

**Berachah Church
Houston, TX
Sunday, June 16, 2024**

Husbands and Fathers

I don't watch much television but as I thought about our classes today and was getting prepared, I thought about every time I turn on the television I constantly and consistently see attacks on the family, on fathers and the family structure in general.

They are under attack from all areas but especially from the "Gender Identity" faction or the "LGBTQ" groups. It seems like everyone wants to attack the family structure.

Progressives would love to destroy the family and they try to desensitize us by showing us in movies and television that woman can be fathers, and husbands, and they are also just as physically strong as men.

If you watch television, or movies or even read the news you will see it's okay for a woman to identify as a man, as a father basically replacing men with females.

It's about the destruction of Divine Institution #2 and #3:

#2 - Marriage: Mankind was not meant to be alone. The relationship of marriage, between a man and a woman, is the basic corporate unit for humans in this life. Genesis 2:18, 24

#3 – Family: The nuclear family is the proper place to raise and teach and instruct children. Babies are born helpless and must rely on the grace functions of their parents for survival. As long as the child resides in the home the authority mechanism rests with the two parents. Genesis 4; Proverbs 22:6; Song of Solomon 8:2; Exodus 20:12.

Add to this the number of men who do not take responsibility for the leadership in their homes and with their families and it goes a long way to explaining the groups who protest on college campuses, march in the street protesting things they can't even explain.

Men if you give up your role as the leader in your marriage, you will be unhappy with yourself. Yet many men let their wives take the spiritual lead in their families.

They're willing to let their wives take the lead in Bible study while they're off doing other things. They do not place a priority on their marriage in the spiritual life.

If you do this, you will be unhappy in your marriage and you will not be providing an example for your children.

PRINCIPLE: Children are great imitators. So, give them something great to imitate.

As I talk with Warden's, Correctional Officers, and Chaplains they all complain, "There are no fathers in these incarcerated men's life". "No male role models to teach them how to be husbands and fathers.

Our families are being destroyed and so many fathers are not doing their duty and have gone AWOL.

So let's mainly focus on husbands and fathers today!

First as a husband you need to give your wife something to respond to!! You need to be the spiritual leader in your household. How do you do this?

It starts with positive volition to the accurate study of the Word of God.

- 1. The study of the Word of God is your number one priority. What a great example to your wife and later on to your children when they see that studying God's word is the most important thing to you. You must be willing to adhere to the Protocol Plan of God and to develop your spiritual life.**

2. Through the study of the Word of God under a qualified pastor you must understand the scriptures. Psalm 119:130; Proverbs 18:2

Psalm 119:130: “The entrance of Your Words give light; it gives understanding to the simple.”

3. As a husband you should have integrity, be gracious, thoughtful, patient, and a good leader. And a good leader takes into account the opinions of those he leads especially their wife. Proverbs 15:22

Proverbs 15:22: “Plans fall for lack of counsel, but with many advisors they succeed.”

4. You don't go off the rails by letting your sin nature take control and then not using the rebound technique. You check yourself out using rebound throughout the day and certainly before you walk into your house after a long day. 1 John 1:9

PRINCIPLE: As a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ we all fail. But God in His grace provided us the means to recover from our failures.

5. As a husband and a father you must have patience. Psalm 37:7-8; 1 Corinthians 13:5

Psalm 37:7: “Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;”

1 Corinthians 13:5: “Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant,”

6. With patience you can have a relaxed mental attitude. Colonel Thieme says this in “Christian at Ease”:

There is a place of inner peace, happiness, and strength a place of stability, power, and impact within the grasp of every Christian. Despite difficult circumstances, despite, pressures, testings, or problems, believers can have the “peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension.”

John 16:33: “These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world.”

If, as a believer in Jesus Christ, you have trusted Him for the big thing (salvation) can you now trust Him for the little things – your daily needs?

PRINCIPLE: Without Faith Rest, you will never be useable for God. Why? If you’re worried about your

problems, you can't focus on your duties as a husband and father!

Exodus 14:13: "Do not fear! Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today;"

PRINCIPLE: In order for God to use you, you must be able to focus on the solutions not the problems.

