

Fatherhood: Becoming the Man God Wants You to Be

Philippians 4:17 Paul to the Philippians – Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account.

It is my desire through this session that you will be encouraged as a man, husband and father; that something more will be credited to your parenting account. And like Paul you can say “I can do all this through him who gives me strength”

- **Fatherhood is more than just doing; it’s about being – being a Godly man**

We all come to fatherhood with an inheritance. This inheritance is what we have learned from our own fathers and others. We do not all begin fatherhood on an equal footing.

Some descriptions by fathers:

An ideal father: “I want to be just like him”

A good father: “I can make improvements”

A poor/abusive father: “I want to be the opposite of him”

Lack of father presence: “I’m on my own”. “A clean slate”

Regardless of our inheritance we all need God’s grace to do our best with the responsibilities God has given us.

Your inheritance will become your legacy. INHERITANCE + GOD = LEGACY

Why do we need to be intentional about protecting ourselves and protect our families?

- We all have an ‘old self’ determined to dominate us.

Ephesians 4: 22-24 You were taught with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

- The devil is constantly seeking us out and looking for opportunity to derail us and our families

Job 1:7 and Job 2:2 Satan roams throughout the earth, going back and forth on it.

1 Peter 5:8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

There is urgency about nurturing and strengthening our personal faith and relationship with Christ – to be the men God wants us to be so that we can best fulfil our responsibilities be a Godly man, husband and father.

How?

John 15 Remain or Abide in Me

Ephesians 6: 10-20 Put on the armour of God - daily

Be encouraged by 2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.....

Questions to consider:

1. What inheritance have I received from my father?
2. How does this inheritance influence me as a man, a husband, a father?
3. Do I make my faith a priority in addition to my roles as a husband and father?

Challenge:

- Commit to a meeting time with God on your own, without interruption.
- Reflect on your inheritance. Bring your strengths and weaknesses before God.
- Ask Him to nurture you, teach you, equip you in your walk as a Christian, as a husband and as a father.
- Commit to a regular time on your own to seek God's grace and wisdom. Pray for God's protection over you and your family.