

SERMON-BASED STUDY: BEING A GOOD, GOOD FATHER

Proverbs 3:1-12, ESV – *“My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. My son, do not despise the Lord’s discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.”*

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 What does a good father do for his kids?
- 2 In verse 5, how do we teach our kids to *Trust in the Lord and do not lean on your own understanding*?
- 3 What does it mean to *Be not wise in your own eyes*?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Deuteronomy 6:6-9, ESV** – “And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 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. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

4 How can fathers practically teach God’s commandments *diligently* to their children in daily life?

5 What does it look like for a father to model a love for God *with all your heart* to his children?

6 Why must God’s Word be visible and central in a family’s home and routines?

B **Matthew 6:19-25, ESV** – “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?”

7 How can fathers teach their children to value eternal treasures over material things in a world focused on wealth and success?

8 In what ways can a father’s trust in God over money influence his children’s view of security and priorities in life?

How can fathers help their children recognize when their hearts are becoming too attached to worldly things instead of to God?

TAKING IT HOME

This week, we were reminded that our salvation is not due to ourselves. Our salvation and life transformation are entirely due to God's grace in our lives. Therefore, we should be humble, give glory to God, and not think that we can finish by our own efforts that which He started in our lives. We must live by the strength and wisdom which God provides. How are you doing at living your life this way? Share with your group what God is showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to live by His strength and wisdom.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Luke 15:11-32
Proverbs 22:6
Ephesians 6:4
1 Timothy 5:8
Joshua 1:8
Matthew 26:18