7. A good husband and father needs to be reliable. That means God can count on you even when things are tough. 1 Timothy 6:13-14; 2 Peter 3:13-14

8. As a husband and father you must have freedom from mental attitude sins like fear, worry, and guilt. Philippians 3:13

Philippians 3:13: "Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,"

9. Husbands and fathers must be loyal. 1 Kings 8:61

1 Kings 8:61: "Let your hearts therefore be loyal to the Lord our God, to walk in His statutes and keep His mandates as at this day."

10. Bible doctrine in the soul for husband and wife is the key to real like mindedness.

11. A great marriage union is a picture of our union with Christ.
12. The advancing husband and father must be a man of faith if he is going to be used by God.

Hebrews 11:6: “Without faith, it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that he is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

13. You must be accountable. You can't make excuses the buck stops with you, and you take responsibility for your decisions. **Romans 14:12**
Romans 14:12: “So then each one of us shall give an account of himself to God.”

PRINCIPLE: Bad decisions limit future options and good decisions broaden future options.

14. **Ephesians 5:25: “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.”**

“Love” is our Greek word “ἀγαπάω” – “*agapáō*” – our word for “**love**”. In our verse it's better translated “to love”.

The active voice shows the husband produces the action of the verb – “**to love**”.

The aorist tense is customary present denoting what should normally occur.

It's in the imperative mood which is a command – our Lord is commanding husbands “to love**” their wife.**

This love is free from mental attitude sins and shows the highest regard for the wife.

- 15. A good husband is a gentleman putting his wife and family first. He thinks of others over himself.**
- 16. As the leader of the family the husband and father should also be a protector. He needs to make sure his family feels protected.**
- 17. You can't let the “cosmos” distract you. We're in the world but not of the world. This is not our home (we're just passing through). 1 John 4:4**

1 John 4:4: "Greater is He who is in you, than he who is in the world."

Romans 12:2-3: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

- 18. Stop being conformed to this world means to**

stop being in a state of confusion. The world thinks human viewpoint. We need to think with Divine Viewpoint.

19. The purpose of the believer is to witness, to execute the protocol plan of God, and to become an invisible hero with invisible impact.

20. The spiritually mature husband and father should function in three areas:

- A. Thinking with Divine Viewpoint and this requires renovation of your thinking through Bible Doctrine.**
- B. Show boldness in presenting the Gospel message of faith alone in Christ alone.**
- C. Applying Bible Doctrine by cycling doctrine from “*gnosis*” to *epi-gnosis*” into the Stream of Consciousness where you establish Biblical Wisdom (“*Sophia*”).**

21. A husband and father must be a wise man who will follow instructions. Matthew 7:24; Proverbs 1:5

Matthew 7:24: “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

Proverbs 1:5: "A wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel."

22. You need to be a man of courage. Luke 12:4 and 2 Timothy 1:7

Luke 12:4: "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that have no more that they can do."

2 Timothy 1:7: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

God cannot use a coward. You're going to have to have enough faith to trust him, to stand tall and wait on God. While you're waiting, what do you do?

- a. You stay filled with the Holy Spirit.**
- b. You sit under the authority of a well-qualified pastor and learn God's Word every day and let God make you an invisible hero.**
- c. He will use you and in a phenomenal way and you will have a historical impact, a national impact and an impact on your family and marriage as you grow spiritually.**

Men of courage and integrity are not ruled by fear, or fame, but by wisdom.

23. You cannot be a successful husband and father if you are double minded. James 1:8

James 1:8: "Being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."

24. To be a good husband and father you must have a lifestyle of trust. Psalm 31:1

Psalm 31:1: "I will put my trust in you oh Lord, never let me be ashamed, deliver me, be my rock, lead me and guide me from the snare of my enemy. Into your hands I commit my spirit, oh Lord, God of truth."

PRINCIPLE: Your relationship with the Lord reflects itself in how you interact with your wife.

PRINCIPLE: The husband and wife must build, through spiritual growth, the capacity that makes each the right person.

25. A husband and father cannot operate on his emotions. Proverbs 29:22

- A. Emotions are the basis of uncontrolled anger.**
- B. Any male who cannot control his temper is a candidate for disaster.**
- C. Emotional outbursts towards your wife or your children, shows your true colors and your spiritual immaturity.**
- D. The mental attitude sin of anger must be rebounded and contained.**

E. The sin of anger must be recognized, rebounded and then you must resume your spiritual life.

Proverbs 29:22: “A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back.”

