

## **FATHERS DAY 6-19-22 MY ADVICE TO FATHERS**

Intro: This is Father's day. Today I just want to talk to the men of the church about being a Father and the importance of being a godly man and a godly father. I think what our country needs more than anything is spiritual fathers. Today I want to give my advice about how to be a godly man and father.

There is a famine in the land of godly men, godly fathers and godly leadership in our nation.

Before our Lord returns the Bible says that he is going to have to send back Elijah the prophet to turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their fathers.

Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Malachi 4:6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

I wonder what Elijah would be preaching in that day.. This morning I would like to share a message that would be in that spirit of Elijah...

At the heart of all the problems we are having in our society and nation is the fact that we lack good godly fathers

Over half of the children in this country do not grow up with their biological fathers..

Here are the facts from an Article I read:

That body of evidence indicates that children raised in homes without fathers are more likely to commit crimes, abuse drugs, have children out of wedlock, live in poverty, drop out of school, and commit suicide.

Boys who grow up without their fathers are at least twice as likely as other boys to end up in prison. Sixty percent of rapists and 72% of adolescent murderers never knew or lived with their fathers. And the issue is not one of class, race, or sex. For instance, affluent white girls raised without a father in the home are five times more likely to become mothers while still adolescents.

The absence of a father relationship has been seen for years as a central factor in the development of male homosexuality..... A boy fails to connect with his father and therefore doesn't take into himself those things that are an integral part of manhood: a focus on the physical world, a desire to compete and prevail, wanting to feel strong, and a propensity to lead.

Not having received a kernel of these manly qualities from his father, he goes out into the world of boys and finds he is lacking. He doesn't measure up. Feeling rejected and uncomfortable, he withdraws from the world of boys and men, the arena in which manhood is developed.

With women who deal with homosexuality, the dynamics are quite different, but the negative impact of fatherlessness is still there. Many of them were hurt by men, sometimes their fathers, often not, but defensively they cut themselves off from men-including their fathers.

Cut off from their fathers, they were unable to see men as offering security. More likely, they saw them as a threat. Also, where the father relationship was broken, the woman never felt affirmed in her womanhood by her father. She missed out on an essential part of growing to joyfully accept her femininity. Unable to see the beautiful complementarity between men and women, she grew up with a distorted view of both.

Now even in a home that does not have a godly father fairs better than a home without any father. However, by far the best home is a home that is lead by a godly father.

To learn to be a godly father you need to learn about God. How can you be like God when you don't even know God.

Does God live in your heart?  
Do you walk with Him and talk with Him?  
Does he speak to you through his word?  
Do you speak to Him in prayer?  
Is He part of your life?

***I. Learn to be like God by learning to know God...  
This is what it is to be godly.. to be like God.. How can you be like God when  
you do not know God?***

When I say what America needs is godly men, to be godly you have to be like God. To be godly means to reflect God in your person..

Year ago I had a lady in the church that was having some problems and I asked a friend of mine council her.. I said to him I considered this lady to be a godly lady. Then he said to me that he didn't because to be godly you have to be like God and the problems in her life were because she was not like God.

One of the reasons that our children are a mess in our nation today is because they lack having a father who reflects the image of God the father. When this happens children grow up with a warped image of who God is..

There is a reason that the Bible refers to God as our father.

Jesus said, when we pray, pray to God who is our Father in heaven..  
We have a whole generation who does not know what that means because they have a warped view of what a Father is..

We have a perverted nation today and that is the fault of fathers..  
We have an effeminate generation all because of a lack of godly fathers..

Consider how we should reflect the image of God in our families..

**1. God is the source of our very life..  
We need fathers who are home for their biological children..**

We have a bunch of men fathering children and abandoning them.  
God is our source of life.. So when we say God is our father children should know what a father is..

**2. God is our father and has all authority,..  
We need fathers who rule their houses well..**

God our father rules the universe..  
Every godly man should rule his house well..  
Every Father should lead his home..  
Most men have surrendered their leadership to woman. Male leadership is important and especially in the home.

It is said that those who lead should read. The most important book to read to be a leader is the Bible.

The Bible teaches you how to lead. It gives examples of what happens to men who don't lead and it gives examples to follow of men who were leaders.

The reason most men do not lead is because they are cowards.

II Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

We have a generation of men that are afraid to follow God!  
Fearful of being a witness..  
Fearful of standing up for God..  
Fearful of being a Christian in a godless world..

**3. GOD IS REFERRED TO US AS FATHER BECAUSE HE IS OUR GREAT PROVIDER AND PROTECTOR**

This is why the Bible says, that when we pray, we ought to pray to God our Father who is in heaven..

A father should be the rock of support of the home the leaders and guide of the home..

#### **4. GOD OUR FATHER IS HONORABLE & WORTHY OF HONOR**

Revelation 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

God deserves our honor and praise..

A Godly man will deserve honour & Praise..

