



*dba
New
Covenant
Church*

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Sunday School Lessons

June 5, 2022

ADULTS/YOUNG ADULTS

Fathers are a “Solid Rock” in God’s plan for a Happy Family

There is no role in our modern-day society that suffers so greater from neglect in the sight of God, than that of the father. Not only has God given men the incredible privilege of imitating Himself as Father, but He has also placed upon the shoulders of fathers an incredible responsibility. Fathers are a “Solid Rock” in God’s plan for a Happy Family: and as the father goes so goes the family, as the family goes so goes the Church, and the nation. As our society has chosen this day to celebrate and honor fathers, it’s appropriate to remind fathers of their God-given responsibilities.

By God’s standards, anyone who is a father should first be a husband (1 Cor. 7:1 – 5, Hebrews 13:4). Otherwise, they will be guilty of the sin of fornication (1 Cor. 6: 9 – 11; Gal. 5: 19 – 21). Therefore, being a responsible father first requires being a good husband. One must love, honor, nourish and cherish his wife in every aspect of her life (Eph. 5: 25 – 33; Col. 3:19; 1 Peter 3:7). Only then will a person be prepared to be a good father. Marriage is ordained by almighty God and divorce is not a part of God’s plan for marriage (St. Matt. 19: 3 – 12, Gen. 2: 24, Eph. 5: 28 – 29) A man’s children are a piece of himself, but his wife is himself. This example to the children is so important and lays a foundation in their young lives.

As fathers we have the responsibility to love our wives as well as to: “And your fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4) In this one passage we look at the responsibility of those who have taken on the good work and awesome responsibility of being a father.

First a father is not to provoke their children to wrath. What this means is that a father is not to purposefully do things that make their children scornful, angry, resentful, discouraged, and bitter (Col. 3: 21; Prov. 23:22). There is a difference between doing something that is right for them yet does not meet with their approval (such as disciplining them or setting boundaries for their own good) and doing something that angers them for no good reason (meaningless rules because you are “in charge” abusing your authority).

In many cases there is a fine line between the two that the father must avoid in order to keep from provoking his children to wrath. In many homes children have been provoked to wrath because of the father’s absence. More often than not, it is due to neglect, irresponsibility, and selfishness of a father that the home does not feel his presence. Children that feel the love of both parents in the home is becoming a thing of the past (**marriage between a man and a woman is becoming a thing of the past**) (**Gen. 1: 27-28**) children are provoked to anger because the father is too busy to be a father (climbing the corporate ladder, pursuing personal hobbies). In other cases, the father is too overbearing. In some cases, the father is abusive, both physically and emotionally. In many homes the father is hypocritical: demanding things of his family that he does not demand of himself (setting

a good example, the Bible they will most readily read is you modeling it in the home). All of these things and more can and will provoke a child to wrath and must be avoided.

Second aspect of the father's responsibility is to bring his child up in the nurture/training and admonition of the Lord. The need for this command in today's society is greatly missed and essential to being the "solid rock" for a Happy Family. Under Christ the father is the spiritual head of the home (Eph. 5:22 – 24; 1 Cor. 11:3). His presence, that is Christ's, through the example and teaching of the father should be felt in the home; in its rules, its worship, and through the father's love, leadership and example. (Hebrews 12: 5 – 11) One of our biggest problems is that too many fathers are not spiritual men. This must change in order to truly be the "Solid Rock" in God's plan for a Happy Family. (Joshua 24:14 – 15) As for me and my house we will serve the Lord!

Furthermore, another problem is that too many fathers do not know what the "Nurturing and admonition of the Lord" is let alone how to bring their children up in it. Children need to be taught from a young age about the Lord and must be taught to live by the Lord's commands (2 Timothy 3: 15; Deut. 6: 4 -9). Nurturing/Training and admonition mean more than simply discipline or punishment for wrongdoing. They imply that a father should **spend time** instructing and training his children to do right. He must bring them up, or feed and nurture them on it. They must be instructed how to do that which is good and avoid those things which are evil. They must be instructed regarding the straight and narrow path that leads to heaven.

Then they must see you doing it and modeling it in the home. Lord willing, they will carry this training with them into their life. Its ultimate goal is to spur them to willingly submit their life to the Heavenly Father, as this is the way they should go (Prov. 22:16). This incredible challenge is the responsibility of the father if he is to be the "Solid Rock" in God's plan for a Happy Family.

Children are a blessing from the Lord (Psa. 127:1 – 5). As with all blessings there is responsibility. Fathers must realize that the Spirit gave this charge regarding our children to us. (Eph. 6: 4) He did not give it to the mother, although her role is absolutely necessary in helping this to be carried out. He did not give it to the daycare. He did not give it to the babysitter. He did not give it to the nanny. He did not give it to grandparents. Nor did he give it to the church, the school, the youth group, or the government. **He gave it to fathers.** Therefore, fathers will bear the accountability and the consequences for failing to carry it out or the reward for so doing.

