

# Character Counts: Building a Life That Pleases God

A Vote in Favor of Fatherhood

SELECTED SCRIPTURES



## The Heart of the Matter

Fathers get a bad rap these days. Some weren't there enough. Some didn't provide enough. Others weren't strong enough. The list seems to go on and on. But when we come to Proverbs, we find a markedly different picture. Fathers are mentioned at least 26 times in this famous book of wisdom, and interestingly, each time it's a positive reference. Solomon doesn't berate dads and their failures but looks for opportunities to laud their significance in who they are and how they relate to us. In times like these, we need a vote in favor of fatherhood.



## Discovering the Way

### 1. Appreciating Our Fathers

Today's culture encourages finding fault with our fathers. Proverbs presents a very different picture.

### 2. A Father's Role (Proverbs 4:1–5; 19:14; 22:28)

Every father has three distinctive roles to maintain: provider, maintainer, and instructor.

### 3. A Father's Relationships (Proverbs 5:15–19; 15:20)

Fathers have the opportunity for vibrant relationships in their home—with their wives and with their children.

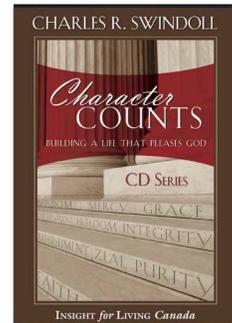


## Starting Your Journey

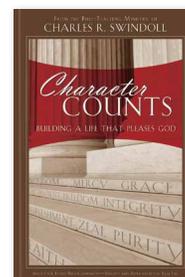
As you seek to pursue godly character in being a father, *embrace your role* and *encourage your relationships*.



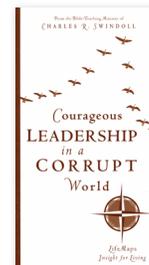
## Tools for Digging Deeper



Character Counts: Building a Life That Pleases God  
by Charles R. Swindoll  
CD series



Character Counts: Building a Life That Pleases God  
Bible Companion  
softcover book



Courageous Leadership in a Corrupt World  
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