

6-17-18
FATHER DAY MESSAGE
EVERY FATHER NEEDS TO BE THE LIGHT OF HIS WORLD.

Today is Fathers Day and we have a special dinner prepared for the Fathers. Also, we have this special gift to give to all the men of the church. It is a pocket flashlight with a magnetic holder.



In John 8:12 Jesus said: I Am the light of the world. But in Matt. 5:14 we read that Jesus said, Ye are the light of the world. Now because Jesus is the light of the world, I believe every man that follows Jesus also becomes the light of the world. I am going to take my whole message and talk to you about this verse that says,

YOU ARE TO BE LIKE JESUS. YOU ARE TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

How do we do this?

HOW DO WE BECOME A LIGHT IN THIS WORLD FOR CHRIST?

I John 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. Jesus is said to be the light of the world.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

I. FIRST WE NEED TO BE TRULY SAVED.

Only people that come to Christ can be saved.

EVERY MAN WHO HAS CHRIST IN HIS LIFE WILL BE A LIGHT TO THOSE AROUND HIM.

We gave each man that came to the service a gift of a flashlight. To get the gift you had to come to the service. Those that did not come did not get the gift.

Since God is light and Jesus is God come down from heaven and made flesh, to receive Christ Jesus in your life and heart is to become light.

Every Father needs to give his heart to Christ. This is where it all starts.

Think about this, the first thing that God created in Genesis 1:3 on day one He created light.

1. **Light is where it all starts and every Father is the foundation of his family. Salvation is where it starts. A family starts with a Father.**
2. **Without light there can be no life. Every father should be the giver of life to his family. Light gives life to plants.**
3. **When a Father emanates light this cannot help but be reflected in their children.**

Exodus 34:28 And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

Exodus 34:29 And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him.

Exodus 34:30 And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him.

When Moses talked with God, who is light, it affected him and it could not help but be seen that he walked with God. Children that have a Father that walks with God cannot help but be affected in a positive way by such an earthly father.

4. **The greatest thing we can leave our children is the light of Christ. That they might be saved at an early age.**

The greatest mission field in the world is your children.

If we have the light of Christ in us, our children should see it and want to have that same light in their life.

WE NEED NOT ONLY TO BE SAVED,
BUT WE NEED TO MANIFEST OUR SALVATION.

People need to see that our salvation is good for something, which brings us to our next point: ***Not only should a father have Christ (The light of the world) in his heart, but,***

II. EVERY MAN NEEDS TO MANIFEST THAT LIGHT TO OTHERS.

It is one thing to have a flashlight, but you need also to use it. We can hide it in a drawer.

Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

This morning we gave each of you men a little pocket light. That light has a battery in it, and everything is ready to go. Now I challenge you to turn it on.

You will notice as soon as you try to turn it on it doesn't work. That is because you need to do a little work to make it work. You need to take it out of the bag, open it up and remove the packing. THE BIBLE SAYS TO WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION.

PHI 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Your salvation is not something that is given to you for you to hide somewhere, hide it in a closet. I wanted to get you a father's day gift that each man in this church would use. But you can leave it in the package and never unpack it. What good is that? Salvation is a package that is given to all who will receive it as a gift, but it is up to you to WORK IT OUT. HOW DO WE DO THAT?

Notice:

1. LET YOR LIGHT SHINE LET OTHERS SEE IT.

MAKE IT PUBLIC. DON'T HIDE IT UNDER A BUSHEL. TAKE IT OUT OF THE PACKAGE. What good is the flashlight if you don't use it and prep it to work?

God has commanded you, as a Christian, to come out of the closet, so to speak, and let other people know you are a believer. It is hidden in your heart but God doesn't want it to be hidden.

Recently, I had an opportunity to testify before all my relatives at a funeral. What a privilege to get my spiritual flashlight out and use it.

When you get a new gun you want to show it off.
When you get a new truck or car you want everyone to see it.
When you get a new house you invite people over to see it.

When you get new life in Christ you should want everyone to know about it. I told the old story of how I got saved when I was 21. I said, now I'm old and I still love Jesus.

HOW DO YOU LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE?

The way you do that is to unwrap your light and turn it on.
Here is the pattern.

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

They received the light of the gospel, got saved.
They were baptized.
They were added to the church. THIS IS MEMBERSHIP.

These are the first three steps of letting your light shine.

2. LET OTHERS SEE YOUR LIGHT WORK THROUGH YOUR GOOD WORKS.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

This little light we gave you as a Father's day gift is good for men who work.
You will notice it is ready to be used for work situations.

- a. **It has a clip so you can carry it in your pocket.
We need to be ever ready to do good works.**

This means you have it ever ready to pull out and use.

We need to be always ready to be used of God for good works.

- b. **Notice on the back side of this light there is a magnet.
We need to be creative in using our light.**

Titus 3:14 And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.

We need to learn to be practical minded.
Maintain good works for necessary uses.

Jesus went around doing good works to authenticate his message.

Luke 5:24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.

Luke 5:25 And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.

Luke 5:26 And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day.

Look, you can talk about Jesus until your blue in the face, but people are going to look at you and say what good is it. Your good works should authenticate your message.

Look, people in this world are hungry for something that works.

First of all they want to see families that work.
Marriages that work.
Children that love one another.
They are looking for something that works..

