

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

## **HOW MANY HIRED SERVANTS OF MY FATHER'S HAVE BREAD ENOUGH AND TO SPARE, AND I PERISH WITH HUNGER!**

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SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 19, 2022

FATHER'S DAY,

SCRIPTURE READING: **LUKE 15:11-17**

**Luke 15:17, And when he came to himself, he said How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

- a. Please refer to the June 19, 2022 Evening Message for the Background.

### **2. INTRODUCTION**

- a. Today is Father's Day which is celebrated throughout our country we find that 60% of the men are fathers in the United States of America. Father's Day was inaugurated in the United States during the 20<sup>th</sup> century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fatherhood and male parenting. After the success obtained by Anna Jarvis with the promotion of Mother's Day in the USA, some wanted to create a similar holiday for other family members, and Father's Day was the choice most likely to succeed. There were other persons in the USA who independently thought of Father's Day, but the credit for the modern holiday is often given to Sonora Dodd, who was the driving force behind its establishment. Father's Day was founded in Spokane, Washington at the YMCA in 1910 by Sonora Smart Dodd, who was born in Arkansas. Its first celebration was in the Spokane YMCA on June 19, 1910. Her father, a Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, who was a single parent raised his six children in Spokane. After hearing a sermon about Jarvis' Mother's Day in 1909, she told her pastor that fathers should have a similar holiday honoring them. Although she initially suggested June 5, her father's birthday, the pastor did not have enough time to prepare his sermon, and the celebration was deferred to the third Sunday in June. It did not have much success initially. Americans resisted the holiday during a few decades, perceiving it as just an attempt by merchants to replicate the commercial success of Mother's Day. She had the help from those trade groups that would benefit most from the holiday, for example the manufactures of ties, tobacco pipes, and any traditional present for fathers. A bill to accord national recognition of the Holiday was introduced in Congress in 1913. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson went to Spokane to speak at a Father's Day celebration and wanted to make it official, but Congress resisted, fearing it would become commercialized. President Calvin Coolidge recommended in 1924 that the day be observed by the nation but stopped short of issuing a national proclamation. Two earlier attempts to formally recognize the holiday had been defeated by Congress. In 1957, Maine Senator Margaret Chase Smith wrote a proposal accusing Congress of ignoring fathers for 40 years while honoring mothers. In 1966, President Lyndon B Johnson issued the first presidential proclamation honoring fathers, designating the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Six years later, the day was made a permanent national holiday when President Richard Nixon signed it into law in 1972.
- b. It is an awesome responsibility to be a father.
- c. With that Introduction let's see what we can glean from God's Word today.

### **3. FOUR POINTS TO THE MESSAGE**

- a. **A certain man had two sons.**

1. **Luke 15:11, And he said, A certain man had two sons:**
2. We come in contact with a father who had two sons.
3. A positive environment in the home sets the tone for proper training. In the military we refer to this as the command climate.
4. This home and the attitude of the father represent our Heavenly Father and His attitude toward us.
5. It represents the glorious home of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and the home He has gone to prepare for us. **John 14:2-3, *In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3: And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.***
6. Our home in Heaven has all of the comforts, joy, and all of the love that could ever be. **1 Corinthians 2:9, *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.***
7. From our text, this earthly home was a productive home as this father had provided both discipline and training for his sons.
8. It reminds me of **Ephesians 6:4, *And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.***
9. Nurture means discipline, and admonition means instruction.
10. We are to discipline and instruct our children at the same time. **Proverbs 22:6, *Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.***
11. The Scriptures teach we must discipline our children, which, we are short of this day and time. In no way does discipline become abuse or abuse become discipline if we use God's Word as our guide.
12. We have been exposed to lies from the psychologists on how to raise our children; they have led us to believe that to discipline our children will damage their self esteem.
13. The Word of God is foreign to many who walk in Christian circles.
14. I want to spend a moment on the discipline that God says is ok.
15. In the **Book of Proverbs 13:24** we deal with a correct statement that says, ***He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.***
16. I want you to notice the Bible does not say He that spareth the rod spoileth the child.
17. **Proverbs 19:18, *Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.***
18. **Proverbs 22:15, *Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.***
19. **Proverbs 23:13-14, *Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. 14: Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.***
20. **Proverbs 29: 15 and 17, *The rod and reproof gives wisdom but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. 17: Correct thy son, and he shall give the rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.***
21. **The Word of God does not tell us to discipline and train when we are angry, or mad, or our thinking is not clear.**
22. We must not do that in any way, shape, or form because we will provoke our children to wrath. **Ephesians 6:4, *And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.***
23. I do not find in this home from our text, the father yelling at his sons.
24. I want you to notice these boys were taught how to work, which is the one thing that is missing from our society today.
25. If we do not teach them how to work, then they will certainly learn how to steal.
26. This father had provided for these boys, and God had enriched and blessed him.
27. Notice, the absence of the mother in this parable.
28. Obviously there had to be a mother, but as fathers, many times we expect the women to discipline and control the children.
29. This is a responsibility that should clearly lay upon the shoulders of a father, as he provides leadership and sets the tone for the operation for the family.
30. Here is God's Divine formula for a smooth operating family.
  - a. Husbands and wives are instructed by God to submit themselves one to the other in

