**Father's Day Message**

A Father can be defined in many ways and the Bible shows him as the head of the family, the ruler, and provider, and as he who trains his children in the fear of God.

Our heavenly Father is defined as creator, protector, life giver, healer the names for God are a list to long to mention.

In Isaiah, chapter nine, verse six, he is called, Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Fathers are to train up their children in the way they should go and when he is old he won’t depart from them. Proverbs 22-6

The Israelites were commanded to teach their children the laws of God.

Scripture: Deut 4:9

Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons and thy sons' sons;

One of the things I would suggest all parents to do Father and Mother is to teach your children to love God and obey his commandments.

Being a Father is great responsibility it takes more than just bringing them into the world it becomes a lifetime commitment.

A lot of children when they are grown will still need their parents in many ways.

Some seek advice in different matters of their life others need help in different areas of life.

It seems we never lose our need for parental guidance.

Fathers are not very patient today with their children we expect them to know everything we want them to do. We also forget that they have feelings.

·        A good thing to teach your children is love and how to express their love by showing them love.

·        Don’t just say well they know I love them and expect that to take the place of a hug or a kind word or just saying I love you and I am proud of you.

The Apostle John said 1 John 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love ; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Children need to know they are loved that way they will learn to express love for others. Sometimes we expect too much from our children and show little or no affection toward them.

We sometimes forget how long it took us to master the things we know.

Eph 6:4 And, ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Col 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

These scriptures should be guidelines for us to go by all the time. We as Fathers are not taskmasters but leaders by example.

A lot of sons follow in the footsteps of their fathers like the old saying monkey see monkey do. But that isn’t always the case some stray form the teachings of their father. Sometimes that is good it’s according to what they were taught.

I taught my children to work and work hard and earn things they wanted in life.

If your children are always given too they will always expect someone to give them something.

There is nothing wrong with giving to your children I believe that shows them how much you love them.

But if they never learn to depend upon their own abilities to provide for themselves they will always be dependent on others.

1.     In church Parents ought to teach their children to worship.

2.     You teach them by example they need to see you worship.

The greatest responsibility of a parent is to lead their children to the kingdom of heaven.

We rely upon our heavenly Father to provide guidance by his word. We learn to be givers by his example of giving.

You see God doesn’t tell us to do something that he hasn’t already experienced himself.

He taught us how to pray: Matt 6:7-13 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. {Before his Kingdom can come your Kingdom must go.}

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. {Have you forgiven?}

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We seem to always be praying for something other than what we were taught by the Lord to pray for.

Matt 6:33-34

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. {we worry about everything}

What is the Kingdom of God? Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink;{What he is saying it isn’t worldly its Spiritual} but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

When we reach this point in our walk with God he said **“All these things shall be added unto you.”**

So what should we be seeking God for? Our heavenly Father is a provider:

Luke 11:10-13 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

All Fathers sometimes tell their children no at times: why? Simply because we think it isn’t necessary at the time or because it may not be the best thing for them at that time.

Well God sometimes says no to us and we don’t understand and we get mad just like our children… they don’t understand why you say no and they get their feelings hurt because.. we always want it our way. Don’t we?

Most of time parents know what is best for their children but God always knows what is best for his.

One of the reasons the Israelites complained in the wilderness is this> they didn’t want anyone telling them what to do they had been slaves for over 430 years and now they were free, but not free to go their own way because God put a Spiritual Father over them to show them the commandments of the Lord.

Time hasn’t changed anything… people still do what they think is right in their own eyes.

But there are four things the word of the Lord tells us we have to do: Ex 15:26 And said

1.     **If thou will diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God**

2.     **And do that which is right in his sight**

3.     **And wilt give ear to his commandments,**

4.     **And keep all his statutes,**

Here’s the reward for obeying God’s word: “I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.”

Deut 6:18 And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers,

Judg 17:6 In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

Look at this world man has taken things into their own hand and have not obeyed the word of the Lord.

They have worshipped and served every god except the one true God Jesus Christ.

And look at the results from their disobedience poverty, war, sickness and we blame God.. It’s not God… it’s the sin that man has allowed to rule him.

Adam because he and Eve disobeyed the one commandment of God brought all this upon mankind.

1 Cor 15:22-26 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

1 Cor 15:45-49

45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

47 The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.

48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Adam's sin brought forth death and Christ's obedience brought forth life.

In this world we live and we pass, but in the world to come, according to this scripture, there is a great reward from our heavenly Father;

Rev 21:4-7

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.