There are many men.. that if they are honoured by they children only out of duty! A godly Father will be honoured because he deserves honor..

Every Father that takes on the virtues of godliness.. will deserve honour!

God is honourable because:

He is love

He is just

He is longsuffering

He is kind..

He is Wise..

He is pure

When a man shares these virtues.. he will deserve to be honored..

WHAT DO WE DO AS MEN THAT MAKE US HONORABLE??

Do you realize.. it is easier to get a bad reputation than a good..

It is easier to be dishonorable than honorable..

It is easier to loose respect than to gain respect..

A man who is like godly ... will be a man that is like God..

Just ask yourself this question..

WOULD GOD DO WHAT I AM DOING..

WOULD GOD ACT LIKE I AM ACTING

WHAT WOULD THE LORD DO .. IN THIS SITUATION!

Jesus was our perfect example of godliness...

What would Jesus do indeed!

**5. God Our Father's Good Works, Justify And Defend His Authority:  
So our good works should speak of our authority and reputation..**

His Works Justify And Defend His Authority:

Who can argue against God's authority .. he just has it.. and to deny it.. is the utmost foolishness.. It would be like The Lord parked there in the book of Job when Job questioned his goodness..

HE GAVE THE REBUTTAL TO JOB AS AN EXAMPLE..

One of the greatest problems I see in homes today is that men are lazy!  
They spend more time playing then working..

God's works justify the fact that we should honour Him!

When I think of my dad.. I think of a man that worked..  
In fact.. whenever .. I spent time with my dad .. it was a time that revolved around profitable work time..

My dad taught me how to cut grass.  
My dad taught me how to change the oil in my car..  
My dad.. taught me how to do sheet rock.. and on and on and on and on and on

We have too many fathers who do not teach their children character by way of example.

His Arms are strong: Job 40:9 Hast thou an arm like God? or canst thou thunder with a voice like him?

As a kid I got in a fight with my friend because he claimed that his brother could break bricks with his bare hands.. I got mad at him because I knew my dad could not do that so I thought he insulted my dad.

So you know why.. I did that.. I said.. it is impossible... because no one is stronger than my dad.. and he couldn't do that..

Every son should look at his dad as being the greatest and the strongest.. From his strength the Lord argued that Job had no right to question Him:

Job 38:4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.

Job 38:5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?

Job 40:7 Gird up thy loins now like a man: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.

Job 40:9 Hast thou an arm like God? or canst thou thunder with a voice like him?

A Godly Father is a man that is like God!!!! Learn to be like God..

To be like God we need to get to know God..

Many men just don't know God.. How can you be like someone you do not even know.

Matthew 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

***II. Learn to walk in the Spirit and Be filled with the Spirit..***

***To be like God you need to have his DNA.. His DNA is his spirit..***

When you want to know if someone is really a biological son .. you do a DNA test.

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

We need to be born of God.. We are born of God when we receive his Holy Spirit

A godly Father needs to be a spirit filled Father.

There is a spirit of the world..

There is a spirit of God..

To be like God, you need God's spirit in you.

A Godly Father is a spirit filled father.

There is a spirit of the flesh and this world.. a worldly fleshly father is not going to be a good father.

Those who are born of this world will manifest the works of the flesh and this world.

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.

Notice what it says,

***...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.***

These are the children of the flesh, the unsaved.. To be like God you need to be born of his spirit..

Fathers who are not faithful to their wives are not going to be good examples to their children. Fathers who are involved in Adultery, fornication, uncleanness.. etc..

We need godly men who show moral integrity..

Works of the flesh include Idolatry..

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Men who live only for material wealth.. making money or physical things.. this is nothing but Idolatry!

To be a godly father.. you need to mortify.. crucify the works of the flesh.. Which includes Idolatry..

When men put their material things above their children and family and the Lord they are in fact in Idolatry! When making money is more important than anything else.. this is nothing less than modern Idolatry!

Men who live in the flesh are not going to be good and godly fathers..

Notice the other works of the flesh that corrupt the godly father image that every man should have..

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.

Men who are always flying off the handle.. getting angry at their wives,  
Getting angry at their children..  
Irritable, Variable.. contentious...

I talked with a man one time who was so miserable.. always cursing ..  
Always nasty to his wife..  
Every other word out of his mouth was a filthy word..

His wife left him, and I went to see him... He kept muttering and cussing and swearing.. I finally said to him.. You know.. in the day that we live a woman can just go out and get a job and live on her own. Why would you expect your wife to put up with your

miserable disposition all day. Now I was not trying to justify his wife leaving him, but I could understand why she would leave.

I am thinking about another man who was messing around with harlots. His wife came to me about it. I said how do you know he is doing that. She said, I pretended to be a hooker and met him in a motel and caught him. The man wound up in jail for writing bad checks because of his immoral addictions!

These fleshly devices will destroy a marriage, destroy a family!

In contrast to the works of the flesh the Bible gives the fruit of the Spirit..

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.