the fear of God. **Ephesians 5:21, Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.** In no uncertain terms this speaks of a born-again experience for both the husband and the wife. **Philippians 2:3, Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.**

- b. Husbands love your wife as Christ loved the Church. **Ephesians 5:25, Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.**
- c. Wives submit yourself unto your own husband as unto the Lord. **Ephesians 5:22, Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.**
- d. Children obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. **Ephesians 6:1-2, Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2: Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise.** **Exodus 20:12, Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.**

**b. Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me.**

- 1. **Luke 15:12-13, And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.** **13: And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.**
- 2. This is a very unusual request but notice the outstanding attitude of the father.
- 3. As we look at this lovely home that contained everything a heart could desire, it was a productive home filled with love, joy, fellowship, and comfort. An abundance of material possessions was available in this home.
- 4. **There was both discipline and training in this home.**
- 5. Many times, we look on the other side and we think the grass is greener as this young man assumed.
- 6. When we were growing up, we had the thought our parents didn't know what they were doing because they were old fogies.
- 7. The older I get the more wisdom and knowledge I realize was in the mind of my parents.
- 8. I understand the message I am preaching to you today is not a popular message in America, but it is the truth, the solid Word of God and I must declare it.
- 9. The Word of God and what it teaches is strange to even the majority of the Christian population.
- 10. We have allowed men to tamper with the Preserved Word of God in such a way we don't even know what God's Word teaches anymore. Preachers and teachers for the most part, are not declaring "what thus saith the Lord." We are using commentaries and calling it the Word of God. **Jeremiah 12:10, Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.**
- 11. There is mass confusion among believers in the Christian community concerning the Preserved Word of God. **1 Corinthians 14:33, For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.**
- 12. The request of this son, when he came to his father and asked about the portion that falleth to him, you will notice an unusual reaction from the father.
- 13. **"And he divided unto them his living."** - This simply means he had been taught what was right, and it was not necessary for the father to give him a lesson or lecture at that point.
- 14. Many times, we allow our children to get out of control before we start disciplining, instructing, and teaching them. We must not make statements they are cute or tired and make excuses for their misbehavior. **Proverbs 22:6, Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**
- 15. If you are not on the ball from the cradle, you will certainly have problems in your child's teen years or earlier.
- 16. There has to be consistency between the dad and mom concerning the raising of the children.
- 17. There can be no contest between dad and mom that the children can read as a lack of togetherness on various instructions and issues. Neither mom nor dad should correct each other in the presence of the children. This should be strictly bedroom talk.
- 18. The children should receive the same answer from both parents.

c. And when he had spent all.

