

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ
SoM, Part 25: Warnings, Part 3a

Last two weeks...

Warning #1 to conclude the SoM:

Enter ye at the strait gate...narrow and filled with tribulations and trouble
following Jesus, Who is the Way

Pick the Right Way

Warning #2 to those who would be citizens of the Kingdom of God:

Beware of false prophets

Follow the Right Leader

This time...logical flow into the final warning

Warning #3

Do the will of My Father

Note: The well-spring in God's heart from which comes these warnings: Love
With every warning comes the opportunity to repent, to get right with God

v21 Not every one that saith unto me...but he that does:

Warning #3: Do...be doers of the Will of God not hearers only

Doing the will of My (Jesus Christ's) Father...

It is VERY important that we know what "does the will of My Father"
means so let's search the Scripture

John 6:28-29
John 6:38-40
John 7:16-17

what shall we do...work = will = believe

This is the will of My Father...who does?

what is the doctrine of the Father?

Matt 22:36-40
Rom 13:10b

doctrine = Love; God first. Others next (self last)

Love is the fulfilling of the Law

- Selfless
- Self-last
- Sacrificial

1 John 3:23

The Father's commandment: love and believe

Do the will of My (Jesus Christ's) Father

- do = believe and love
- do = believe and love in action
- do = being "of Christ" and "in Christ"

Matt 12:46-50

Matt 18:1-6

Matt 21:28-32

the Family business: believe and love
must be converted...simple innocent belief and love
humble oneself...others before Self
repent of self-will, believe God's Witness (obey)

John 14:23

John 15:9-14

1 John 2:15-17, 28-29

Family life: love and obey Head of House (do)
continue in, abide in Greater Love (selfless, selflast)

the Love of the Father or love of the world
Lust of flesh or love of God and others?
Covet things of world or things of God?
Pride or brokenness and humility?

1 John 3:18

love in deed and in truth (action), not just words
How we live vs how we talk
Love covers a multitude of sin (1 Peter 4:8)
Love is the fulfilling/doing of Law (Rom 13:10)

Entry into the Kingdom of Heaven (Ch 5:20) comes not by "saying" but by

- "doing"...believing and loving
- "being"...of Christ" and "in Christ"

Do, believe, love....inseparable

- To love is to believe and do
- To believe is to love and do
- To do is to believe and love

To do, to believe, to love is to be..."of Christ" and "in Christ"

When Jesus Christ becomes our Lord (in deed and in truth, not just in words),
"My Father which is in heaven" becomes "our Father which is in heaven"
(John 1:12)

Now, let's stop here and pause...because today is Father's Day

In light of the revelation of the Word of God (e.g. John 1:12), we know what a father is by looking at The Father

- Love (God's vs man's, 1 John 4:8)
- Light (1 John 1:5, James 1:17)
- a heart that is a stark contrast to the world

The Father sent the Son to reveal His heart to us (John 1:18)

- love
 - selfless
 - self last
 - sacrificial...doing what is best for another, even at the expense to Self
 - when we did not love Him, when we loved only ourselves
 - always acting with our best interest at heart – eternity vs carnal wants now
- provider
 - food \
 - clothing / Matt 6:31-33
 - shelter /
 - what we need most (vs all we want):
 - unconditional love...His
 - peace...with and of Him
 - joy...His, fully
 - contentment...in Him
 - reconciliation...by the greatest sacrifice possible
 - order...defense against chaos and confusion
- protector
 - setting and defending boundaries within is safety
 - tough/firm when we were stiff-necked
 - He chastises those whom He loves
- heartbreak
 - when His children think they know what is best for them, they disobey and wander from Him
 - when His love is
 - taken for granted
 - misunderstood
 - ignored
 - rejected

We know what a father is by looking at The Father

Fatherhood:

- the hardest job
- a thankless job
- an absolutely vital job

fathers:

- Do we reveal the heart of The Father to our children?

Deut 6:6-7 these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up

teach by deed and word...do, believe, love

Eph 6:4 ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord

of the Spirit vs of the flesh

1 Tim 5:8 if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel

provide material, emotional, spiritual

1 Tim 3:4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity

establish order (vs chaos and confusion)
lead...by following Jesus Christ

We do more by actions than by words...
but certainly words too

- Are we willing to do the “hard, thankless work” of fatherhood?
 - to lead...by following Jesus
 - to discipline/chastise...define/defend boundaries daily
 - to stand firmly on Jesus, the Word of God, when our children “oppose themselves”

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

Prov 13:24 He that spares his rod hates his son: but he
that loves him chastens him quickly

Prov 19:18 Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let
not thy soul spare for his crying

Prov 23:13 Withhold not correction from the child: for
if thou beat him with the rod, he shall not die
(spanking vs “reasoning” or “time out”)

Prov 22:15 Foolishness *is* bound in the heart of a child;
but the rod of correction shall drive it far
from him.

Are we fathers...or friends?

- neglecting the hard work of being the father
- wilting under the pressure of a spoiled child and giving them what they want, even though we know it is not in their best interest

The Father never shies away from being The Father...

so we must not shy away either

We are learning how to be a child...

so we must teach our children

- Do we give our children
 - the very best: The Father, the eternal things of God?
 - the world and the empty things of the world?
 - that which fire refines or that which fire consumes?

Being father

- revealing the heart of The Father to our children
- being a father after the heart of The Father

is a work of the Spirit of The Father, not of the flesh

children:

- If you are a child of God, who revealed the heart of The Father to you?
 - If it was a father after the heart of The Father, be thankful to
 - The Father (Perfect)
 - that father (imperfect and still falls short)
 - If not by a father after the heart of The Father, be thankful to The Father Who so loved you
- Be a good child:
 - “Yes, Daddy!”
 - obey The Father immediately
 - Eph 6:1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

fathers:

As revealed in the heart of The Father, our MIRs (in order):

1. The Lord God
2. Spouse (if have one)
3. Children
4. Others
5. Self

Do you have your relationships in order?

Ps 127:3-5 Lo, children *are* a heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is his* reward. As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth. Happy *is* the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Yet children can also be a father’s greatest heartache...
just ask The Father when we live after

- our will vs His will
- our flesh vs His Spirit

Do you have an estranged child?

Why?

- unforgiveness/bitterness...grace has failed
- Jesus Christ (Matt 10:34-39)

What is the condition of your heart?

- ache the heart of The Father
- anger \ not the heart of
- apathy / The Father

What do you do to heal the relationship?

Everything you can!

children:

Are you estranged from your father?

Why?

What is the condition of your heart?

What do you do to heal the relationship?

Happy Father's Day for all you fathers

The joy of the Lord is your strength to reveal the heart of The Father to your children

Every day should be Father's Day toward our Father who is in heaven!

The King is not king-for-a day...He is King every day

Let's gather in small groups to pray...to express heartfelt thanks to our Father...

The Father of Lights