

A Father's Love

Luke 15:11-24

Introduction:

A Father- is the one who guides, guards, and governs in the home. He is the one who brings proper disciplines, strengths, and direction to the family. His love is powerful; it is a giving love that always seeks the best interests of the child. A father's love teaches through example as well as by instruction.

Andrew Murray, Patrick Williams, and Edwin Louis Cole

I. A Father's Love vss. 11-13

- a. Children are a gift from God Ps127:3
- b. Trains up a child Prov 22:6
- c. Writes on the heart of the child Deut 6:6-7
- d. Understands children will come of age v.12a
- e. Leaves an inheritance for his children Prov 13:22
- f. Shows no favoritism v.12b
- g. Loves his children enough to let them go v.13

II. The Reason For Intercessory Prayer vss. 14-17

- a. When children think they know best v.14
- b. When they lean to their own understanding v.15-16
- c. Because they need to trust in God Prov 3:5-6
- d. The Pig Pen Epiphany v.17

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III. Love Keeps No Record of Wrongs vss. 18-20

- a. Wayward children need to know they can come home vss.18-19
 - i. If we would humble ourselves 2 Chron 7:14
 - ii. Confess our sins and be forgiven Ps 32:3-5
- b. Why Fathers pray v.20
 - i. Models of Intercessory Prayer Moses Ex 32:31-32
 - ii. Power in the prayer of a Righteous Man Jas 5:16
- c. God doesn't treat us as our sins deserve Ps 103:10-12

IV. Restoration By Mercy And Grace vss. 21-24

- a. Confessing with his mouth what his heart had already done v.21
- b. A Father's Restoring Love v.22
 - i. A Robe was given to honored guest
 - ii. The Ring was a Signet Ring, indicating authority
 - iii. The Sandals were reserved for family members only
- c. Restoration is a reason to celebrate vss.23-24
 - i. Heaven rejoices over sinners who repent Lk 15:7

5 Key Things That Must Be Present In A Father's Witness

1. Genuine Love (Agape)
2. A Transparent Life
3. An Unselfish Diligence
4. Genuine Faith (Christianity)
5. A Positive Influence