



# Desires of a Child's Heart

Mark Jones

## 1. To be \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

-Do you talk at children or with children?

-Many children have adults who want to give advice, and teach them but they don't have adults who want to listen to their feelings, needs, and opinions.

*Try This*

- Listen to their \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Don't \_\_\_\_\_.
  - R\_\_\_\_\_ back.
  - E\_\_\_\_\_ contact.
- ✓ We want to be heard by God. *"I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me"* Psalm 77:1&2
- ✓ We need to listen to God. *"Give ear and come to me; hear me that your soul may live."* Isaiah 55:3

## 1. To Be \_\_\_\_\_

-We all desire to be affirmed and to believe that someone approves of who we are and what we do.

-When we are young, these people represent God's love to us.

-Many children lack affirmation.

-Affirmation tells us, "You're doing well. Keep it up!"

## 2. To Be \_\_\_\_\_

-Affirmations-what you \_\_\_\_\_.

-Blessed is being \_\_\_\_\_ for who you are.

- ✓ God blessed His Son-  
"This is my son, whom I love, with him, I am well pleased." Matt. 3:17
- ✓ *A Dad's Gotta Do What a Dad's Gotta Do*

### 3. To Be \_\_\_\_\_

-Freedom from fears and anxieties:

M \_\_\_\_\_ Secure

S \_\_\_\_\_ Secure

E \_\_\_\_\_ Secure

-God gave us this need so we can learn to rely on Him (Teach that to kids).

*"Cast your care on the Lord and He will sustain you."* Psalms 55:22

### 4. To Be \_\_\_\_\_

-God gave us two forms of expressing touch.

-Correct Touch: Hold hands, hugs, pats on the back

Side hugs, right over left, back scratch

### 5. To Be \_\_\_\_\_

-Starts \_\_\_\_\_ Examples: picked for a team, asked to play, dating-prom, adults-pick for a club or significant job-friends.

-When you are not \_\_\_\_\_ you develop feelings of, "I'm not enough," "I'm not lovable", "I'm not as good as others."

-Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ all of us

✓ *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son so whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."* John 3:16

### 7. To Be \_\_\_\_\_

-We desire to belong in a community.

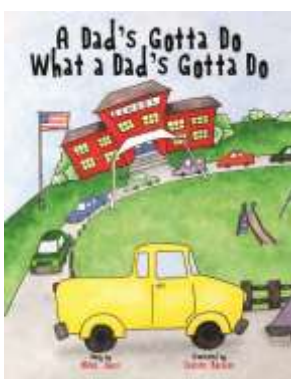
-Reminds us we're not \_\_\_\_\_.

-Provides a sense of wellbeing.

-Open up with kids and start \_\_\_\_\_.

## Action Steps

1. Chose one of the seven desires to work on right now.
2. Write the selected desire on a post-it and hang on your bathroom mirror as a reminder.
3. Write the selected key into any texts you send to your children that month.



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