PRINCIPLE: Do not discipline your children when you are angry!

Ephesians 6:4: “And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

26. The mental attitude of anger is devastating to children and is a precursor to bitterness. They will carry this bitterness around in their soul and when provoked it will ignite into a “*thumos*” explosion.

27. Instruction, training, discipline, and punishment must be administered through love.

28. If you want to be a good husband, you can't be a liar. Psalm 5:6

Psalm 5:6: “You destroy those who speak falsehood; The Lord abhors the man of bloodshed and deceit.”

29. As a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ you are a royal ambassador, we represent God before the

world.

John 16:8-11: “And He (Holy Spirit), when He comes (Church Age), will convince the world (of unbelievers) concerning three things: sin, righteousness, and judgment;

Vs. 9: concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me;

Vs. 10: concerning righteousness, because I go to My Father, and you no longer see Me;

Vs. 11: And concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world (Satan) has been judged.”

30. A good husband and father cannot be self-righteous.

Colonel Thieme said: “Any arrogance parlayed into self-righteousness produces legalism.”

You can't find a worse person in the world than a religious self-righteous person because he wants to judge you. He wants to play God. He wants to tell you what you can and cannot do and it might not even be in the Bible.

It's just his little pet peeve of sins that he doesn't like. So a self-righteous man, like the Pharisees of the New

Testament that our Lord faced. There was nobody more self-righteous than them. You cannot have that self-righteousness and be used by God you must have some humility because without humility in your life you're in big trouble. Luke 18:10-14

In these verses you have the self-righteous Pharisee who says, thank God I'm not like that tax collector. I tithe, pray, fast and Jesus said, yeah, he's going straight to hell. The other man simply said, God be merciful to me as a sinner and Jesus said, that's the one that has eternal life.

God cannot use a self-righteous, legalistic, religious man. He needs a husband and father with enough humility to know what he is and to know what he needs.

31. A husband needs to use the Royal Family Honor code and stand on it? Is the Royal Law within the Royal Family Honor Code something you apply?

James 2:8: “Love they neighbor as you love yourself”

This is the mandate for impersonal love. The royal family honor code is spiritual integrity and it's mandated by God.

It includes PSD #3: Filling of the Holy Spirit; PSD #4: Grace Orientation; PSD #5: Doctrinal Orientation; and PSD #6: Personal Sense of Destiny. Our Lord used all of these.

The Royal Family Honor Code that we use centers around three simple principles in our life, truth, impersonal love, and grace orientation.

If you live by the world, you would be tempted to abandon truth, compromise your integrity, and you fail to use impersonal love.

You will be tempted to ignore divine precedents which are the 10 PSD and the Christian way of life. You must know them, and you must use them. You must have them in your soul every day or you will ignore divine precedents in your life.

Let me ask you a question? If I asked you to write down the 10 Problem Solving Devices, could you, do it?

PRINCIPLE: No matter how far you advance in your Christian life you cannot ever lose sight of grace orientation and humility.

If you as a husband or father are to lead your family, you must follow these mandates:

First you need to study:

2 Timothy 2:15: “Study to show yourself approved unto God as a workman who needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

Second you need to learn:

Matthew 11:28-30: “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Vs. 29: Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Vs. 30: For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Third you grow:

2 Peter 3:18: “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”

You cannot be a leader of your family and operate on your emotions. You must function by executing the spiritual life and that starts with authority orientation.

As the leader of your family you must have authority orientation and you must teach it to your children.

- 1. Authority is not a loss freedom. Authority is for the maintenance of freedom. You cannot have freedom without authority.**
- 2. A husband and father must be authority oriented since authority is the umbrella of freedom.**
- 3. Without authority society degenerates to every man doing what is right in their own eyes.**
- 4. Submitting to Biblical authority is not the loss of freedom it enhances freedom. The mandates and the rules of scripture are for your benefit. They are to direct you into the good decisions you make in life. They don't limit your fun. They point your fun in the right direction. They keep you within the parameters of divine standards.**
- 5. Authority orientation must be understood and taught to your children, and it starts with accepting the authority of Jesus Christ and submitting to that authority.**
- 6. Remember this: arrogance challenges any legitimate system of authority.**
 - a. Authority of parents over their children.
Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20**
 - b. Divine establishment authority. (Law enforcement and government.) Romans 13:1-7**

c. Authority in the military, the teacher in the classroom, coaches over athletes, management over labor, husbands over wives in a leadership role, not in a tyrant role. Ephesians 5:22; Colossians 3:18

