be men. This book really helps to give the reader insight into the areas where men in our society miss out on being initiated into true manhood. Not only does the book point out where we may have been wronged by our earthly fathers, but it gives the reader direction on where he needs to head in our journey towards God ordained manhood. I would highly recommend this book to every man.

John Eldredge made clear in a previous work, "Wild at Heart," that he sees a crisis in the Christian church caused by the absence of men in many congregations. His main argument in support of the need for men to return is to show them that they are not obliged to check their manhood at the church door. Indeed, Christ himself is shown to be far from the meek, submissive soul that his mistaken followers and secret antagonists make Him out to be. Eldredge carries forward that perspective by making the case in "Fathered by God" for God's shaping men in full accord with their created nature. That is, God really wants men to be men who lead but do not oppress, who fight but do not pillage, who advise but do not hector. Alternating references to Scripture with common-sense observations (many rooted in the Bible, particularly Proverbs), the author of this heartfelt work means to show men that they need not war with their own nature to serve God but to let the Holy Spirit show them how to make that nature serves God's beneficent purposes. Those belonging to churches where men are active and participating may wonder why Elder's work is necessary, but the undeniable fact of female dominated congregations in many instances--not to mention the crisis of male behavior in many of those churches to which they belong (alcoholism, drug addiction, spousal and child abuse, philandering and adultery, divorce and violent crime), should be proof enough. Highly recommended for Christian men, but all others too.

I bought this for my 7 year old grandson whose father is not in his life nor any other male role model to help him learn what it means to be a man of God. I was intrigued by the title. I had a little boy who needed a dad - maybe this could provide insight into how to help him plug into The Father and be nurtured. I had read the book written by the author's wife, "Captivating" a number of years ago and it was helpful in my own life. I was hoping that this book by her husband could help my grandson. Curious, I started reading it. Couldn't hurt, right? I was floored. The book is excellent! And not for men only!! It speaks to the heart that is fatherless, whether real or perceived, and points out the path leading to manhood (or wholeness in my case) and helps us follow it. I can't wait to finish it but at the same time, I read it in small bits to savor its goodness. I have found that God has used it to help me cry "Abba - Daddy!"

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