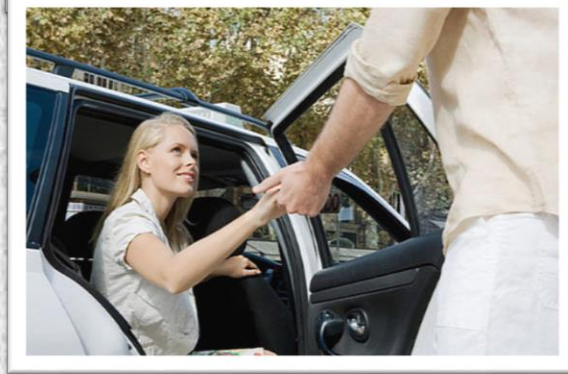


HOW MUCH OF A
Gentleman
ARE YOU?



Restoration of Manhood

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THE CALLING AND MINISTRY OF A FATHER

A. THE ULTIMATE REVELATION OF GOD

God created the universe as a Father and He has left His Father imprint on every aspect of creation.

EPH 3: 14, 15 I bow my knees to the Father, from Whom every **fatherhood** in heaven and earth derives its name.

All fatherhood in the universe did not begin on earth – it began in heaven. The Bible describes that an intimate, personal relationship between the Father and His Son existed before creation ever began.

HOW JESUS MANIFESTED THE FATHER

Jesus was sent by the Father to accomplish two purposes:

1. To pay the penalty for our sin, that we might be forgiven and reconciled to God.
2. To reveal God as our Father and to make us members of His family.

JOHN 17: 6, 26 ...I have manifested **Your Name** ...
...I have declared to them **Your Name** ...

What was this “name”? It was not **Jehovah** or **Yahweh** – that Name was **FATHER**.

“Manifest” = To make evident or certain by showing / displaying.

Jesus **manifested** God as Father by the way He lived out His life – a life of unbroken fellowship with and total dependence on God.

JOHN 14:6(a) I am the Way, the Truth and the Life...

The way where to? - To the FATHER!

JOHN 14:6(b) ...No one comes to the Father except through Me.

The ultimate purpose of Jesus: TO BRING US TO THE FATHER.

THE BENEFITS OF KNOWING THE FATHER

1. Identity

Both Scripture and psychology agree that a person cannot fully answer the question, "Who am I?" without knowing who his/her father is.

Relationships between parents and children have so broken down in the last two generations, that our society is suffering an identity crisis. Multitudes are rootless; they have no sense of belonging.

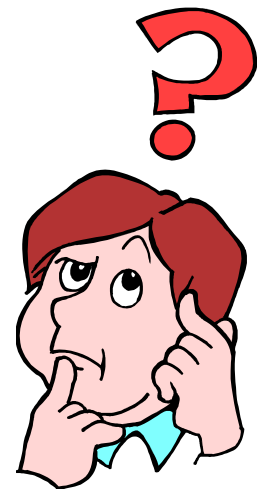
People who truly know God as Father no longer have an identity problem. They know who they are: Children of the Most High God. Their Father created them, loves them and cares for them. They belong to the best family in the universe!

2. Self-worth

Having a too low a picture of themselves causes many of God's children to suffer spiritual and emotional agonies. Knowing that God intimately and personally loves us, that He is interested in us, that He is never too busy for us and that He **desires** a direct and personal relationship with us, helps us to discover our self-worth.

3. Awareness of a Home in Heaven

We are just passing through on to our eternal destination!



4. Total Security

Jesus has assured us that the Father is greater than all that surrounds us, and that no one is able to snatch us out of His Hand.

LUKE 12:32 Do not fear, little flock, for it is Your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.

If our Father has committed Himself to give us the Kingdom, no power in the universe can withhold it from us!

5. Motivation for Service

One persistent and pervasive problem in the Church is the personal ambition of those in ministry, manifesting itself in competition with other ministries. We often make the mistake of equating **security** with **success**. "If I have the biggest church, the largest meetings, the most names on our mailing list, etc. THEN I will be secure." This is a delusion! The more we aim at personal success, the less secure we become. We are continually feeling threatened and measuring ourselves against others.

ANSWER

JOHN 8:29 The Father has not left me alone, for **I always do those things that please Him.**

MOTIVATION: Simply please the Father!

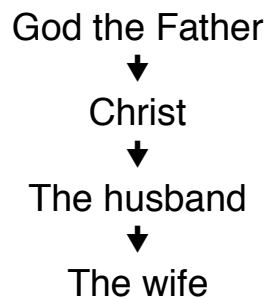
B. HUMAN FATHERS REPRESENT THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD

God puts truth into persons. Jesus is the **Truth**, the Way and the Life. In other words, Truth is a person – Jesus. Every father is to represent God to his family. **This is not an option!**



THE QUESTION: Do you as a father represent God rightly or wrongly?

1 COR 11:3 But I want you to know and realize that Christ is the Head of every man, the head of every woman is her husband, and the Head of Christ is God.



The man is therefore responsible to represent Christ to his family. What a job description for a father!

Three main ministries of Christ in which the father should represent Him to his family are **PRIEST, PROPHET AND KING**.

1. THE FATHER AS PRIEST

One unique word connected to priesthood is **sacrifice**. Only a priest may offer a sacrifice. It is the father's duty to offer sacrifices on behalf of his family:

- a. Offering thanksgiving.
- b. Making intercession.
- c. Making the way for salvation.
- d. Exercising faith for his children.



a. **Offering thanksgiving**

HEB 13:15 Through Him, therefore, let us constantly and at all times offer up to God a sacrifice of praise, which is the fruit of lips that thankfully acknowledge and confess and glorify His Name.

NUM 6:27 And they shall put My Name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them.

When we put the Name of Jesus on those for whom we are praying, we invoke God's blessing on them. Few of us realize how much we uplift people in their spirits when we simply praise God for them. This is a major part of our ministry as intercessors.

Fathers, take much more time thanking God for your family, because in so doing you create an atmosphere around them that makes it easy for them to succeed.

HAVE YOU THANKED GOD FOR YOUR CHILD TODAY?

b. **Making Intercession**

EXAMPLE: Job got up early in the morning and offered sacrifices on behalf of all his children. He was claiming the benefits of the sacrifices on their behalf.