7. God is the supreme authority. All creation is subject to His authority. Psalm 103:19, 135:5-6; Isaiah 40:18-26; Daniel 4:25 and 34-37; Acts 4:19-20 and 5:29; Romans 9:20-23 and 13:1; Revelation 19:16

Psalm 103:19: “The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules overall.”

8. God has delegated authority to certain individuals among mankind. Romans 13:1

Romans 13:1: “Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.”

9. God instituted human authority in order to:

- a. Protect free will.**
- b. Protect the human race from self-destruction.**
- c. Give order to life.**
- d. Maintain peace.**
- e. Allow the gospel and Bible Doctrine to spread.**

f. Support the believers' witness by their authority orientation in a rebellious world.

- 10. You need to teach your children that submitting to authority is a necessary part of life and it is one of the most important things you can teach your children.**
- 11. So authority orientation must first be taught in the home. Why? Because that's the first place a child meets authority orientation.**
- 12. Permissive parents need to realize that discipline and authority orientation are beneficial. It's not damaging. It's part of training.**
- 13. Parents are the first authority in life to train, teach, inculcate, orient to life, and bring the child in obedience to authority. Deuteronomy 6:6**
- 14. The first responsibility of the child in the home is obedience to the authority and mandates of the parents.**

Ephesians 6:1-3: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Vs. 2: Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise),

Vs. 3: so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”

Colossians 3:20: “Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.”

15. Remember authority orientation is critical in life and it includes personal humility and respect for adult supervision. Exodus 20:12

Another quality a husband and father must have is humility. Without it you become selfish and focused on yourself. It becomes all about you and instead of putting the Word of God first and your family second, it's you first and everything else comes after that.

- 1. Humility is a virtue that is very honorable and is never demeaning or degrading.**
- 2. It's never humiliating to be humble; it is quite the opposite. Humility is a strength, not a weakness.**
- 3. Humility should characterize our service to the Lord. Acts 20:19; 2 Corinthians 11:7, 12:21; James 4:11**

Acts 20:19a: “serving the Lord with all humility...”

- 4. Humility makes spiritual growth possible.**
Proverbs 22:4; Philippians 2:8; James 1:21

Proverbs 22:4: “The reward of humility and the fear of the Lord Are riches, honor and life.”

5. The humble person is not concerned about who gets the credit. He is concerned about doing their job as unto the Lord. Acts 20:19; 2 Corinthians 11:7

2 Corinthians 11:7: “Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I preached the gospel of God to you without charge?”

6. Humility makes you teachable (James 1:21), makes spiritual growth possible (Proverbs 22:4; Philippians 2:8; James 1:21), always precedes true honor (Proverbs 15:33; 18:12; 1 Peter 5:6), and provides the capacity to receive grace blessings (James 4:6, 10; 1 Peter 5:5-6).

7. God planned that humility be a part of our lives (Ephesians 4:2): **toward God (1 Kings 21:29; 2 Chronicles 7:14; James 4:10; 1 Peter 5:6) and **toward people** (Romans 12:16; Ephesians 4:2; Philippians 2:3; 1 Peter 3:8, and 5:5).**

8. Humility is a submissive attitude that excludes arrogance. It is a willingness to listen and learn from someone else.

9. God will humble every person when Christ returns to earth. Isaiah 2:11

Isaiah 2:11: “The proud look of man will be abased, And the loftiness of man will be humbled, And the Lord alone will be exalted in that day.”

- 10. Humility is not a negative such as downgrading yourself, thinking you cannot do anything, or a lack of confidence.**
- 11. Having humility doesn't mean you are weak. Humility means you orient to authority, and you are able to handle authority even if it's unfair.**
- 12. Never forget God exalts or promotes the humble. Matthew 23:12; Luke 1:48-52, 14:11, 18:14; James 4:10**

Matthew 23:12: “Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.”

