

A Man & His Fatherhood

Key Verses

*"1 Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, 2 that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey 4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and 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.." **Duet 6:1-7***

*"Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man? [7] The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him." – **Proverbs 20:6-7***

❖ We Must Stand Before the Father (Duet 6:1-2, 4-5)

- Loving God with all your heart, soul, and might is non-negotiable. He will accept no excuses.
 - Men, the only one who can keep you from loving God with all your heart, soul, and might is yourself!
- The truth is, you will not be a good leader unless you are a great follower.
 - Here in this text, the Bible teaches, "When a man gets serious about following God with his whole heart, God desires not only to pour out his blessings on that man, but on his children and grandchildren.
 - "And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them. *Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*" **Mark 8:34**
 - It's simple, every father is either:
 - Self-Centered
 - God-Centered
 - Men, how would our families describe us?
- We stand before a Holy God, the Father in Heaven. May we grasp and come to realize that our life is always lived before Him.
 - We may be able to hide things from our wife, our children, even our friends. But men, we cannot and will not be able to hide anything from our Heavenly Father.
 - How we live before the Father will ultimately affect how we live before our family.

❖ We Must Stand Before the Family (Deut. 6:2, 6:7)

➤ Your Walk

"Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.." **Colossians 2:6**

- Walk with Consistent Values
 - Values control behavior.
 - We act on the basis of what we believe really matters, what is right and good.
 - Whoever influences the core values in your group, is in fact, the leader. That process must begin with the values God instills in the leader.
- Walk with a Clear Vision
 - A movement of men unLeashed + unHindered for the Glory of God that transforms families and churches to the ends of the earth.
 - Great vision precedes great achievement. Vision is a clear mental picture of what could be, fueled by the conviction that it should be.

➤ Your Wife

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

Genesis 2:24

- I Lead Her
 - *“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body.” Ephesians 5:23*
- I Love Her
 - *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;” Ephesians 5:25*
- I Lift Her
 - *“Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.” 1 Peter 3:7*

➤ Your Children

“And, you fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath: but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

Ephesians 6:4

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

- If you want your kids to be sharp spiritually, then you better be sharp spiritually.
- Christian discipleship begins at home.
- The church is a partner. Sunday School is a partner, but men, the responsibility is OURS!
- Many parents are more concerned about...
 - their career instead of their children
 - their finances instead of their family
 - their houses instead of their homes.
- If the home is truly Christian, it is a place of encouragement. In such a home, the child finds refuge from battles, and yet strength to fight the battles and carry the burdens of growing maturity. He finds a loving heart, a watching eye, a listening ear, and a helping hand. He does not want any other place—home meets his needs. In this kind of a home it is natural for a child to trust Christ and want to live for Him.

❖ **We Stand Before the Future (Deut. 6:2-3)**

- *“That you may fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you – ‘a land flowing with milk and honey.’” – Deut. 6:2-3*
- *“I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; [20] that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.” Duet. 30:11,19-20*
- As we have seen in the text, the Christian home is called to develop the lives of many, it is a non-negotiable.
 - Your family is only one link in the chain that has brought you to this day. This link of today is also preparing the next link of the future.
 - Families drift because they lack male leadership. Today, more than ever, our kids are getting foggy messages about what is right and what is wrong.
- As you follow Christ, you cut a path of clarity that they can then step through and follow in you footsteps.
 - You lead a family for 100 years by following Jesus Christ today with your whole heart.
 - The man of God is the greatest evidence for or against Christianity.