Intercession for our children, then, involves claiming the benefits of Christ's death on their behalf. Every father is responsible before God to maintain day-by-day intercession for his whole household.

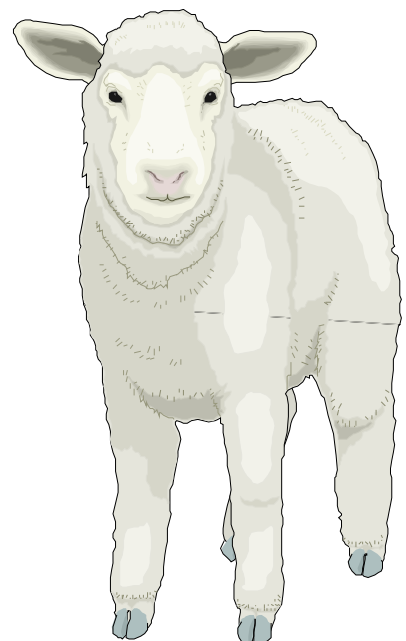
c. **Making the Way for Salvation**

OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLE: Passover.

The father had to select the lamb.

The father had to slay the lamb.

The father had to sprinkle its blood on the doorposts of the house.



It was his responsibility to see that God's provision of salvation was made effective in his home.

d. Exercising Faith for his Children

MARK 9: 23, 24 And Jesus said, You say to Me, If You can do anything? Why, all things are possible to him who believes! At once the father of the boy gave a cry with tears, and he said, Lord, I believe! Help my weakness of faith!

The boy could not believe for himself but the Lord held the father accountable to believe for his son. Parents have a much greater responsibility than many of us are willing to acknowledge.

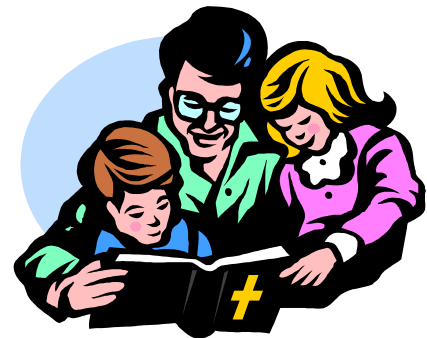
2. THE FATHER AS PROPHET

You represent God to your family in four specific ways:

a. Representing God by Example

The problem here lies in misrepresenting God to his family. Is the father loving, accessible, compassionate, strong?

If the father is bitter, angry, critical or just absent and irresponsible, that child begins life with a negative idea about God.



How does a father function as prophet to his family for good and not for evil? First and foremost, by LOVE. A father's love imparts a sense of strength, of security, of being important, of being valuable.

When this kind of love is lacking in a child's life, the result is a deep inner wound, described best as REJECTION – a sense of being unimportant and unwanted. This was the ultimate wound that killed Jesus on the cross: rejection by His Father. But remember, Jesus endured our rejection that we might have His acceptance.

Millions of people carry inner wounds of rejection. In most cases this wound of rejection is never actually diagnosed. Those who bear it go through life with a sense of being **incomplete**, and they never understand just what is missing.

The symptoms of this wound may be either **passive** or **active**. On the **passive side**: Depression, cynicism, lack of motivation, hopelessness and, ultimately, suicidal tendencies.

On the **active side**: Frustration, anger, rejection of authority, violence, criminality and ultimately, murder.

Much of the crime and violence in Western society today is the failure of fathers to love their children.

Remember, love is **action** – undemonstrated love does not meet a child's need.

DISCIPLINE

Since the father is the head of the family, all discipline should be seen as proceeding from him. At times, the mother may be the one who actually carries it out. It is important that parental discipline be consistent, mutually agreed upon and followed through by both parents.

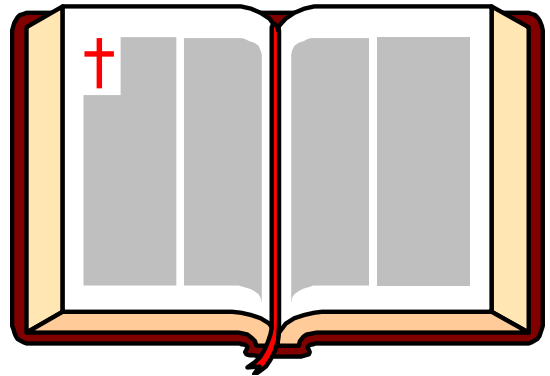
DANGERS

- **REBELLION**: To avoid rebellion, make sure your discipline is firm and consistent.
- **DISCOURAGEMENT**: This happens when a father is unduly severe, critical and demanding. The child gives up trying – nothing is ever good enough.

b. Representing God through Teaching

Instruct them in the ways and Word of God.

EPH 6:4 Fathers, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger, but rear them tenderly in the training and discipline and the counsel and admonition of the Lord.



God's order is that the father is primarily responsible to teach the children the truth of God's Word. Many times it is the mother that has to do this and the problem is, boys get the impression that Christianity is something for women.

DEUT 11:19 And you shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you rise up.

Every situation in a family's life can be an occasion for teaching Scripture to youngsters, not just on Sundays! When children learn to pray, they grow up believers. An experience of answered prayer is an anchor when people are in danger.

c. Communicating both Ways

The most effective communication between a father and child usually takes place in a non-religious setting. If the father's instruction is associated with something stiff, formal and religious, in the end they tend to resent both the faith and the instruction.

Let your children talk back to you. Encourage them to express themselves and to explain their problems. Do not make the atmosphere too religious and do not look shocked at some of the things they tell you!

Everyday situations lend themselves to real communication, e.g. – gardening, mowing, a fishing trip, cleaning the house, etc.



d. Saving your Family in the Last Days

HEB 11:7 Prompted by faith Noah, being forewarned by God concerning events of which as yet there was no visible sign, took heed and diligently and reverently constructed and prepared an ark for the deliverance of his own family. By this faith he passed judgement and sentence on the world's unbelief and became an heir and possessor of righteousness.

Noah, the righteous man, heard from God about the disaster that was coming, made preparation and saved his family.

