

Fathers Who Give Hope

Colossians 3:21

Introduction:

Fatherhood – is to be patterned after the “Divine Fatherhood.” And that is to live in such a way that our children can see what God the Father is like.

A. The Fatherhood of God

- a. Jesus taught His disciples to call God Father Matt 6:9
- b. Jesus also taught that God is not everyone's Father. John 8:42, 44
- c. God is the Father only of those who are led by the Spirit in His Son. Rom 8:9, 14-15

I. Human Fatherhood

- a. All human fatherhood should be patterned on the Divine Fatherhood of God.
- b. That is to live in such a way that your children can see what God the Father is like

II. Lest They Become Discouraged v.21c

- a. The goal of a good father is to rear children who are not discouraged.
- b. The word discouraged implies - losing heart, being lethargic, spiritless, and disinterested.
- c. Be the kind of father that produces the opposite of discouragement.

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III. Happiness that Kills and Happiness in God

- a. Happiness that kills Jas 4:9
- b. Happiness in God Ps 4:7-8

IV. Self Confidence and God-Confidence

- a. The world says: Don't discourage a child; build up their self-confidence
- b. The Scriptures says: Don't discourage a child; build up their God -confidence 2 Cor 1:8-9

V. The Goal of a Biblical Father

- a. To teach his children to let go of all self-confidence and direct their desire for confidence to the grace of God

B. Do Not Provoke Your Children v.21b

- a. It's a warning against the misuse of legitimate authority v.20
- b. Misuse of authority can ruin a child's confidence in God

VI. 2 Things Father's Do to Provoke Discouragement

- a. Fail to be happy and hopeful and confident in God
- b. Disciplining in an impulsive and inconsistent way.

C. Father's v.21a

- a. Fathers bear a special responsibility for the moral life of the family
- b. Fathers can only offer these hopes because you yourself have found your hope and happiness and your confidence in God.