Their lives have been crippled by sin.
Sinners are at each others throats.
They need healing in their lives, in their homes, in their hearts.

Now, we might say well preacher I can't heal anyone. Can't you?

Let me show you what people need to be delivered from the diseases of this world.

THEY ARE PLAGUED BY SIN. SICKNESS IS A PICTURE OF SIN. SIN PRODUCES SICKNESS.

Look, there is only one reason people can't get along, and that is because of sin. It may not be your sin, but it is someone's sin. When I got married I knew it would work because I figured if I married someone who loved Jesus and I Loved Jesus it had to work. **THIS IS THE KEY.**

THESE SINS CAUSE PROBLEMS.

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

Galatians 5:20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

Galatians 5:21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

People whose lives are filled with these things I guarantee you are living wretched, dysfunctional lives.

But here is what they need IS HEALING. THESE FRUITS PRODUCE LIFE AND LIGHT.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Galatians 5:23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

DO PEOPLE SEE IN YOU THIS LIGHT:

1. Light or the good work of love.
2. Light or the good work of joy.
3. " " " .. peace.
4. " " " .. longsuffering.
5. " " " .. gentleness.
6. " " " .. goodness.
7. " " " .. faith.
8. " " " .. meekness.
9. " " " .. temperance.
10. " " " .. etc.

When you manifest these works, this Spirit, these virtues, it will dispel all the other works of darkness that plague this world and are destroying this world.

III. ULTIMATELY, OUR GOAL IS TO BRING GLORY TO GOD.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

We need a heavenly goal and not just an earthly goal.
Our God, our Father is in Heaven.

There are a lot of men who are looking at earthly things.
Sometimes life is a paradox. Just because you love God and serve God, it does not mean everything is going to go well for you on planet earth. In fact, sometimes it is just the opposite. Remember Job, his friends accused him of being a sinner and that is why he was suffering.

WE THINK THAT SUCCESS FOR OUR CHILDREN IS.

Get them through a college education.
Being successful in the world.
Being somebody. That is what is important to them.

Make a lot of money.

The most important thing is that they are saved.
The second most important thing is that they are living for God.

When the Lord taught his disciples to pray, He said pray.

Matthew 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Matthew 6:10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Matthew 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAY THY KINGDOM COME, TO EARTH. THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS BEING DONE IN HEAVEN.

Let us always remember, we are pilgrims and strangers in this world.
We don't fit in.
We just passing through.

If your hope is in this world you are going to be disappointed.
If your hope is in this world you may give up and fall away.
If your hope is in this world you may decide to eat drink and be merry because tomorrow you die.

WHAT MADE AMERICA GREAT WAS THE STRONG MORAL FOUNDATION OF THE EARTHLY FATHERS OF OUR NATION.

**For instance there is a story of one of the little know Pilgrims,
JOHN HOLLAND.**

I will read for you some accounts of two of the early founding fathers of our nation, John Holland and Jonathan Edwards.

BOSTON (AP) - John Howland may not be as famous as William Bradford, John Carver and Myles Standish, notable passengers on the Mayflower that landed in Massachusetts in 1620.

Yet Howland, who boarded the ship as Carver's servant, probably had a greater impact on the history of the United States than any of them. Hundreds of thousands of Americans will sit down for Thanksgiving dinner Thursday unaware that they owe their very existence to Howland, who almost never even made it to the New World.

Howland fell overboard in the middle of the Atlantic during a gale but grabbed a trailing rope and was hauled back aboard by sailors using boat hooks.

Howland and his wife, fellow Mayflower passenger Elizabeth Tilley, had 10 children and more than 80 grandchildren. Now, an estimated 2 million Americans can trace their roots to him.

Howland's descendants include three presidents - Franklin Roosevelt, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush - as well as former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin; poets Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow; actors Alec Baldwin, Humphrey Bogart, and Christopher Lloyd; and child care guru Dr. Benjamin Spock.

A similar story is told of Jonathan Edwards, that great Puritan Preacher.

Jonathan Edwards, the Puritan Preacher from the 1700s. Jonathan and his wife Sarah left a great godly legacy for his 11 children.

At the turn of the 20th century, American educator and pastor A.E. Winship decided to trace out the descendants of Jonathan Edwards almost 150 years after his death. His findings are astounding, especially when compared to a man known as Max Jukes. Jukes' legacy came to the forefront when the family trees of 42 different men in the New York prison system traced back to him.

Jonathan Edwards' godly legacy includes: 1 U.S. Vice-President, 3 U.S. Senators, 3 governors, 3 mayors, 13 college presidents, 30 judges, 65 professors, 80 public office holders, 100 lawyers and 100 missionaries.

Max Jukes' descendants included: 7 murderers, 60 thieves, 50 women of debauchery, 130 other convicts. 310 paupers (with over 2,300 years lived in poorhouses) 400 who were physically wrecked by indulgent living.

It was estimated that Max Juke's descendants cost the state more than \$1,250,000.

This is a powerful example showing how a parent's leadership can have a profound effect on their children.

CONCLUSION:

This is fathers day. My challenge to each man and even each mom present in this church is let the light of Christ fill you and let Him work in and through you to do good works. Consider, are you sure you are saved? If not, get saved. if you are saved, are you living for God? If not, start.