The days in which we live call for fathers with a prophetic spirit like Noah – fathers who will be sensitive to intimidations on danger facing their families and who will take protective action on their behalf.

3. THE FATHER AS KING

The father governs his family on behalf of God.

TIM 3:4 He must rule his own household well, keeping his children under control, with true dignity, commanding their respect in every way and keeping them respectful.



The father is expected to exercise authority and to have his children respectful, obedient and under his control. The father puts himself between his family and all the pressures and dangers of life. He also goes in front of them and sets an example of Godly living.

TIM 3:5 For if a man does not know how to rule his own household, how is he to take care of the church of God?

If a man cannot achieve successful leadership at home, in other words, he cannot expect to succeed as a leader in the Church.

ABRAHAM, THE FATHER OF ALL NATIONS

GEN 18: 17-19 And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham what I am going to do, since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed through him and shall bless themselves by him? For I have known him as My own, so that he may teach and command his children and the sons of his house after him to keep the way of the Lord and to do what is just and righteous, so that the Lord may bring Abraham what He has promised him.

The final responsibility for order in the house rests with the fathers. He is the one who must answer to God for his family.

ROM 4: 11, 12 He received the mark of circumcision as a token or an evidence and seal of the righteousness which he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised – so that he was to be made the father of all who truly believe, though without circumcision, and who thus have righteousness imputed to them and credited to their account, as well as that he be made the father of those circumcised persons who are not merely circumcised, but also walk in the way of that faith which our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

Abraham is a father to all those who **walk in his steps** – NOT “I am born again and therefore Abraham is my father”.

SOME MORE DISCIPLINE

HEB 5:8 Although He was a Son, He learned active, special obedience through what He suffered.

Jesus had to **learn** obedience, thus, obedience needs to be **taught**. This is called discipline.

You must combine love and discipline. Children raised by giving them all they ask for, doing everything they want, succumbing to every command, will end up being unhappy, frustrated children. When they grow up, they will expect life to treat them the same way their parents did.

The unhappiest children are the ones with no discipline in their lives. They are also the most insecure, because a child needs to have boundaries that give them security. [See manual “Boundaries with Kids”.]

WHEN FATHERS FAIL

DEUT 28:41 You shall beget sons and daughters but shall not enjoy them, for they shall go into captivity.

Not enjoying our children is a curse!

How many parents today really enjoy their children?

God made children the greatest blessing He could give to men and women.

Children have gone “into captivity”. There are different kinds of satanic captivity:

- Drugs.
- Illicit sex.
- The occult.
- Cults.
- Etc.



MAL 2:7 For the priest’s lips should guard and keep pure the knowledge of My law, and the people should seek instruction at his mouth; for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

The priest must know the law of the Lord and interpret it to the Lord’s people. This also applies to a father as priest.

HOS 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you, the priestly nation, have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you that you shall be no priest to Me; seeing you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children.

When a father fails to fulfil his intercessory ministry as **priest**, God says, “I will forget your children”. “Your children will no longer be under My special watchful care.”

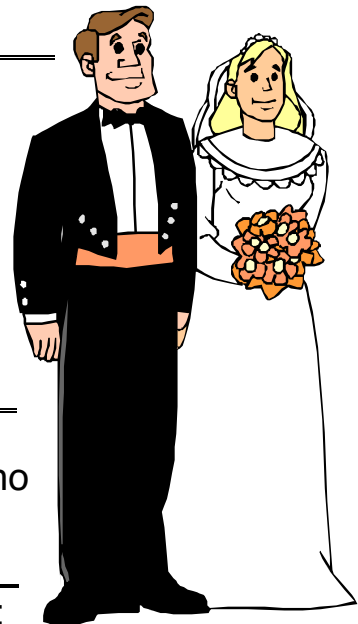
How many young people are forgotten by God today – ignored by God – because they have no fathers to intercede for them?

ANSWER

MAL 4: 5, 6 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. And he shall turn and reconcile the heart of the estranged fathers to the ungodly children, and the hearts of the rebellious children to the piety of their fathers, a reconciliation produced by repentance of the ungodly, lest I come and smite the land with a curse and a ban of utter destruction.

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR MARRIAGE

MAL 2:15 And did not God make you and your wife one flesh? Did not One make you and preserve your spirit alive? And why did God make you two one? **Because He sought a godly offspring from your union.** Therefore take heed to yourselves, and let no one deal treacherously and be faithless to the wife of his youth.



When a marriage breaks up, it is the children who suffer the most.

MAL 2:16 For the Lord, the God of Israel, says: **I hate divorce** and **marital separation** and him who covers his garment (his wife) with **violence**. Therefore keep a watch upon your spirit that it may be controlled by My Spirit, that you deal not treacherously and faithlessly with your marriage mate.

The Lord hates:

1. Divorce.
2. Marital separation.
3. A husband who hits his wife or who is violent towards her.

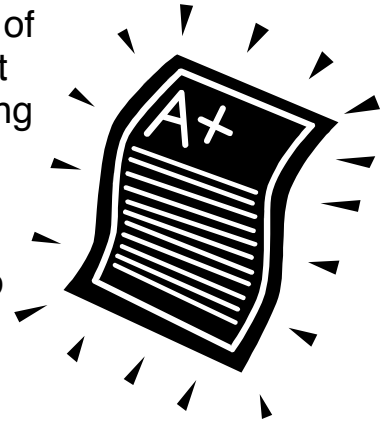
God's requirements may all be summed up in a single word: LOVE. This love is manifested in three main dimensions:

1. The intimate love between a husband and his wife.
2. The protective love of parents for their children.
3. The reaching-out love of believers towards those who have no one else to love them – the orphans and the widows (single moms).

YOU CAN SUCCEED!

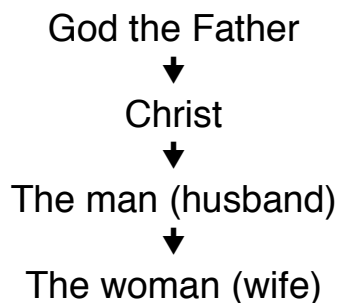
You may have now come face to face with areas of failure in your life. You may have recognized that you have not been the kind of father God is looking for – and that your family desperately needs.

