

A Blessed Father

Text: Acts 13:32-33 and II Cor. 6:18

This morning it's Father's Day, a day in which we honor our fathers.

5 Things you will never hear Fathers say...

5. Well, how 'bout that?... I'm lost! Looks like we'll have to stop and ask for directions.
4. Here's a credit card and the keys to my new car -- GO CRAZY.
3. Your Mother and I are going away for the weekend ... you might want to consider throwing a party.
2. Why would you want to go and get a job for? I make plenty of money for you to spend.
1. Father's Day? aahh -- don't worry about that -- it's no big deal.

- According to our text this morning, God has an idea of what a Father is suppose to be.
- The question is does our society know? And do we as a church know?
- Approx 20 million children have been abandoned by there father. That's 10 million shy of the population of Canada.
- What I mean by abandon is, a lack of spiritual, financial and emotional support.
- They are not there to love them and take care of them, because they are too busy living for the moment.
- And it's affecting our society. Kids need there father and father's need to show there kids they are loved and wanted.
- What does it mean to be a blessed Father? And how can we live under the full blessing of God as a Father?
- How does God define the word FATHER?
- This is what we are going to look at this morning to help us live to our fullest potential as Dads.

I. Godly Fathers Lead By Example

Billy Graham tells of a time, during the early years of his preaching ministry, when he was due to lead a crusade meeting in a town in South Carolina, and he needed to mail a letter. He asked a little boy in the main street how he could get to the post office. After the boy had given him directions, Billy said, "If you come to the central Baptist church tonight, I'll tell you how to get to heaven." The boy replied, "No thanks, you don't even know how to get to the post office!"

John 4:19-20 says, "The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. 20Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship."

- Godly fathers not only lead their own children spiritually, but also are an influence on other kids and generations. (Vs 20)
- A Father who desires to make an impact on both their children and their friends are considered role models.
- This woman Jesus was witnessing to was a Samaritan.
- She was not living a moral life but had 5 different men. She was a person living common law and outside the will of God.
- But yet she still remembered people who worshiped on a certain mountain, (vs 20) she knew what the prophets had said before (vs 19) and she knew about a coming Messiah. (Vs 25)
- Meaning she was influenced by Godly men. She heard about God somewhere from someone.
- Men who were fathers. Family men who loved God and I believe desired to make an impact.
- As Fathers this morning, we don't always have to say something, but we always have to live out our convictions.
- I believe it's important that not only our kids see us worship, but their friends also see us worship.
- And what I mean by worship is prayer, singing, church attendance, Bible reading and Godly living. Choosing to do what is right, and standing up for what we believe in.
- We need to show our kids, our spouse and their friends that we love the Lord and why it's important to serve Him.
- Godly fathers are blessed because they lead their home and lives by example.
- There is always someone watching your life. Know where you are going and decide in your heart that you want to serve the Lord and lead by example.

II. Godly Father's Lead The Family

Josh 24:14-15 says, "Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. 15And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

- Each believer must continually choose whom he or she will serve.
- We can say as fathers that we want to raise our children in the fear of the Lord, but with that statement comes fruit.
 - A. Some examples of fruit is this: We won't send our kids to Sunday School, we will bring them.
 - B. We will teach our kids to pray, and not leave it up to the church to do it.
 - C. There will be an inner desire to see my kids at the altar receiving from God.
- I pray my kids go under the power of God at an early age and receive from God all that God has for them.
- But in order to see those things happen in my family I have to lead them to those things.
- I have to go to the altar, I must give to the Lord in tithes and offerings, and I must desire to pray so that my kids will see that God is important to me.

- God is looking to you and me as the Priest of our home, to lead the home into the things of God.

III. Godly Fathers Love Their Wives

Eph 5:25 says, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;"

- God has established the family as the basic unit in society.
- Every family must have a leader.
- Therefore the husband has been assigned the responsibility of being the head of the wife and family.
- Now the husband's headship must be exercised in love, gentleness and consideration for his wife and family.
- Our kids need to see that dad is devoted, committed and loves his wife.