# IAMES CRUISE MINISTRIES

"God chooses what we go through. We choose how we go through it."

## STATISTICS – FATHERHOOD

65 million fathers in America

36 % of children in America live without their biological fathers.

40% of children in fatherless households have not seen their fathers for at least a year.

50% of children living apart from their fathers have never been to their father's home.

Children without their biological fathers are more likely to be poor and to have educational, health, emotional, and psychological problems that their peers, who live with a married mother and father, don't have.

### Fatherless homes produce:

- 63% of youth suicides
- 90% of runaway children
- 85% of children with behavioral disorders (4 times that of fathered households)
- 71% of high school dropouts (twice that of fathered households)
- 75% of adolescents in chemical abuse
- 85% of youths in prison

#### More likely to be:

- Impoverished
- Drop out of school
- Involved in a crime
- Girls more likely to become pregnant (adolescent females between ages 15 & 19 engage in pre-marital sex)

Often the father is not around because the family unit is broken, but this shouldn't be an excuse for the father to not be present.

In 1960, the percentage of African-American babies born out of wedlock was 20-25%. In 2010 it's now at 72%.

#### The Church & the Father

- Only 2% of children will become regular church attendees in fatherless households.
- If the father attends church, an astounding 44% choose to become regular church attendees.

So we have to change that culture of our community.

The father's presence is the solution.

"Dad, YOU MATTER." YES Dad – YOU <u>DO MATTER!!!</u>