James 4:6: “God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

- 13. The dependence on human power and ability is reduced to zero in biblical humility and the dependence on God's power and ability is increased to the max.**

14. Humility is the root of all other virtues.

Arrogance spoils everything and there can be no real love without humility. 1 Corinthians 13:4

1 Corinthians 13:4: “Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant.”

NOTE: Augustine said, humility is first, second and third in Christianity!

15. Humility begins in the home with obedience to parents. The home provides the environment for enforced humility.

16. The child's obedience to the enforced humility of parental authority is the key to their attainment of genuine humility, honor, and a long life.

17. The humble child learns how to say “no” to the many temptations of life in their formative stage.

18. With genuine humility, the child will develop a sense of destiny, make decisions from a position of strength, and recognize the attacks of the cosmic system, and avoid the devastating traps and snares set by Satan's tacticians.

19. You must break the “arrogance” in your children. Why?

- a. Arrogance rejects authority.**
- b. Arrogance divorces from reality.**
- c. Arrogance distracts the Christian from growing spiritually.**

PRINCIPLE: You can't learn if you think you're right all the time!

20. Rick Hughes says arrogance is highly contagious and is the only disease known to mankind which makes everyone sick except the one who has it.

Proverbs 29:23: “A man’s pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor.”

21. Humility is the mental attitude which Jesus Christ demonstrated. Matthew 11:29; Acts 8:33; Philippians 2:8

Philippians 3:5: “Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.”

As a husband and father there is no greater Problem-Solving Device than Impersonal Love.

- 1. With the employment of impersonal love, the husband/father doesn’t get upset, frustrated,**

jealous, disappointed, revengeful, etc. Matthew 5:44; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- 2. The motivation for the believer to use impersonal love in the face of the exigencies of life comes from Bible Doctrine. 1 John 4:15-21; 2 Corinthians 5:14; Matthew 5:44.**
- 3. The use of impersonal love is the strongest of all the Problem-Solving Devices. 1 Corinthians 13:13**

1 Corinthians 13:13: “But now faith (“*pistis*”), hope (“*elpis*” - confident expectation), love (“*agape*” – impersonal love), abide (“*meno*” – remain) these three (Problem Solving Devices); but the greatest of these is love (“*agape*” – impersonal love is the greatest of the three).”

- 4. Believers are commanded to have impersonal love for all mankind in all circumstances of life, pleasant or unpleasant. Galatians 5:14; Mark 12:31; 1 John 3:23, 4:7, 11,20-21, Luke 10:27; Matthew 5:38-39, 22:39; John 15:12, 17; James 2:8; Romans 13:9; Luke 6:27, 35**

- 5. Personal love puts all the emphasis on the attractiveness of the object and when they fail or show their feet of clay you must be able to switch to impersonal love – your problem-**

solving device. John 11:33-37, 16:27; James 2:23.

- 6. Impersonal love solves problems and is a relaxed mental attitude toward all mankind. It is motivated by love for God (Our motivational virtue), occupation with Christ; therefore, it is non-discriminating.**
- 7. Impersonal love emphasizes the subject, who must have virtue and integrity that is so strong that it reaches out to the entire human race. The individual can be obnoxious or attractive, beautiful or ugly, someone who hates or loves you; it makes no difference because the virtue of the subject is stronger than any handicap in the object.**
- 8. Impersonal love is unconditional and is directed toward all.**
- 9. Impersonal love is free from arrogance, jealousy, hatred, bitterness, implacability, being controlled by guilt, self-pity, and revenge motivation.**
- 10. Impersonal love is unconditional; therefore, it's tolerant, unprejudiced, thoughtful, considerate, no matter how great the stress.**

11. Impersonal love does not involve one's feelings in personal conflict and does not react to hostility or antagonism from others. This makes life very tranquil.

Since this is Father's Day, I'm to finish up with some points for all the father's or future fathers.

We know everyone has their own volition. We can't mold our children or make them into carbon copies of ourselves. Even if we could, we'd be doing them a disservice. Because God gave them very specific gifts, talents, and abilities including their very own spiritual gift.

You need to remember and it's sad, but we can't even determine whether our children will choose to stick with Bible Doctrine as they grow or even if they will attend church. There are plenty of things we can do but we aren't in control of their volition.

PRINCIPLE: Lack of parental control in this area is tough!