A godly father should love like Christ loved..

A godly father should have joy, and peace in his life.. Who would not want to be around someone who is at peace with himself.. and others.. Some people are always striving for peace while others sow discord and division.

A godly father should be gentle, and longsuffering.. A man of the flesh is always fill of turmoil.. and like a volcano ready to explode..

These virtues only come by way of the spirit of God..

***III. My advice to every man this morning is to be A Godly Example To Your Children.. Your Life..***

Look your life speaks louder than your words.

If you profess one thing and your life proclaims something different don't expect your family and children to respect you.

I had a guy one time that asked if he could go out with me witnessing. I told him.. who would want what you have? Your life is a mess.. He was in and out of mental institutions. He could not hold down a job. I think he needed to get a life message and not just a lip message.

Do you preach a Jesus who gives peace but you have no peace?

Do you preach a Jesus who gives victory over sin but you yourself are in bondage to sin?

Do you want to teach about a God of love, while you yourself are filled with bitterness and anger and hate?

Every father preaches a message to his children by the way he lives..

The greatest testimony you have is your life testimony..

#### ***IV. Be a teacher of good things to your children..***

My advice to every Father is that he needs to teach the word of God to his children.

Deuteronomy 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

Deuteronomy 6:7 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.

Deuteronomy 6:8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

Deuteronomy 6:9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

I believe that one of the greatest failings of fathers today is that they do not have family devotions with their children.

We are commanded to teach these things diligently to our children.

We need to talk about the things of God as we walk by the way.. when we sit in our houses, when we lie down when we rise up...

Do you pray with your children at night?

Do you pray with your children in the morning?

Do you pray with your children in the afternoon?

#### ***V. Put God First and Serve Him..***

The Ten Commandments were written on two tables of stone.. The first tablet taught how we directly serve God.. Jesus said all the commandments are boiled down two commandments.. Love God and the 2<sup>nd</sup> love your brother as yourself.. To serve God we obey and worship him. This is how we serve God. The second commandment is how we show we love our fellow man, this is our second service to God.

Joshua 24:14 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.

Joshua 24:15 And 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.

Joshua said, choose who you will serve..

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

I have noticed, that there is a famine in the land of people who are willing to serve the Lord.

What is the service of the Lord?

You serve the Lord by attending his services.. In our church we call each meeting in our church a service..

We have a 10 AM Service..

We have a 11 AM Service..

We have a 7 PM Service

We have a 7 PM Wednesday night service..

People who attend these services.. are participating.. in serving the Lord..

Now this is one way we serve the Lord..

Remember the story of Mary and Martha.. what was Mary doing that Jesus commended..

Luke 10:38 Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.

Luke 10:39 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

Luke 10:40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.

Luke 10:41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

Luke 10:42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

You say preacher, I can't come to these services because I am busy making money.. No you're cumbered about with things that will not last..

Jesus said, you can't serve two masters... Who do you serve? Is money your God?!?!

No maybe you are just lazy.. and want to stay home and watch TV.

Is pleasure more important to you than God?

II Timothy 3:4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

Joshua said, as for me and my house we are going to serve the Lord!

How do you show that you put God first? You do so by putting him first..

The first check I write in the week is my tithe..  
I put him first in the area of my finances..

The first activity I am involved in is attending our Lord;s church services..  
I put him first in my time..

If you want to be godly.. you need to serve the Lord..

Malachi 3:13 Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken [so much] against thee?

Malachi 3:14 Ye have said, It [is] vain to serve God: and what profit [is it] that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

Malachi 3:15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, [they that] tempt God are even delivered.

Have you come to a place in your life.. where you are saying it is vain to serve the Lord?

You're neglect of his service.. is saying that to God loud and clear..  
You're actions are saying that loud and clear..

Every church service you miss, is a statement that you make that there is something more important that you have to do..

God will bless those who serve him..  
God will chasten his people who serve other gods like Mammon.. or money..

Joshua 24:20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good.

Let us put to the test who you serve:

If you showed up for work like you show up to church how long would you have a job..

If you paid you taxes like you pay your tithe what would happen?

The Lord said to Israel..

Malachi 1:6 A son honoureth [his] father, and a servant his master: if then I [be] a father, where [is] mine honour? and if I [be] a master, where [is] my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

Malachi 1:7 Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD [is] contemptible.

Malachi 1:8 And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, [is it] not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, [is it] not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts.

God expects our best when we serve him...

Now the second way we serve God is by doing good to our fellow man. The way we do that is to keep the commands on the second tablet. Do good to others.

Jesus was a perfect example to us on how to serve our heavenly father..

**Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good....**

## **CONCLUSION**

- I. Learn to be like God by learning to know God...  
This is what it is to be godly.. to be like God..
- II. Learn to walk in the Spirit and Be filled with the Spirit..
- III. Be A Godly Example To Your Children.. Your Life..
- IV. Be a teacher of good things to your children..
- V. Put God First and Serve Him..