

The Father Quiz

Circle the number that best describes your father *during your childhood*. The higher the number (5) the more you feel this word describes your father, the lower the number the less (1). In the case that neither word truly describes your father, you can choose N/A. Only circle one number for each line (1-10). Give your first response, do not second-guess yourself.

1.	A	Judgmental	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Kind	B
2.	C	Critical	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Harsh	A
3.	A	Authoritative	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Disengaged	D
4.	E	Absent	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Angry	A
5.	B	Compassionate	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Negative	C
6.	B	Loving	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Distant	D
7.	B	Engaged	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Missing	E
8.	C	Belittling	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Far-off	D
9.	C	Cynical	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Removed	E
10.	D	Distracted	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	Away	E

Fill in the chart below with the number you circled above. So for example in line 1, if you circled the #3 on the side towards kind, you would put a number "3" in column "B". If you chose "N/A" you can put a zero (0) in the box below. If you fill this out correctly, each row below (1-10) should have one number in it. After you are done, total the numbers at the bottom.

	A	B	C	D	E
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
Total					

Take your total numbers from the chart above and fill them in the score card below.

	Represents	Score
A	Authoritarian	
B	Benevolent	
C	Critical	
D	Distant	
E	Non-Existent (Absent)	

Identify the two highest scores on the chart. These are the general descriptions of how your paternal father was towards you as a child.

In chapter 1 of *Our Good Father*, the author discusses how our view of our earthly father can affect our perception of Our Heavenly Father. In the Introduction of the book, the author mentions the four primary ways Americans view God according to the book *America's Four Gods*.

Quite often, the view of our father figure in childhood will also impact the way we see God. The Father quiz has been developed to help you see which of the same character traits best describe your paternal father and what correlations may exist between your perceptions of God the Father.

So for example, if your father was an authoritarian, you may see God in the same light. If your father was distant, you may see God the same way. If your father was absent, you may see God as far from reach or even non-existent.

Once we recognize the way our paternal father has possibly impacted our view of God, the next step is to challenge our way of thinking about God through the study of Jesus' description of the Father. To help you on that journey, pick up a copy of [Our Good Father](#) today!

NOTE TO GROUP LEADERS: One of the questions at the end of Chapter One is "Which view of God are you most likely to embrace today Authoritarian, Benevolent, Critical, Distant or Non-Existent? This survey can be a good additional resource for your group to take before discussing this chapter together. **Additional Group Question:** What similarities do you find between your perception of your paternal father and your view (previous or current) of God?"