Let's not forget it's a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31)

Not only does this verse speak of the father's responsibility and accountability, it speaks of the possibilities of bring up godly children despite the immorality and wickedness of the day. It speaks of creating a strong bond between fathers and children all the days of their life. It speaks of the possibility of a Happy Family and well-adjusted children who love God and their families building strong churches and nations. It speaks of spiritual men leading spiritual homes in a spiritual way that brings up spiritual children. (Deut. 6 – 10, Ex. 20: 4-6; 34:5-7)) But most of all it speaks of the possibility of Heaven, for fathers and for their children (Gen. 18: 18 – 19). This is ultimately what it is all about (Eccl. 12:13). Men let's strive to be that "Solid Rock" in the family that God has purposed and planned for us to be. **TO THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE.**



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BABES/JUNIORS (6 and Older)

Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 6: 1 – 4

Fathers of the Bible

Text: Gen: 18: 17 – 19

The Bible is filled with Fathers we can learn from. When it comes to the challenging vocation of fatherhood, several fathers in the Bible show what is wise to do and what is not wise to do.

At the end of the list is a profile of God the Father, the ultimate role model for all human dads. His love, kindness, patience, wisdom, protectiveness are standards we should strive to live up to. God is also forgiving and understanding and is the One who gives guidance to earthly fathers and hears our prayers.

Adam – the first man and first earthly father – as the first man and first human father had no example to follow except God. He failed to follow God and plunged the whole world into sin. He also had to deal with the tragedy of his son Cain murdering his other son Able. We can learn a lot from Adam about the consequences of our actions and the necessity of obeying God.

Noah – A righteous Man – Noah stands out in the Bible as a Father who trusted God in spite of the wicked world around him. Fathers of today need to trust our heavenly Father to guide us through this wicked world today. Noah was upright and perfect in his generation and protected his family. He courageously carried out the task the Lord asked him to do. Today's fathers may think that they are in a thankless role, but God always rewards our diligence and devotion.

Abraham – The father of Faith and Father of the Jewish Nation – God gave Abraham a mission and he staggered not at the promise but was strong in faith, therefore God accounted it unto him for righteousness. Abraham passed one of the most difficult tasks God ever gave a man. Abraham was called a friend of God. All fathers should strive to have the faith and works of Abraham and to please God in their role as fathers.

Isaac – Son of Abraham, Patriarch of the faith – Many fathers may feel intimidated trying to follow in the footsteps of their fathers. Isaac must have had some of those feelings. His father Abraham was such an outstanding leader. He could have resented his father as offering him as a sacrifice, yet Isaac was an obedient son who learned from Abraham the valuable lesson of trusting God.

Jacob – Father of the 12 tribes of Israel – Jacob was a schemer who tried to work his own way instead of trusting God. With the help of his mother Rebekah, he stole his twin brother's Esau birthright. Jacob fathered the 12 sons who founded the 12 Tribes of Israel. The lesson from Jacob's life is that God works with our obedience and in spite of our disobedience to make his plan come to pass.

Moses – The law Giver – Moses was the father of two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, but he also served as a father figure to the entire Hebrew people as they escaped from slavery in Egypt. He refused to be called the son of Pharos' daughter and choose rather to suffer with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. He loved them and helped to discipline and provide for them on their 40 year journey to the

promise land. He shows today's fathers that overwhelming tasks can be accomplished when you submit and walk close to God.

King David – A man after God's own heart – David was chosen of God and yet had a great struggle with sin; however, God forgave him and favored him. David trusted God to help him defeat Goliath and he put his faith in God as he was on the run from King Saul. David's son, Solomon built the first temple, a house for God following David's provisions and instructions. The Lord Jesus Christ shall sit upon the throne of his father David as promised in scripture.

Joseph – A Just Man and foster Father to our Lord Jesus Christ – Joseph believed the angles concerning his wife Mary and was a just man, and he went to great lengths to protect his wife and new born baby. He saw to the parenting and education of Jesus as he was growing up. Joseph taught Jesus the carpentry trade and was the spiritual leader of his home.

God the Father – The first person in the trinity, is the father and creator of all. Jesus his only son showed us a new and intimate way to relate to God. When we see God as our heavenly Father, our provider and protector; it puts our life in a whole new perspective. Every human father is a son of the most-high God: the all sufficient and constant source of life, health and strength.

Mankind on earth is made in the image of God and the father is called by God to be the spiritual head of the home. We live in a culture that tries to minimize or emasculate the father. Turn on many of the popular sitcoms of Hollywood and TV today and the father is often viewed as the laughing bumbling idiot. This example is sometimes funny but OH so sad if this is the case in real life. Fathers are so important to the development and upbringing in a child's life.

Bible Verses for Fathers:

Deuteronomy 1: 29 – 30
Psalm 127: 3 – 5
Proverbs 23: 24
Proverbs 20: 7
2 Thessalonians 2: 11 – 12
Luke 15: 20 – 23
Exodus 20: 12

Bible Scriptures about Fathers and Discipline

Proverbs 3: 11
Proverbs 23: 22
Proverbs 4: 1 – 4
Proverbs 19: 18
Ephesians 6: 2.4
Colossians 3: 21
Hebrews 12: 7
Malachi 4: 6

Bible Scriptures about our Father in Heaven

St. Matthew 7: 9 – 11
St. John 14: 2
St. Matthew 23: 9 call no man father on earth
Galatians 4: 6
Ephesians 4: 4