

Happy Father's Day

# “Ladies Before Gentlemen”

- There was a Mother’s Day holiday before there was a Father’s Day Holiday.
- After waiting at the hospital for three days for our daughter Julie to finish 62 hours of labor, there is no doubt in my mind that mothers should be given credit before fathers.

# Smart Lady Wanted Father's Day

- Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane, Washington by Sonora Smart Dodd in the Spokane YMCA on June 19, 1910.
- Her father, the Civil War veteran William J. Smart, was a single parent who raised his six children.
- After hearing a sermon about Jarvis' Mother's Day in 1909, she told her pastor that fathers should have a similar holiday honoring them.

# “Ladies Before Gentlemen”

- Mother’s Day has been a National Holiday since 1909, but Father’s Day did not become an official national holiday in the U.S. until President Nixon signed it into law in 1972.

# What A Coincidence

- Three men are in the hospital waiting room because their wives are having babies. A nurse goes up to the first guy and says, “Congratulations! You’re the father of twins.”
- “What a coincidence,” answers the man. “I work for the Minnesota Twins!”
- A nurse says to the second guy, “Congratulations! You’re the father of triplets!”
- “What a coincidence,” answers the second man. “I work for the 3M company!”

# What A Coincidence

- The last man is groaning and banging his head against the wall.
- “What’s wrong?” the others ask.
- **“I work for 7 Up!”**

# An Angry Father

- **Son:** I made a bad mistake today and gave my dad some soap flakes instead of corn flakes for breakfast.
- **Mother:** Was he mad?
- **Son:** Yup. He was so mad, that he was foaming at the mouth!

# Good Advice and Good Etiquette

- Mealtime should be a happy time, not the time to discipline, bring up family problems or controversial topics.
- Mealtime is not the time to discuss gore or disgusting things.





# Not At The Dinner Table

- Dad, are bugs good to eat?” asked the boy.
- “Let’s not talk about such things at the dinner table, son,” his father replied.
- After dinner the father inquired, “Now, son, what did you want to ask me?”
- “Oh, nothing,” the boy said. “There was a bug on your salad, but you finished it off.”

# What Dad Does For A Living

- What does your father do for a living?
- **Jon:** He's a magician. He performs tricks, like sawing people in half.
- **Joe:** Do you have any brothers or sisters?
- **Jon:** Yep, a half-sister and a half-brother.

# Making Sin Easier Not The Solution

- 1970s, abortion was legalized and contraceptives became much more available, giving couples more options for birth control.
- Over the ensuing 25 years, however, there have been huge increases in the number of single-parent families headed by unmarried mothers.
- Half of all births in America are “illegitimate.”

# Sin Comes At A High Cost for Everyone

- Number of unwed births skyrocketed over the last five decades (close to 50% of births in the United States today are to single moms).
- 75 percent of all families on welfare are single-parent families.
- Cost of federal welfare has mushroomed. Washington, D.C. operates 70 welfare programs at a cost of over \$1 trillion annually.

# Birth Control **Not** The Solution

- **READY FOR A SHOCKER?**
- Women from low-income neighborhoods report that a lack of access to birth control is **not** why they became pregnant.
- Most report that they wanted to have a child.
- As Robert Rector notes in the Wall Street Journal article:

# Young Women Not Being Trained

- “...young people in low-income communities are not told that having a child outside of marriage will have negative consequences. They are not told that marriage has beneficial effects. The schools, the welfare system, the health care system, public authorities, and the media all remain scrupulously silent on the subject.”
- Many find having children out of wedlock is the natural thing to do. It is what their peers are doing.

# God's Plan Is Marriage

- “He who findeth a wife, findeth a good thing **and obtaineth favor of the Lord.**” (It doesn't say anything about what the woman found.)  
Proverbs 18:22
- Then after the find, “One wife for one life.”
- If you have had the misfortune of divorce, then God's plan is “go and sin no more” or “present wife for the rest of your life.”

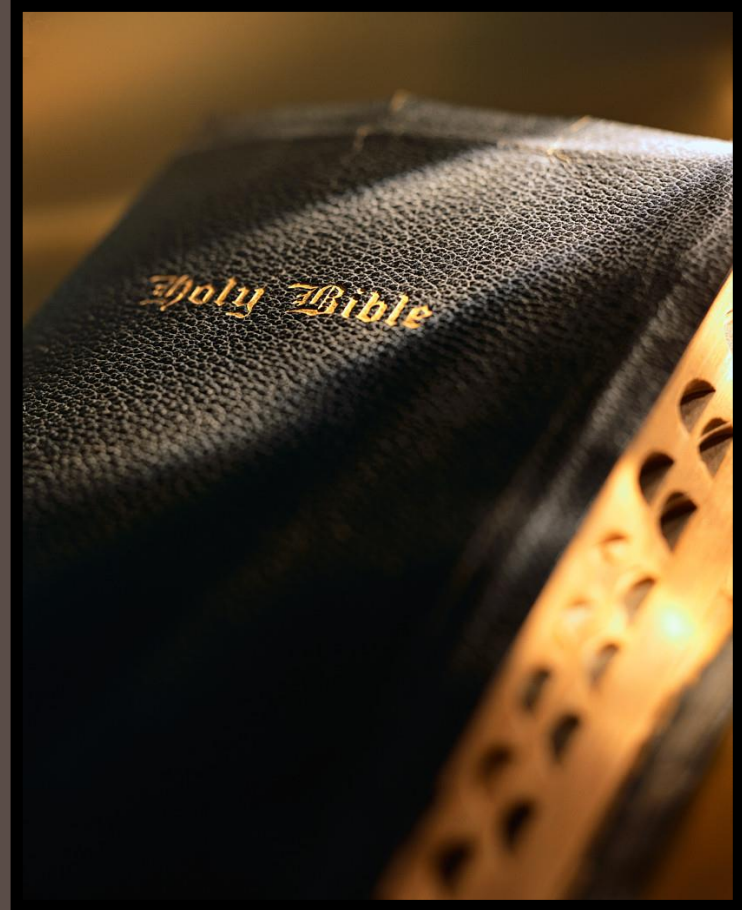
# Faithful Fathers Find Favor of the Lord