It's now time for you to make a decision. Turn your back on your failures and commit yourself to God for the ministry of a father.



1. Take your place as head of your family

This requires a decision and a commitment. *“Lord, I recognize that You hold me responsible to be head of my family. By a decision of my will, I now accept my place and the responsibility that goes with it. I commit myself to You for this task.”*



Your authority as a husband and father depends on you being in submission to Jesus. If you are truly submitted to Him as your Head, all the authority of heaven will flow down through you into your family and you will function effectively as its head. If you are not in subjection to Jesus, you may put forth a great deal of fleshly effort – you may shout and stamp your feet; you may get angry and even violent – but you will still lack one thing: The genuine, God-given authority that alone can make you an effective head to your family.

2. Trust God for the Grace you need

Being a father is a calling of God just as sacred as being an evangelist or a pastor. Trust God for the special grace you would need to be a successful father.

HEB 4:16 Let us then **fearlessly** and **confidently** and **boldly** draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive **mercy** for our failures and find **grace** to help in good time for every need.

When you come on this basis, God offers you two things: **Mercy** and **grace**. Neither of these can be earned. They must be received as free gifts of God.

- **MERCY FOR THE PAST**

Mercy takes care of the **past**. It covers all the mistakes and failures that make you feel unqualified. Once you have confessed and repented of all the sin you have committed, they will no longer be held against you.

MICAH 7: 18, 19 Who is a God like You, Who **forgives iniquity** and **passes over the transgression** of the remnant of His heritage? He retains not His anger forever, because He delights in mercy and loving-kindness. He will again have **compassion** on us; He will subdue and tread underfoot our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

- **GRACE FOR THE FUTURE**

“Grace” – God’s free, unmerited favour towards the undeserving and the ill deserving. Because of your relationship to God through Jesus Christ, God looks on you with **favour**. He takes pleasure in you. He wants the best for you. He desires you to succeed in all circumstances – in particular as a father.

II COR 12:9 My grace is sufficient for you.

Grace takes us beyond our own natural abilities. When we have exhausted our own resources, we can look to God for His grace – His supernatural enabling. **Grace begins where our own ability ends.**

II COR 12:10 When I am weak, then I am strong.

THE CALLING AND MINISTRY OF A MARRIAGE

A. MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT

The three most important permanent relationships available to human beings are:

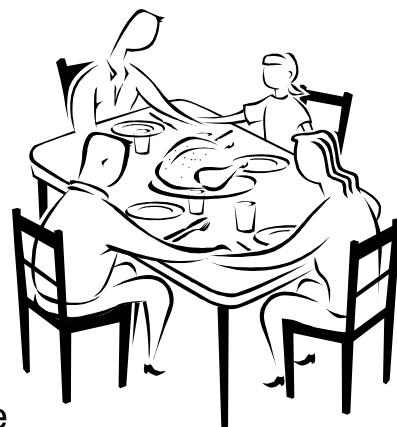
1. The relationship of the believer to God.
2. The relationship between spouses.
3. The relationship of believers to one another.

The basis of each of these relationships is a **covenant**, which is the most solemn, binding form of commitment that the Bible describes. No lasting relationship can be built according to Biblical principles without a covenant. Children who are the fruit of a covenant between a man and his wife are thereby included within the scope of the covenant established before God and their parents.

COVENANT BREAKERS

God is very serious about keeping covenant.

MAL 2:14 Yet you ask, Why does He reject it? Because the Lord was witness to the covenant made at your marriage between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously and to whom you were faithless. Yet she is your companion and the wife of your covenant made by your marriage vows.



God is addressing husbands who are cheating on their wives. God is saying: *“It doesn’t matter how frequently you pray or how much time you spend in church. If you are not faithful to your covenant commitment to your wife, I will not listen to your prayers”.*

That is why adultery is a much more serious sin than fornication. Fornication does not break a covenant. Adultery is immorality that does break a covenant.

THE MYSTERY OF COVENANT

No one can understand covenant in the Biblical sense except by revelation – it's one of God's secrets.

PS 25:14 The secret of the sweet, satisfying companionship of the Lord have they who fear, revere and worship Him, and He will show them His covenant and reveal to them its deep, inner meaning.

God only reveals this secret to those who fear Him.

Ephesians 5: 22-31 explains that the marriage relationship between a man and his wife is a type/picture of the relationship between Christ and His Church.

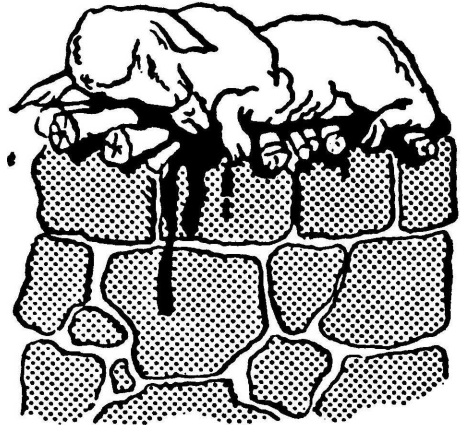
EPH 5:32 This is a great mystery.

We can understand its true nature only if we have passed the appropriate process of **initiation**. This process takes place when, by the marriage ceremony, a man and a woman enter into covenant with God and with each other. Only when they are willing to make this covenant commitment can they begin to discover the true nature of marriage. Couples not willing to fulfil this condition can experience the legal and physical aspects of marriage, but its true nature remains closed to them – a mystery – a secret.

THE PRINCIPLES OF COVENANT

PS 50: 4, 5 He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that He may judge His people: Gather together to Me My saints, those who have found grace in My sight, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.

Covenant is made on the basis of a **sacrifice** – a sacrifice requires shed blood – a life laid down.



HEB 9: 16, 17 For where there is a last will and testament involved, the death of the one who made it must be established, for a will and testament is valid and takes effect only at death, since it has no force or legal power as long as the one who made it is alive.

When you make a covenant you really are signing your own death warrant!

EXAMPLE

God cuts covenant with Abraham – **Gen 15:17** When the sun had gone down and a thick darkness had come on, behold, a smoking oven and a flaming torch passed between those pieces.

