

A Marriage Minute™

A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.



LOVING LEADERSHIP

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” -Ephesians 4:2

When it comes to the role and responsibility of husbands and fathers it seems like we have gone from one extreme to another. In a little more than a generation we’ve gone from *dictator* to *abdicator*. One is just as unbiblical, and as damaging to healthy families as the other. Somehow, we need to come back to this issue and find balance.

The natural tendency is to surrender all responsibility when our authority is met with resistance, i.e., “You won’t listen to me, so do it yourself!” But the end result is visionless chaos. As men of God, we must lead with the fierceness of the Lion of Judah, and yet with the tenderness of the Lamb of God. We must be, as one author put it, “Tender Warriors.” We must be fully engaged without making demands, but rather by our example, inspiring others to follow. Wives can help by encouraging us when we get it right, and gently and respectfully helping us make course corrections when we’re not. Husbands and fathers must step up to the plate and lead. If we’re not sure how to do it, we need to look to the One who leads us, Jesus Christ. In fact, we can’t effectively lead others unless we are under His leadership. Let’s purpose in our hearts today to provide that which our families are crying out for –*Loving Leadership!*

Question For the Both of Us: Do I provide loving leadership, or do I tend toward being a dictator or an abdicator?

Prayer For The Both of Us: Lord, help us to find the right balance, no longer to go from dictator to abdicator, but to provide loving pro-active leadership. Help us to encourage one another with tenderness and respect.

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This MARRIAGE MINUTE™ is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Institute.
Visit them at www.marriageandfamily.org.

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