

HE-MAN OLYMPICS

The purpose of this event is to build relationships between fathers and sons, or between men and teens whose dads may not be around for one reason or another. Try to conduct this event just before Father's Day. This all-day event includes lots of games and activities for fathers and sons. Fathers who have a son in the fourth grade or above are eligible to attend. Men in the church who would like to sponsor or adopt a son for the day can also attend. A father who has more than one eligible son should flip a coin to determine which son he will team up with. The others can be adopted for the day.

Here are some sample events:

- **Scripture Search.** Father and son pairs must find as many Scriptures as possible that refer to fathers, sons, or men. Verses must be written out with the Scripture references. Set a time limit and don't allow anyone to use a concordance.
- **Two on Two Volleyball.** Set up a round robin volleyball tournament with each pair playing volleyball against another pair for three minutes each. The pair scoring the most points in three minutes wins.
- **The Great Hunting Trip.** Each pair gets two slingshots and ten Ping Pong balls. Set up some cardboard animals that will fall over if hit with a Ping Pong ball. You could set this up so that the animals are in different rooms and the pair is led around by a guide. (Outfit them with safari hats, etc.) The larger the animal, the fewer points it is worth. The

object is to score as many points as possible with your ten ping pong balls.

• **Stock Car Race.** Set up a track around the church parking lot. The son drives (steers) a VW Bug and the father must push it around the racetrack. Each pair is timed.

• **Handyman Game.** This event is designed to bring out the handiness of each father and son. Give each pair a long piece of wood, a saw, and a few other tools (hammers, nails, etc.). Allow them a certain amount of time to make something useful. Finished products are judged by an impartial panel for points.

• **Optional Events.** Invent other father/son events such as a fishing contest, a tire changing contest, a home-run hitting contest, or whatever. Also plan activities for the non-athletic types.

Wrap up the day with a banquet (maybe invite mothers and sisters) and award trophies or prizes for different categories. Have a special speaker talk on the subject of fatherhood, the family, or men from the Bible.

You can also adapt this event for mothers and daughters. *Bill Wertz*