Passing through the pieces of sacrifice means: *“That death was my death. From now on I die to myself and live for the one with whom I am in covenant.”*

When a Christian man and woman get married, they pass together through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

GAL 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in (by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Each lays down his/her life for the other. That is the basis of Christian marriage.

The world says: *“What will I get out of this?”*

The Bible says: *“What will I give?”*

THE HUSBAND'S RESPONSIBILITY

1. Love your wife

EPH 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.

Take note: This is a **giving** love. It is the husband who should take the initiative in giving himself to and for his wife.



2. Receive input

The husband should always make room for his wife to speak her mind freely and be sensitive to what she is thinking or feeling, even when she does not express it in words. Her unspoken feelings are often her deepest, and the ones of which her husband needs to be most aware. He must also remember that his wife has her own special kind of wisdom, "intuition".

3. Make decisions

It is the husband's responsibility to make the final decision, and if there has been good, open, free and respectful communication, the wife is happy to let her husband bear this responsibility.

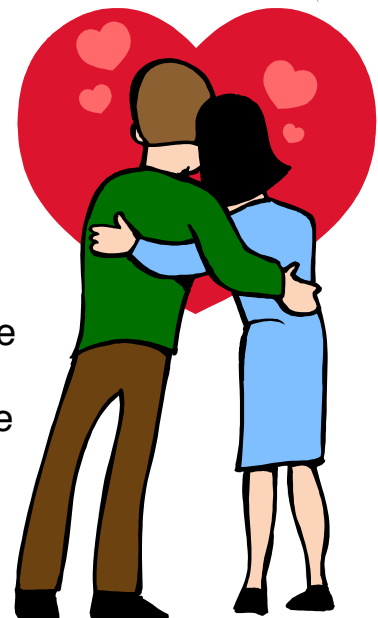


4. Initiate action

These are the practical steps to carry out a decision.

5. Nourish and cherish

One word should describe the attitude of every husband towards his wife: SPECIAL. Every husband should say to himself: "My wife is special. There is no one else just like her." Therefore he should relate to her in a way that he relates to no other woman. It should apply sexually, the way he thinks about her, the way he talks about her, the way he treats her, etc.



EPH 5: 28, 29 Even so husbands should love their wives as being in a sense their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself. For no man ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and carefully protects and cherishes it, as Christ does the church.

This scripture includes attention to what might appear small details:

- His wife's health.
- Her appearance.
- The way she does her hair.
- The perfume she uses.

Everything that concerns her should concern him. She should always have the confidence that to her husband she is the most important person in the world.

Husbands: If you sow into your wife in this way, you will reap an abundant harvest!

6. Give praise

See Proverbs 31, especially verses 28 and 29.

PROV 31: 28, 29 Her children rise up and call her blessed; and her husband boasts of and praises her, saying, Many daughters have done virtuously, nobly, and well with the strength of character that is steadfast in goodness, but you excel them all.



Some husbands are stingy with their words of praise. False economy! Giving praise to your wife is one of the best investments you can ever make. If she is faithful and committed, there is no way he can ever offer her in money what she is worth.

PROV 31:10 Her worth is far above rubies.

Offer her your heartfelt praise!

A FINAL CHALLENGE

A husband's success is seen in his wife.

QUESTIONS: Is she secure and fulfilled?
Do I feel proud of her?

If your answer is “yes”, then you're a successful husband. But if there are obvious areas in her personality that are incomplete, if she shows strain or insecurity, you need to check your performance as a husband. Ask the Lord for the grace you need to do better.

A FURTHER REVELATION OF THE STUDY OF MAN'S CALLING AND MINISTRY

GEN 1: 26, 27 God said, Let Us [Father, Son and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have **complete authority** over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the tame beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth. So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; **male** and **female** He created them.

Adam was given the ability to take dominion over the earth. He was commanded to subdue it.

This ability to exercise authority over the rest of God's creation came through Adam's **spirit**. **All true authority from God flows through the spirit.**

GEN 2: 21-23 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam; and while he slept, He took one of his ribs or a part of his side and closed up the place with flesh. And the rib or part of his side which the Lord God had taken from the man He built up and made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. Then Adam said, This creature is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called **Woman**, because she was taken out of a man.

The Hebrew word for **man** is *iysh* and for **woman** it is *ishshah*.

Adam means *origin of man* (created in the image and likeness of God).

iysh means *nature of man*.

MALE DNA STRUCTURE – “iysH”

- Husband, steward, great, mighty, worthy, champion, powerful and strong.
- Gene of **war** – **Ex 15:3** The Lord is a Man of War... Aggression, confrontation, conquering, ruling. A man should fight to protect those under him without thinking and without the need for a preacher to remind him.
- The natural ability to be a **husband** and a **father**. He will naturally be faithful and responsible as our Heavenly Father.
- **Champion** – wants to compete to win. Helps you to identify your God-given abilities, which help to define your gifts and calling. Men must test their strengths and expose their weaknesses.
- **Steward** – A true man is responsible for those placed under him. He must rule his world well and maintain order. He must defend the weak.



BALANCING CHAMPION AND STEWARD

Men were not created to be dictators or to be effeminate (displaying female characteristics).

The macho man lives a solitary life – he’s so strong and hard that he cannot give of himself. He’s “too cool” to love his wife or his children. He can be so much of a conqueror that he becomes physically abusive to those whom God has placed under him.

THE ORDER IN THE HOME

1 COR 11:3 But I want you to know and realize that Christ is the Head of every man, the head of a woman is her husband, and the Head of Christ is God.

This headship is not only something God has established by ordinance, but it is something He has placed in man by nature.

THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE

MALE

Zakar

Ruler
Steward
Conquering
Confrontational
Champion
Powerful
Strong

FEMALE

Negebah

Help meet.
Elegant opposite.
 With holes.
To puncture.
To perforate.
To pierce.
To receive the seed of life.

A true woman of God is easily pierced by God. She will naturally open her heart and her loins to her husband if he carries the presence of God.

EPH 5: 22-27 Wives, be subject (be submissive and adapt yourselves) to your own husbands as a service to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife as Christ is the Head of the church, Himself the Saviour of His body. As the church is subject to Christ, so let wives also be subject in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word, that He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendour, without spot or wrinkle or any such things that she might be holy and faultless.