Here are a couple of basic rules that a father should teach and enforce with their children.

- 1. Do not disobey your mother.**
- 2. Do not talk back to your mother.**
- 3. Do not correct your mother.**
- 4. Do not argue with your mother.**

- 5. Do not deceive your mother.**
- 6. Never ever lie to your mother!**

Father's when your children want to follow you around starting at an early age it is a good thing.

Your job is to evangelize your children. NO EXCUSES!!

3 John 1:4: “I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.”

During the early years especially during the teenage years speaking Bible Doctrine, applying Bible Doctrine is the knowledge that children must gain.

PRINCIPLE: If we don't teach our children to follow Christ, the world will teach them not to.

Living Bible Doctrine through application to our everyday lives is the means to reinforce what we teach our children. They learn by what they observe.

PRINCIPLE: You can witness more with your life than you ever can with your mouth.

Deuteronomy 6:7 (Really 5-9): “You shall teach them diligently to your sons and you shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.”

Remember God wrote the 10 commandments on the tablets of stone just so it must be written forever in the soul of a child by teaching and by example.

If children don't see the advantages of Bible Doctrine and they only see what the cosmic system offers because they're bombarded with it then you have in many cases lost them to the cosmic system.

Teaching your children Bible Doctrine and the Christian Way of Life is one way of protecting them from it.

You must learn it and apply it in the home. Make sure it becomes "spiritual muscle memory" for them.

Your children are listening and watching very closely even though you don't think they are. Not only at the world around them. How you live and how you handle things and how you apply Bible Doctrine that you keep talking about

How important is it?

Children are a lot more likely to follow your lead especially as they get on with their own life when they have had good training, and they know that it works to their.

If they know the benefits and if they know the results of having the Word of God in their soul and applying the Word of God to life and circumstances.

However, I know this may shock you but with volition your children may reject Bible Doctrine and go down the “my way highway” and some may never come back to it.

That is why it is so important to lead your children to the Lord. Because, later in life it might be too late.

If this happens you, take courage that many great men of God have had children who have “went their own way” and failed. Some in a very big way.

Adam had “Cain”. [Genesis 4:8](#)

**Noah had “Ham” the father of the Canaanites.
[Genesis 9:22-25](#)**

**Abram had “Ishmael” born to Hagar his servant girl, father of the Arab race and honored by Muslims.
[Genesis 16:15-16](#)**

Isaac had “Esau”. [Genesis 25:25](#)

**Jacob had his murderous sons who sold their brother Joseph to Midianites who later sold him to Egypt.
[Genesis 37:23-24](#)**

David had Absalom (murderer and revolutionary) and Amnon (who raped his sister). [II Samuel 13:14](#)

"Billy Sunday was the most famous and successful evangelist of the early 1900's. He is remembered as a colorful preacher who led multitudes to Christ.

Billy Sunday would be considered a success by almost any standard. Yet he lamented, “The great tragedy of my life is that though I have led thousands to Christ, my own sons are not saved.”

Indeed, his sons mocked their father's ministry and were drunks with horrible family lives, one ended his life by suicide.

So your job as the husband and father is to set the direction of your home and family and that takes wisdom. As the leader of your home you need to teach your children Biblical wisdom.

- 1. Teach your children to fear the Lord. Proverbs 9:10 says, that the “**fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom.**”**
- 2. Teaching children God's amazing grace is an essential piece of establishing wisdom in their hearts (“*kardia***
- 3. Encourage your children to have daily Bible studies. At T. & P. you have the teen tapes and Rick Hughes has the FLOT Line and these are perfect to introduce your children to.**

- 4. Proverbs 9:11-12, says, that wisdom will “multiply your days and add years to your life.”**
- 5. Doesn’t it make sense that we should encourage our kids toward wisdom as one of the most important character traits as the steppingstone to all other character traits?**
- 6. God also promises several times in Proverbs that “wisdom will protect and guard us”.**

Proverbs 2:11: “Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.”

Proverbs 4:6: “Don’t turn your back on wisdom, for she will protect you.”

- 7. As the spiritual leader in your family you need to exemplify Biblical wisdom in your everyday life and actions.**

PRINCIPLE: God promises that those who search for wisdom will find it.