- Men that follow God's plan for marriage and children find favor with the Lord.
- On average they are healthier, happier, have better finances and are better for society.
- Going against the Bible is unhealthy, results in hurt for mom and children, runs up costs, and produces children much more apt to go into drugs, immorality and crime.



# Biblical Roles of A Father

- Provider
- Protector
- Teacher
- Leader
- Good husband to child's mother
- Adviser
- Companion



# Provider

- “But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.”  
I Timothy 5:8

# Provider

- I tried several times to lead a Port Orchard man to the Lord.
- During our visits he repeatedly told me how his family had been very poor and that his dad would use money for cigarettes and alcohol, before buying food or clothes for the kids.
- How one sees his earthly father, can influence how a person views our “heavenly father”.

# Dad's Need To Protect Children

- One day one of my daughters said she was going to go jogging. She had never been interested or talked about it before.
- Right after she left the house, I got an uncomfortable feeling. I got in the car and drove down the street. I saw a guy pull over in a car and my daughter started to get in.
- I took her home. She was not happy with me.

# Dads Need To Protect Children

- My daughter was interested in a young man who I thought was not good for her.
- I forbid her to see him. She said: “I hate you.” That hurt me badly. I was devastated.
- A few weeks later the young man abused two young girls on a church bus.
- My daughter was shocked to discover that the young man was not what she thought he was.

# Protection

- Another daughter wanted to marry a young man. I wasn't sure about him. I was concerned about some of the young men he ran around with and some of his activities.
- I met with the young man from time to time to talk with him and to get to know him. I asked some questions, explained to him what kind of guy we had hoped and prayed for and watched him for about 6 months.
- His answer to my last question sealed the deal.

# Definition of a Father

- A father is a person who can never find a son-in-law who is good enough.
- But somehow, in spite of the son-in-law his grandchildren are always better than any one else's.

# Protector

- My son had a part time job at Safeway.
- I would go pick him up after work about 8 pm and drive him home.
- One night I pulled up in the Safeway lot facing the Safeway front door. A car pulled up in front of me. Two girls who looked very worldly got out of the car and were talking. Both appeared to be a few years older than my son.



# Protector

- When my son came out of Safeway, he walked over and greeted the girls.
- Then he came to my car and said: “Dad, its ok, I have a ride home tonight.”
- I said: “Son, get in the car.”

# Father As A Teacher

- *“For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.” Genesis 18:19*

# Teacher

- *“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. **Make them known to your children and your children’s children.**”*  
*Deuteronomy 4:9*

# Teacher

- “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.”  
Exodus 20:12

# Teacher

- “Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;
- That it may be **well with thee**, and thou mayest **live long** on the earth.”

Ephesians 6:2-3

*This is one of the first things that all children should be taught – not for the parent to become a dictator, but for things to go well with child and for the child to live long.*

# Father As Teacher

- “Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.”

*Proverbs 4:1-9*

# Teach Children To Love To Read

- The Bible (we try to read it through every year)
- Biographies of famous people
- History (you learn a lot about living)
- Other books that are clean, wholesome and appropriate for a Christian.
- I average about a book every week or two. Last week, I finished a biography about the first leader of modern Israel – David Ben-Gurion. This great leader was a voracious reader.

# Dad As Leader

- “The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.”  
Proverbs 20:7
- One day I took my young son to the store with me. I purchased several items, including 3 cans of paint. As we were driving home, my son started reading the receipt. He said: “They only charged us for 2 cans. We made out.”
- I turned around and went back and paid for the other can of paint.



# Father As Leader

- “ For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.”  
Genesis 18:19

# Leaders (Fathers) Discipline

“ He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

Proverbs 13:24

*Some teenagers think that this refers to when the kid wants to borrow Dad's car for the night.*

# Leaders (Fathers) Discipline

- “Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.”  
Proverbs 19:18
- One of my daughters blatantly disobeyed. I called her to meet with her mother and I. We told her that she knew the rule and broke it.
- I had to discipline her. I asked Her: Did she want a spanking or to go to bed?
- She said: “I’ll take the spanking.”