A husband is commanded by God to bring his wife the “sperma” of God. He is responsible to present his wife before God as the glory of his reflection without spot or blemish. He (not the pastor) must give her God!

Many women marry because of a man’s outward appearance or his financial security and find themselves frustrated and sexually unresponsive. They desire to touch the glory of God, but they find only the glory of man. The woman was created to receive her husband’s spiritual impartation.

THE SEXUAL ACT

The husband is over his bride imparting through his nature as a life-giving spirit and the wife is under her husband receiving the very life of God. Physical intimacy is no longer the purpose of sex; the purpose of sex is now spiritual intimacy. Spiritual communion is the “Holy of Holies” of the marriage covenant.

Men, never desire to take your wife’s body if you don’t first have her heart. Jesus never forces Himself on His Bride, the Church. Instead He DRAWS her by His love and His life.

Neqebah was created by God to be pierced by the glory of God.

ZAKAR

GEN 1:27 So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Zakar means *a species marked so as to be recognized, remembered, mentioned.*

The male has been **marked** by God. There is something placed in the male that causes him to stand out and be recognized. God has specially marked the male for **leadership**.

THE BREAKDOWN

The breakdown in God’s divine order begins with the man.

The woman was not created to help the man fulfil the lusts of his flesh. She was created to help him obey God.

When a man no longer seeks to fulfil the will of God in his life, a woman cannot find her purpose in him. As woman was designed to find her purpose by the reflection of God in her husband.

Man is marked with glory. Glory is not beauty. Beauty is just a substitute for glory. Religion is the outward adorning that man uses to cover his lack of true spiritual glory. Fig leaves and aprons

have always been used by fallen man to cover his loss of glory by the work of his own hands.

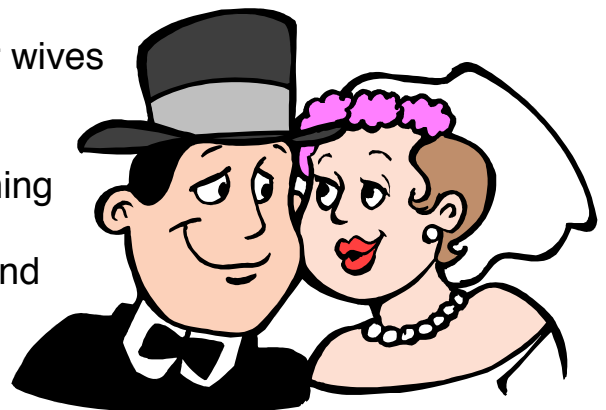
Men must take up their responsibility of being male:

- God chose and ordained you for manhood.
- You were given the nature to pierce and to penetrate the kingdom of darkness with the light of God's Kingdom.
- You were created to conquer and to rule over God's creation.
- You were born to overthrow principalities and destroy their works.
- You were created to be the head of your homes and to rule well, always taking the role of defender with sobriety.
- You were created by God to be the priest of your home, to wash your wife with the washing of the water by the Word and to raise your children in the nature and admonition of the Lord.

THE MYSTERY OF MARRIAGE

Men are commanded to dwell with your wives according to **knowledge** (1 Pet 3:7).

Revelation is therefore needed concerning this great mystery – understanding the differences between man [*iysh/zakar*] and woman [*ishshah/neqebah*].



EPH 5: 25-29 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word, that He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendour, without spot or wrinkle or any such things that she might be holy and faultless. Even so husband should love their wives as being in a sense their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself. For no man ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and carefully protects and cherishes it, as Christ does the church...

There are **two** distinct ways in which a husband is expected to love his wife:

1. Husbands must love their wives as Christ loves the Church by sanctifying and cleansing her. This relationship deals with her need as *neqebah* (female) and must be met by *zakar* (male).
2. They must also love their wives as themselves by nourishing her and cherishing her. This relationship reveals her need as *ishshah* (woman) and is provided by *iysh* (man).

Our Heavenly Husband ministers to our natural life by nourishing and cherishing us. To do this He meets our physical and soulish needs. At the same time, He ministers to our spiritual needs through sanctifying and cleansing us, His Bride, by His Word.

Husbands must also provide the same for their wives – in BOTH areas – SPIRITUAL and NATURAL needs.

A wife is a garden enclosed, a spring shut up and a fountain sealed if she is not gently touched by her husband (S of S 4:12). A husband will reap what he sows in his garden, so do not neglect your personal “garden of Eden”.



The “Holy of Holies” in the mystery of marriage is visited when *zakar* (male) and *neqebah* (female) come together. *Iysh* (man) and *ishshah* (woman) can only have sex; it takes *zakar* and *neqebah* to make love. It should be a natural transition to flow from prayer and the worship of Jesus Christ to the intimacy of the undefiled marriage bed.

Again, the responsibility falls to the husband as the priest of his marriage to blow with the wind of the Spirit upon his garden so that her spices may flow out (S of S 4:16).

Sexual intimacy between *zakar* and *neqebah* was ordained by God to teach us about the true intimacy between Christ and the Church. Husbands must learn to dwell with their wives according to knowledge. When she comes as *ishshah* needing to be nourished and cherished by her natural husband, he should provide for the needs of her flesh and her body through *iysh*. However, when she comes as *neqebah* needing to be cleansed and sanctified in her spirit, he must bring her God through the reflective nature of *zakar*.

FATHER AND SONS

ARE YOU A FATHER?

I COR 15:46 But it is not the spiritual life which came first, but the physical and then the spiritual.

Rachel bore a son called “Benoni” which means “son of my sorrows”. But his father changed his name to “Benjamin” which means “son of my right hand”. Within his name was the destiny which led to the lineage of king Saul.

What is true in the natural follows in the spiritual – pass the baton onto faithful children.

MAL 4: 5, 6 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. And he shall turn and reconcile the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers.

This is so important that God will have one last ministry of reconciliation before He returns.

In the natural John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elijah (Luke 1:17).

Paul was a **spiritual father** (I Cor 4:15). He fathered **Timothy** (II Tim 1:2) and **Titus** (Titus 1:4). We also read about Paul’s fatherhood where he addresses the “**little children**”, “**fathers**” and “**young men**” (I John 2: 12-14).

