

A GODLY FATHER

Int.

1. Aim: To discuss some of the characteristics of a godly father.
2. Eph. 6:1-4 **"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3. That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. 4. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."**
3. Father's Day
 - a. Third Sunday of June
 - b. Started in 1910 by Mrs. John Gruce Dodd of Spokane, Washington.
 - c. A national Father's Day committee formed in 1936 in NEW YORK CITY.
4. This is good because we are to honor fathers and mothers
 - a. Eph. 6:2 - Honour Father and Mother
 - b. Honor = Reverence, respect, obedience, thankfulness, submission of will
5. It is fitting and proper that we give honor to "FATHER'S" today.
6. A Godly Father is one who is:...

Discussion

I. FAITHFUL TO GOD

- A. Fathers ought to be faithful to God in their living
- B. Become a Christian - HBRCB
 1. Father's need to be Christians
 2. Walk in the Light - 1 Jn. 1:7 - living as a child of God
 3. Pro. 22:6 **"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."**

C. Live as a Christian - Showing the example

1. Faithful - 1 Cor. 15:58 **"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."**
2. Dependable - Stedfast - Reliable

D. A godly father is Faithful

II. ABSTAIN FROM EVERY APPEARANCE OF EVIL 1 Thes. 5:22

A. Alcoholic drinks

1. Prov. 23:29-32
2. Alcohol will destroy your body, your home, your respect and your soul
3. Drunkards will not be in heaven - 1 Cor. 6:10

B. Tobacco

1. Physically harmful to your body!!
2. Example - it does not glorify God!!
3. Col. 3:17 **"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."**
4. Gal. 5:20 = "Witchcraft" - pharmakeie --- a drug
5. Would Jesus use tobacco?

C. Language

1. Tongue is powerful but it can be controlled
2. Jas. 3:1-8
3. A godly father will use his tongue to glorify God.

- D. Violence
 - 1. Domestic violence is on the increase.
 - 2. Beating of wife and children is wrong.
 - 3. Godly men do not abuse their families
 - 4. Eph. 5:28
- E. A godly father will abstain from all evil

III. TALENTS - A godly father will use his Talents

- A. God has given all of us talents
 - 1. Use them to glory God.
 - 2. Matt. 5:13-16 = light and salt
 - 3. Mt. 25:14-30
- B. Keep pressing forward
 - 1. Phil. 4:13
 - 2. Phil. 3:13-14
 - 3. How do you compare with what you were doing one year ago.
- C. As a Godly father you will be using your talents to glorify God.

IV. HEAVEN - A godly father has Heaven as his goal.

- A. What are your goals in life?
 - 1. Pay for the House
 - 2. Good retirement
 - 3. Everything comfortable for life on this earth

B. Goals of Real men

1. Paul
 - a. Phil. 1:21-24
 - b. 2 Tim. 4:6-8
2. O.T. men - Heb. 11
3. Jesus - Heb. 12:1-17

C. A godly father will have the worthy goal of heaven !

V. EXAMPLE - A godly father is a good example to his children

A. Example= illustration, sample, standard, pattern

B. A father is to be an example his children can follow.

1. 1 Tim. 4:12 - Be thou an Example:
 - a. Word
 - b. Manner of Life
 - c. Love
 - d. Faith
 - e. Purity
2. Ill. Father and son walking in Snow.

C. A godly father will be careful to set a good example for his children to follow.

VI. RESPECTED - A godly father is respected

A. When a father lives a godly life he will be respected:

1. In the Church and In the Community
2. By His family

B. Respected by the Family

1. If he has lived a sincere life
2. If he has disciplined his children - shows he loves them - and they in turn respect him
3. If he has loved his wife - Eph. 5:33

C. Respected by all people who know him. A godly father is a good man

Conclusion

1. One of the Great problems today is that we do not have good fathers in the home.
2. We need godly fathers who are:
 - a. Faithful to God
 - b. Abstaining from every form of evil
 - c. Talents - using their talents to the fullest
 - d. Heavenward bound
 - e. Examples to their children
 - f. Respected by all.
3. We have many godly fathers, but we need more!!