

THE KING WHO FAILED AS A PARENT

In the thirteenth chapter of Second Samuel we get the record of what takes place in the house of David in relationship to his daughters and his sons. David had committed adultery, and was confronted by Nathan the Prophet. David has been pardoned for his sin, yet there were consequences: Short term - a child would die, the enemies of God had blasphemed God because of David's actions; long term - part of it was chastisement from the Lord and sowing to what he reaped.

By Pastor Xavier Ries

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SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLE

Galatians 6:7-9

I am a child of God, I have been forgiven of my sins. Yet in the life of the Spirit I have the free will to choose what I'm going to do. I can make some decisions that will affect my life in many ways. It will not change the ultimate plan of God, but it will affect my life and those in relationship to me. God in all His love cannot remove those consequences.

David's life went downhill after his sin with Bathsheba. He was never the same man.

What came to take place in David's life was not God taking vengeance out on David, but reaping the consequences.

- Children are not judged for the sins of the parents nor the parents for the sins of the children.
Ezekiel 18:20

Yet your example is transmitted from generation to generation.

1. There has to be a breaking of sin by accepting Christ, being forgiven, in order to change one's ways.

* *... has not dealt with us according to our sins.*
Psalms 103:10

2. If not sinful life-styles will continue from one generation to the next.

David was a king that failed as a parent. Yes, you may be a Christian; you may be successful in your business; you may be successful where you work; you may be the model role for church, etc.

But all of that adds up to nothing if you fail at home. All that is going to matter when I die is what I did for Jesus in relationship to my family.

- You shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria. . . *Acts 1:8*
- Home comes first, Jerusalem!

Children are a reflection of what is going on at home as the rule, though certainly there are exceptions.

- Too often in our day children are neglected.
- Too often there is a lack of discipline, if any at all.

My child will be a by-product of me and what I do.

- Provoke not your children to wrath. Ephesians 6:4
- Take time to minister, instruct, train, pray for, supervise your children.
- Christian schools and churches are no substitute.

One of the qualifications for a deacon:

- One that rules well his own house, having his children in subjection. . . *1 Timothy. 3:4-5*
- . . . having faithful children not accursed of riot or unruly. *Titus 1:6*

How diligent and consistent are you?

1. Teaching them how to disobey.
2. How far they can push you.

David failed as a model and this continues to be one of the reasons why so many children are confused and lost today, they have no models as children.

- David was not around consistently to teach his children diligently.
- He had married wives that weren't of Israel.

We want to point out three important elements for parenting our children.

- I. I am to be a model to my children.**
- II. I am to be a teacher to my children.**
- III. I am to be a supervisor of my children.**

I

I am to be a model to my children.

- A.** To demonstrate evidence of the power of God in my life, a good model.
1. The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops. *2 Timothy 2:6*
 2. I can tell my child all about the power of God, how He can change people. But if they don't see it in my life at home, then it won't register in his mind and heart.
- B.** I am to stimulate a desire to possess or obtain like qualities.
1. Today there are no role models.
 2. No heroes.
 3. No vision for the children.
 4. Nothing to shoot for.
 5. The account of Amnon, Tamar, and Absalom say it best.
 - Amnon raped Tamar his sister.
 - David took Bathsheba, another man's wife.
 6. I am to stimulate my child to imitate me. Paul says, "The things which you learned and received and heard and say in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you." *Philippians. 4:9*
 - Use discretion in watching T.V.
 - Be consistent in your role model.
- C.** I will be duplicating myself.
1. Your family is a reflection of yourself.
 2. Your family is the nucleus of society.
 3. Your family will affect society for evil or good.

I AM TO BE A MODEL TO MY CHILDREN!



I am to be a teacher to my children.

A. I am commanded to teach my children.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1. Love for God is evident in my love for my children, by teaching them what my Father teaches me.

- Teach them to think.
- Teach discretion.
- Teach verbally from the Word of God.

B. Commandment with promise.

Deuteronomy 11:16-28

1. Nations and territory are powers and areas that would want to compromise and defeat me.

Vs. 22-25

2. The word of God is so essential to my life. Job said, "I esteem God's Word more than my daily substance. Even though you slay me, Lord, yet will I trust in You."

C. All is given in God's word.

1. Proverbs gives all necessary for life and godliness.

2. Everything is available in the Word of God.

ILLUSTRATION

In 18 years, your child:

- Sleeps 1/3 of those years (6 years)
- In institution 1/3 (6 years)
- 2-3 years as an infant
- 3 years left

** How much time out of those three years do you spend with your child individually?*

I AM TO BE A TEACHER TO MY CHILDREN!



I am to be a supervisor of my children.

A. For the purpose that God would minister to me their weak areas, those needful areas that I would pray for them.

1. Do you know your child? Their temperament and attitudes?

** David was not aware of Amnon and Tamar, Absalom's attitudes, strengths and weaknesses.*

2. I don't always have to confront my child but I should not neglect to do so when necessary.

3. Sometimes I have to pray that God would minister to him by the Spirit so that he can see the power of God apart from the parent also.

4. It's never too late.

** "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward." Psalm 127:3*

B. For correction.

1. "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights."

Proverbs 3:11-12, Hebrews 12:5-6

2. Knowing your child. *Proverbs 20:11*

C. For protection.

** Proverbs 3:21-26*

1. David dealt very differently with Solomon than with his other children.

- Proverbs 4:1-13
- David learned from his mistakes.

2. Solomon realized the folly of not instructing and disciplining a child.

* *Proverbs 17:6, 19:18, 22:6, 15, 23:13-14, 29:15, 17*

3. Parents are to not think raising children is easy.

* *"If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small." Proverbs 24:10*

- If you faint not, you will reap.
- Count the costs before you have children.
- Be diligent, work hard and depend upon God.

4. Parents should remember Eli who honored his sons more than God, therefore was judged by God.

- A man of God came to Eli and declared, "Therefore the LORD God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever ... Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.'" *1 Samuel 2:30*
- Parents can be:
 - a. Faithful to God or negligent.**
 - b. Presumptuous in their liberty or holy.**
 - c. Indulgent or moderate.**
 - d. Frustrated or fulfilled.**
 - e. Loving or self-centered.**
 - f. Obedient or rebellious.**
- Parents are to:
 - a. Protect.**
 - b. Train.**
 - c. Educate.**
 - d. Nourish.**
 - e. Correct.**
 - f. Pray for children.**

5. Parents need to rest in their obedience and example, knowing children have a free will and may choose not to follow God.

- Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas not having the parental instruction and oversight were perverse. *1Samuel 2*

a. They Laid with the women.

b. They stole from the offerings and sacrifices.

- Samuel's two sons, Joel and Abiah, having the instruction and oversight were perverse. *1Samuel 8:3*

a. They turned aside to dishonest gain.

b. They took bribes.

c. They perverted justice.

- The Prodigal son was not the only one lost. *Luke 15:11-32*

a. The Prodigal son was lost but repented of his sins and was found.

b. The son who never rebelled was in the fathers house was equally lost and remained lost, being unrepentant.

c. Remember. children are not judged for the sins of the parents nor the parents for the sins of the children, only for their disobedience to instruct and confront their children by the word of God. *Ezekiel. 18:20*

I AM TO BE A SUPERVISOR OF MY CHILDREN!

CONCLUSION

Remember these three important elements for parenting your children.

- I. I am to be a model to my children.**
- II. I am to be a teacher to my children.**
- III. I am to be a supervisor of my children.**