MATURITY

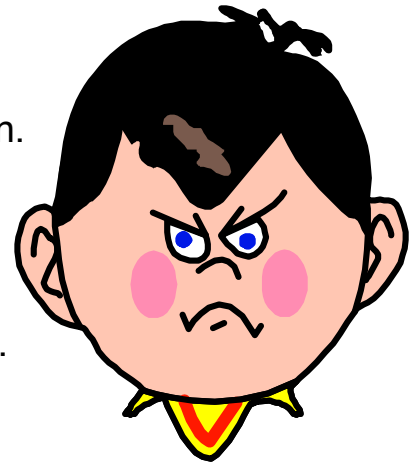
When we are immature we can suffer in the following ways:

1. In the natural

- A. Leadership
- Emotionally.

- Socially.
 - Psychologically.
- B. Oppressed children – turn to rage / rebellion.
C. Orphans will search for years for heritage and not have boundaries.

Thus, if you don't restore earthly fatherhood – spiritual growth and fatherhood will be stunted.



2. Spiritually

When people of God refuse maturity in Christ they are judged in the following ways:

- A. They will find themselves with immature leaders (Is 3: 4, 5; I Cor 4:15 – “boy-leaders”).
B. Oppression (Is 3:5).
C. Desiring identity (Is 3: 6, 7; 4:1 “...seven women will take one man...”)

THREE TYPE OF FATHERS

1. UNGODLY / DESTRUCTION

Where only you are the head of the house.

Only one person makes decisions. Your will is supreme.
Everyone does as you say.

A son is never released into manhood and never gets to
experience choice. He lives a life of frustration.

Result: Illegitimate / Bastard.

2. UNGODLY / DESTRUCTION

Where you make sure that only you produce.

Choose a vision to build an empire instead of an inheritance.

Son has possessions, clothes, etc. but lives a life rejected.

Challenges are not presented for learning.

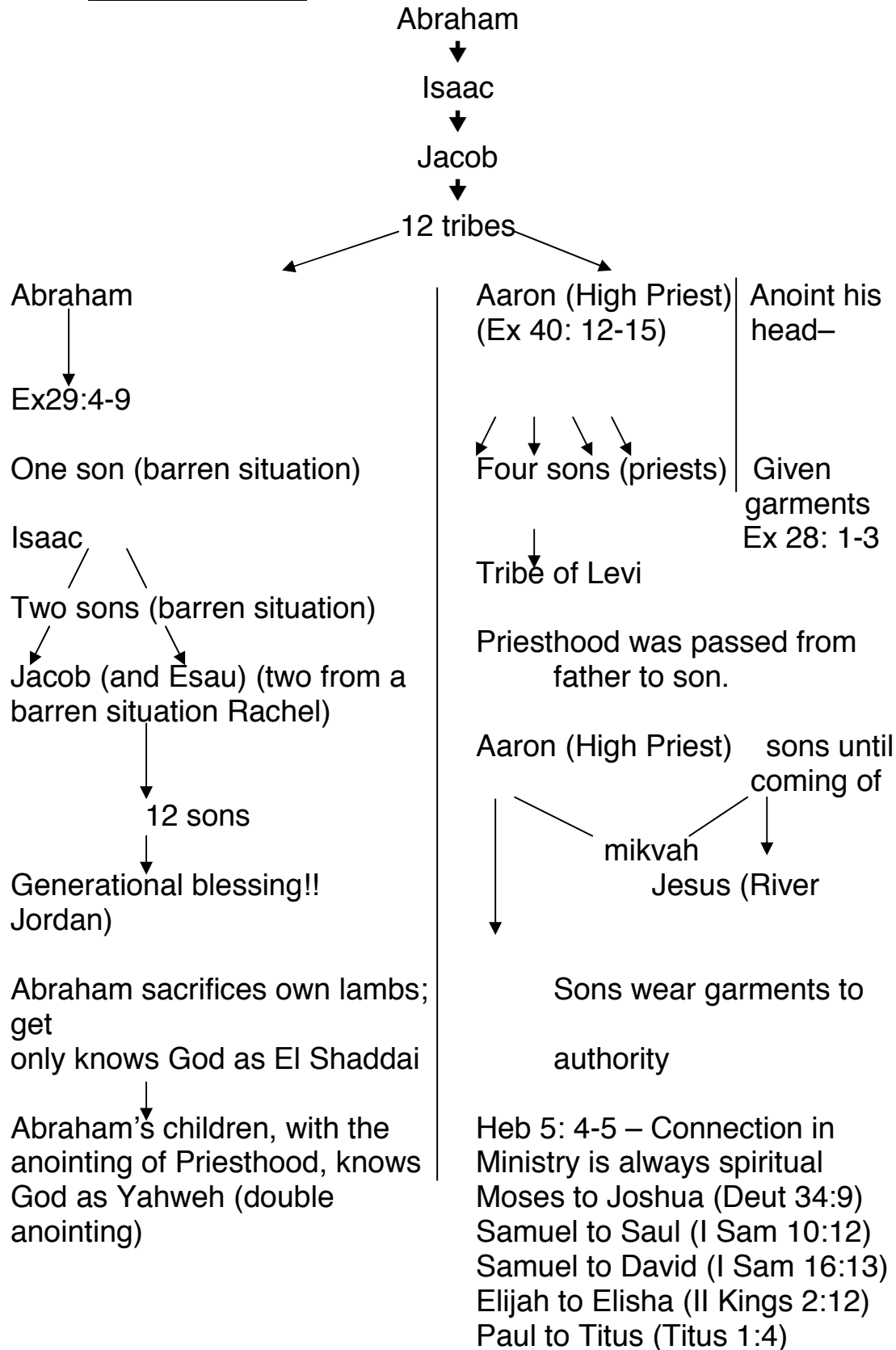
Father's records/achievements are always the best.

Never good enough.

Result: Castrated / Eunuch.

