

Father's Day 2021

Building a Family

Introduction: Today we honor fathers as it is Father's Day. So today we are going to look at a message that is going to focus upon fathers. Within the family the husband has been given the responsibility of being the spiritual leader. With this position comes a great amount of responsibility and accountability.

Ephesians 5:22-25

²² *Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.*

²³ *For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.*

²⁴ *Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.*

²⁵ *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;*

Along with this position comes the responsibility of raising our children in the admonition of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4

⁴ *And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*

Let me define some words here so we can better understand this verse.

Nurture - *the whole training and education of children (which relates to the cultivation of mind and morals, and employs for this purpose now commands and admonitions, now reproof and punishment) It also includes the training and care of the body.*

Admonition - *To rebuke or warn.*

As fathers it is our responsibility to train the minds and the morals of our children and to warn and rebuke them when they drift away from where they should be.

As dads we have much influence upon our children and the lives they will live long after we are gone.

Today we are going to look at what it takes to build a family. Every father is a builder. He may not build buildings, but he is commissioned by God to build his family. Let me raise a question upon which we shall launch our message:

So what is required to build a Godly family?

I. The Father must build upon a solid foundation.

A family that will stand against the wiles of the Devil must be built upon the foundation of Jesus Christ. The Father, WHO IS THE BUILDER, must have Faith in Jesus Christ and His Word.

Matthew 7:24-27

²⁴ Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

²⁵ And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

²⁶ And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

²⁷ And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

As the leader of the family the father will be faced with many decisions, and he will need wisdom to make the proper decisions. The father must look to the Lord for wisdom and not to the world.

James 1:5-8

⁵ If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

⁶ But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

⁷ For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

⁸ *A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*

The father must know the Lord and he must look to the Lord for the wisdom which he needs as he builds his family.

Psalm 127:1-2

Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

² *It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.*

II. The Father must be able to equip his family for the spiritual battle.

This will only be done by a father who makes himself a student of God's Word. There are many things which you can teach your children but the most important thing you will instruct them in is the Bible.

But in order to instruct your children in the Bible you must have a desire to know it and you must make yourself a student of the Bible.

2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

Let us notice what Paul wrote to the Romans.

Romans 16:17-19

¹⁷ *Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.*

¹⁸ *For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.*

¹⁹ *For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.*

It is the father's responsibility to be wise unto that which is good and unlearned unto that which is evil.

So that father has the responsibility of knowing the Bible and then he has the responsibility of instructing his children.

Deuteronomy 4:8-9

⁸ *And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?*

⁹ *Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons:*

Psalm 127:3-4

³ *Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.*

⁴ *As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.*

Children are likened to arrows here. A hunter has a responsibility with his arrows.

- They must be sharpened.
- They must be straightened.
- They must be shot in the proper direction.

The same three things apply to children.

- They must be sharpened with God's Word.
- They must be straightened by loving discipline.
- They must be pointed in a Godly direction.
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III. The Father must be willing to stand against spiritual attacks.

To be the spiritual leader of the family you can be sure that you will come under many attacks from the Devil. Satan's demonic spirits will do all they can to get you to compromise your stand for the Truth of God's Word.

2 Timothy 3:12

¹² *Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

The enemy is very aware of our weaknesses, and he will do all he can to get us to give in to our weakness.

Matthew 4:1-4

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

² And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

³ And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Satan came to Jesus and right away tempter Him with food for He knew He was hungry. I use this to help you to understand that Satan knows your weakest points and he will use them against you.

I have learned that Satan will often use your family members to do his best to get you to compromise.

Genesis 3:1-6

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

² And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

³ But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

⁴ And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

⁵ For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

To get to Adam, Satan went through the weaker of the two. He also used that which was very dear to Adam, his wife.

The hardest people to stand against are family members and Satan knows that. He will do his best to convince you that it is better to compromise to have peace in your house than it is to stand firm upon the Truth.

Ephesians 6:10-13

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Let me just remind you that you may be the only one who stands for the Truth in a certain situation.

2 Timothy 4:16-17

¹⁶ At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

¹⁷ Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

IV. The father must set the example for his family to follow.

The father must be a man of integrity. He must not be afraid to proclaim the Word of God, he must never be intimidated for standing for the Word of God and He must at ALL times live the Word of God.

Your children watch you very closely and so you must set the example for them to follow.

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

¹⁷ Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

You cannot expect your children to grow up and be faithful to the Lord if you are not setting the example. If you compromise, then you can expect them to do the same.

Now, I also know that you can live a life that is a Godly example to your children, and they can still grow up and go astray. But if this happens and you lived your life to be an example then you never have to wonder if they went astray because of what you did. If you compromise and they go astray you will always blame yourself and wish you had been more faithful.

Conclusion:

There is so much at stake in the family. Your family needs you to be a Godly dad. They need you to take a stand and to set the example of how they are to live. You will never be sorry for the sacrifices you make to be the Godly father they need you to be.