Proverbs 8:17: “I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me.”

Proverbs 4:1: “Hear, O’ sons, the instruction of a father, And give attention that you may gain understanding,”

Vs. 2: “For I give you sound teaching; Do not abandon my instruction.”

Vs. 4: “Then he taught me and said to me, “Let your heart hold fast my words;”

Vs. 5: “Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth.”

Vs. 6: “Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you.”

Vs. 8: “Prize her, and she will exalt you;”

There are so many more principles and doctrines we could bring out, but we don't have the time to do that this morning. But let's get some summery principles:

1. You plant the gospel, and you water the gospel while they're young and they will get saved early. It's your job to lead your children to Christ. If God has given them to you, you lead them to Christ.
2. You teach them divine norms and standards. You teach them Royal Family Honor Code. You teach them what the protocol plan of God is. It's your job to train your children, to teach your children God's Word, to expose them to Bible doctrine, the truth.

- 3. But and this is very critical, children must see that Bible class and Bible doctrine is essential to both mom and dad together. They must see that mom and dad are both interested in the Word of God and grandparents if possible.**
- 4. Remember coming to bible class does not make you a role model. It's the application of what you learn in bible class that makes you the role model. That's the proof to them that you believe it. It's the application of what you learn here that is proof to them that you believe it.**
- 5. You need to teach them that you must trust the Lord even when life doesn't make sense. The perfect example was Abraham!**
- 6. A child learns to trust their fathers' leadership if he does the same thing every time. They will come to trust them by becoming confident he will always do what he says. They are persuaded by a system that rewards good behavior and disciplines poor behavior.**
- 7. Living Bible Doctrine is the means to reinforce what we teach our children. We learn by what we observe.**
- 8. You also need to teach your children norms and standards which include manners, and they learn**

respect for others in the home as well as respect for the property of others.

9. Fathers should reinforce good decisions based not only on common sense but on spiritual sense from the Word of God and Bible Doctrine in your soul.

PRINCIPLE: Fathers need to have flexibility in the nonessentials, but inflexibility in the essentials. You must know Bible Doctrine to know which is which.

Fathers you must never, ever quit. God cannot use a quitter. If you focus on your flaws or failures, you will forget to use rebound and give up your spiritual advance.

Philippians 3:12-14: “Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

Vs. 13: Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,

Vs. 14: I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

As father's and husbands we need to be on guard:

- a. Do not be distracted – 2 Timothy 2:22
- b. Do not be deceived – Ephesians 4:22-23
- c. Do not be dominated – Romans 6:12 and 12:2
- d. Do not drift from grace – 2 Peter 3:18
- e. Do not be discouraged by discipline – Hebrews 12:6-7

If you are to make maximum impact in the Angelic Conflict:

- a. Stand firm – 1 Corinthians 16:13
- b. Stand fearless – Ephesians 6:10-11; Romans 8:31-32

Did you know that a father's words are like a thermostat that sets the temperature in the house.

PRINCIPLE: One of the greatest things a father can do for his children is to love their mother.

Being a great father is like shaving. No matter how good you shaved today, you have to do it again tomorrow.

Unfortunately for most fathers one day their children will follow his example, not his advice.

PRINCIPLE: What you teach your children, you also teach their children.

Being macho is not being a good husband or father, nor being a tyrant, a bully or anything else. It will turn the wife and children off and hurts and can even destroy the relationship.

Philippians 2:3: “Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;”

A great man puts God and others above his own desires.

As a husband and a father you need the faith of Abraham, the obedience of Noah, the courage of Daniel, the heart of David and the boldness of Paul.

Finally, must teach our children that we live in the Devil's world and if you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, there is a target on your back.

John 16:2: “They will make you outcast from the synagogue, but the hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think he is offering service to God.”

But you will find incredible strength in God's provisions. Grace, peace, confidence, courage, insight and discernment.

Colossians 1:27: “Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

One final principle: To the world you are a dad. To your family you are the world.

Here's the challenge to husbands and fathers: You had better take your spiritual life seriously. If your spiritual life is not priority number one, and you don't have a love affair with your Lord you have a decision to make. Step up and be counted or become a battlefield casualty and take your entire family along with you. We need fathers and husbands in this country today and God could use a few more spiritually mature husbands and fathers trained and ready for battle.