# Spankings Have Become Weak

- I was putting my son to sleep one night, after tucking him in and singing a song we said our good nights. About 10 minutes later he calls, “Dad, I need a drink!” So I bring a drink and tell him how late it is and he better go to sleep.
- 10 minutes later he calls me again, “Dad, I’m hungry!” I yell back, “if I hear you again you are going to get a spanking!”

# Spankings Have Become Weak

- I About 5 minutes later he yells back, “Dad, when you come give me a spanking please bring me something to eat!”

# Have Compassion

- “And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.”  
Luke 15:20-24
- *When your child does something really bad, don't banish them for life. Be ready to restore fellowship.*

# Have Compassion

- If you raise your son to be a godly Christian, but he chooses to go the way of the world, don't write him off, or break fellowship.
- Pray for him, encourage him and always be ready to welcome home the prodigal son (or daughter).

# Ungodly Children from Godly Families

- There are many Christian leaders, whose children have gone the way of the world.
- Do right, but don't take on a guilt trip if your children decide to go a different way.
- In the Bible two-thirds of the good Kings had children who were evil. When they come of age, they often rebel against the Bible teachings.
- In many cases the children return to the parental teaching later in life.



# A Good Husband

- One of the most important influences a father can have on his child is indirect—fathers influence their children in large part through the quality of their relationship with the mother of their children.

# Good Fathers, Good Husbands

- The way a father exercises his role as a husband is certain to affect children. “One of the best things a father can do for his children is to respect their mother. . . a father and mother who respect each other and let their children know it provide a secure environment for them.”

*The Importance of Fathers in the Healthy Development of Children*

# Good Fathers Are Good Husbands

- “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.”  
Ephesians 5:25

# A Good Husband

- A father who has a good relationship with the mother of their children is more likely to be involved and to spend time with their children and to have children who are psychologically and emotionally healthier.

# Fathers Don't Provoke Children

- “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

Ephesians 6:4

# Ways to Provoke Children

- Overly protective (learn by mistakes)
- Favoritism (why can't you be like your brother?)
- Pushing achievement past logical goals
- Much more criticism than praise
- Physical or verbal abuse
- Using love and acceptance as a reward to behavior. (We're sinners saved by God's grace.)

# Walk A Little Plainer Daddy

- Walk a little plainer, Daddy,"  
Said a little boy so frail.  
"I'm following in your footsteps  
And I don't want to fail.  
Sometimes your steps are very plain;  
Sometimes they are hard to see;  
So walk a little plainer, Daddy,  
For you are leading me.

# Walk A Little Plainer Daddy

- I know that once you walked this way many years ago,  
And what you did along the way  
I'd really like to know:  
For sometimes when I am tempted  
I don't know what to do  
So walk a little plainer, Daddy,  
For I must follow you.



# Walk A Little Plainer Daddy

- So walk a little plainer, Daddy,  
For I must follow you.  
Someday when I'm grown up  
You are like I want to be.  
Then I will have a little boy  
Who will want to follow me  
And I would want to lead him right  
And help him to be true.  
So walk a little plainer, Daddy  
For We must follow you."

# Beware of Hobbies

- One of the mistakes that I made as a father, was too much time spent on my hobby.
- I collected 19<sup>th</sup> century printing equipment.
- Went around looking for old type and engravings. My children went with me sometimes and I used the hobby to print things for them, like for church and school.
- But I wished that I had spent much less time on my hobby and more time as a dad.

# Communicator / Companion

- If your children think that you will lose your temper quickly and be judgmental, they will have little incentive to express their inner feelings to you. But if you listen to them calmly, you will show that you are genuinely interested in them. They will in turn be far more likely to share their precious thoughts and feelings with you.

# Companion / Listener

- “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear**, slow to speak, **slow to wrath...**” James 1:19
- *Fathers who apply this Bible principle are able to communicate better with their children.*

# Fathers - Praise Your Children

- Discipline is much more effective when a father commends his children regularly.
- The guideline is 90% praise to 10% criticism.
- “A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.”

Proverbs 25:11

# Fathers – Commend Your Children

- Commendation enriches a child's character. Children blossom when they are acknowledged and appreciated.
- A father who looks for opportunities to give commendation will help to build confidence in his children and motivate them not to give up trying to do what is right.

# Have Fun With Your Children

- “All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.”  
*400 year old English saying*
- “And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as unto the Lord...” Colossians 3:23
- Play games, take them to parks, go for hikes in the mountains, go to the fair, go to a baseball game, take a kayak or canoe ride, or raft ride down the river.
- The Olympic Game Farm, Northwest Trek are musts.

# What If You Have No Children

- Do something to help a child with no father
- God tells us to be a father to the fatherless and to take care of widows.



# A Father to the Fatherless

- “A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation.”  
Psalm 68:5
- “Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To **visit the fatherless** and **widows** in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” James 1:27

# Happy Father's Day



To 'dad  
Happy Father's  
Day.  
we love you.