3. GOD'S ORDER

3.1 Father to son



3.2 WHAT ARE WE PASSING ON?

BLESSINGS

Righteousness – Deut 7:9
 Revelation of God – Deut 29:29
 Fellowship – Ex 29:42
 Prayer – Ps 141:2; Ex 30:8
 Atonement – Ex 30:10
 Rest – Ex 31:16
 Anointing – Ex 30:31; 40:15
 Offerings – Lev 6:18; Num 15:21
 Requirement for service –
 Lev 10:9
 Financial freedom – Lev 25:30
 Garments – Ex 28: 42-43;
 Num 15:38
 Service – Num 18:23

CURSES

Iniquity – Ex 20:5; 34:7; Deut 5:9
 Illegitimacy – Deut 23:2
 Impure heritage – Deut 23:3
 Disqualification for service –
 Lev 21:17; 22:3

3.3 HOW DO WE STOP THE FLOW?

1. Provoke your children – Eph 6:4.
2. Sell your birthright – Gen 25: 29-34; Heb 12: 16-17.
3. Steal someone else's birthright – Deut 19:14; 27:17; Hos 5:10

3.4 HOW DO YOU GET TO BE A FATHER?

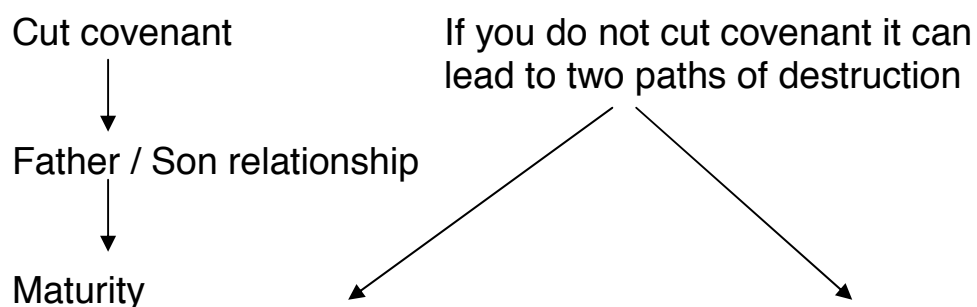
1. Be prepared to **circumcise** your son – cut covenant. It's a painful, time consuming and costly procedure, but it produces a son who honours his father (Ex 4: 24-26 – Moses; Acts 16: 1-3; Deut. 10: 15-16; Jer. 4:4).

Jacob gave a garment – covering of authority and favour made with materials of love, effort and time (father heart).

Joseph filled it with honour and faithfulness (son).

Aaron was anointed on his head – his sons not so (Ex 29: 4-9), but they were given coats/garments (Ex 28: 1-3).

Anointing is passed by oil flowing down into the garments and passed onto the son – garments of love, encouragement and praise (Ex 29: 29-30; Lev 8:33; Acts 19:11-12 – Paul; Eph 4: 11-15 – five-fold ministry and no longer CHILDREN).



1. Where you only want yourself as the head of the house.
Son = bastard, illegitimate.

2. Where you want to make sure that only you produce.
Son = castrated, eunuch.

2. Understand that your role is to produce a “son” who carries a double anointing and does more than you ever did (Elijah – Elisha; John – Jesus).
3. Ordained fathers are to be an earthly confirmation and witness to the heavenly voice of Father God (**Ps 42:7** “...deep calls out to deep...”; **Jer 31:9** “But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart”.)
4. Help your son through the wilderness.
When Jesus was 12 years old he said, “Don’t you know I’m about my Father’s business” in **Luke 2:49**. **Luke 2: 51-52** tells us that He grew in maturity. After 18 years of silence He came into ministry – **Luke 3: 21-22** “Thou art My Beloved Son”.

[Is the light in your house on?]

Help them to learn values and to overcome the three physical and spiritual attacks of life:

4. **Cain**
Where he doesn't want anyone to have more than he has and he wants to be the greatest.

5. **Balaam**
Where he sells revelation for profit and seduces the people's hearts from the father; uses his gifts for money; reaches out for both worlds and loses both.

6. **Korah**
Where he speaks evil words to come against the word given; admire the man for your own advantage; rebellion.

Lesson: Ruben.
Absalom.

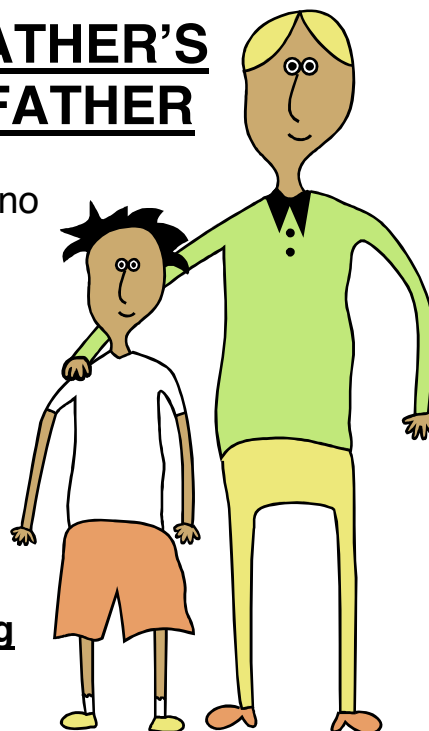
THE FINAL MEASURE OF A FATHER'S SUCCESS – HONOUR YOUR FATHER

Fathers make mistakes. Fathers grow old and no longer have the strength that made their sons love them. While they may have the heart, the body winds down.

Paul, in jail, the man who clothed many now needs a cloak – **II Tim 4:13**.

But a son will:

1. Honour your father that your days **be long** (Ex 20:12)



Vs

Curse your father and you will die (Matt 15:4).

2. Manifestation of honour is substantial (Prov 3:9; II Chron 17:5; I Tim 5: 3, 17, 18)

Vs

Just lip service (Is 29:13).

3. Wait for his right of inheritance

Vs

Saul took Samuel's place (I Sam 15:22).

Priestly Blessing

Numbers 6:24-27

“Y’varekh’kha YHVH v’yishmerekha.

May YHVH bless you and keep you.

Ya’er YHVH panav eleikha vichunekka.

May YHVH make His Face shine on you and show you His favour.

Yissa YHVH panav eleikha v’yasem l’kha shalom.

May YHVH lift up His Face toward you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:27 *“In this way they are to put **My Name** on the people of Isra’el, so that I will **Bless** them.”*