1. Luke 15:14-16, **And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. 15: And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16: And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.**
2. I will not go into great detail, because you know the story; as long as this young man had money, he had fair-weather friends. **Hebrews 11:25, Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;**
3. **"and no man gave unto him."** - You can jot it down, when the money is low the so-called friends are hard to find.
4. Young people need to understand what type of father they really have and what type of attitude he displays at all times, especially in the home.
5. It should not be a hypocritical attitude where there is inconsistency; one thing in the home and another before leaders and friends.
6. Inconsistency in the life of a parent affects our children as we live the life before them; it is a detrimental thing.
7. We must be consistent in our approach regardless of the cost!
8. I have often said our kids have come back and told us it was the consistent life and togetherness we lived before them and not a wishy-washy attitude has allowed them to turn out ok.
9. We must refrain from statements "Go ask your mom or Go ask your dad."
10. I also make a statement: they never did what we told them, but they always watched what we did and followed that example.
11. We must lead by example; this is one of the problems fathers need to address and take leadership in the home.
12. The Bible clearly says the husband is the head of the wife; it does not mean he controls and disciplines her and treats her like a doormat, or the nonsense we have in our head.
13. **1 Peter 3:6-7, Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with amazement. 7: Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.** She must be treated with honour, respect, and dignity.
- 14.. **Ephesians 5:21, Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.**
15. He is the lead figure in the home. The buck should stop with the father; the pressure should not be placed on the wife, as the aforementioned Scripture has taught us. She should not be placed on the point.
16. In other words, if there are resources needed in the home, the father should provide them. **1 Timothy 5:8, 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.**
17. Let me make myself perfectly clear, I did not say a wife should not have an education, profession, or a career, I believe we need to develop ourselves to our fullest potential.
18. The very core of our happiness depends on achieving and being well adjusted as we develop our potential.

d. How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

1. **Luke 15:17, And when he came to himself, he said How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!**
2. This boy remembered how his father not only took care of the family but provided for his servants as well.
3. We are not to elevate ourselves above anyone. We believe here at Chesswood in our slogan "Where Everybody Is Somebody"
4. We need to exercise principles of leadership that involves everyone in the family. There should be no favorite sons or daughters, son-in-laws or daughter-in-law, less we foster jealousy and strife in the family.
5. We are not to beat up on people; gossip about them and we are not to try to get ahead by stepping over people.

6. The attitude of the father as he operates in the home will shape the lives of the children.
7. I said to my wife several days ago, that I so much appreciate my father and mother for the kind of environment in which I was raised. I promised you on Mother's Day that I would have some words to say about my father. It was my dad that taught me hard work and how to stay with the job until it was done. He was tough as nails when I was wrong, but he displayed a heart of love when I was right. I was encouraged by his sterling example and his tenacity and his faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Likewise, my late wife's father also had an impact on my life. I am thankful that he raised a Godly daughter of whom I was privileged to call my best friend who instilled Godly values in our children. I did not know Mr. Roy, Clara's dad that well but he did impress me as being a very responsible father.
8. This made it easy for us to form a relationship and respect each other and set a productive environment for our children and our marital relationship.
9. As a result, there were no arguments in or out of the home because the children are perceptive enough to realize a conflict between dad and mom, and they will use such to their advantage.
10. One of the key things I learned some time ago, was how you treat mom is the way the children will size up the father, as to who he really is.
11. The three gems that I have learned and used in the leadership in our home:
  - a. Children want to know who dad is and whether he is consistent.
  - b. How he treats mom is their major frame of reference.
  - c. How much time and attention is dad willing to give them?
12. **Do you allow your job or hobby to monopolize your entire life with no time for mom or the children?**
13. We have a handicap child who does not speak but understands a lot of things. She treasures a dinner date with dad and mom. Nothing interferes with her time.
14. Are you all about trying to provide for your family better than you were provided for?
15. If that be the case, the children really don't care about your position in the company, or whether you own your own business, or how much money you bring home, neither are they concerned about the material things we tend to lavish them with, but they are concerned about one thing. "Am I important in the life of dad?"
16. If your children are important in your life dad, then that equates to the amount of quality time and attention you give them in everyday life.
17. Do you have time for things that are important to them; their sport, school activities etc? Or is it all about you?

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- a. Perhaps you are a father who has never trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour; you are attempting to shoulder the responsibility of fatherhood on your own, using methods of the world. It will not work my friend. Come to Jesus and be saved. **Acts 4:12, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**
- b. Perhaps you are saved and are like the elder son, out of fellowship with your Heavenly Father, attempting to serve Him out of obligation. It will not work my friend.
- c. God does not intend for us to operate in His permissive will or on the fringes of His will. Every father, in order to be effective, must be in the perfect center of God's will.
- d. Remember in the eye of the storm, amongst trials and tribulation there is perfect peace with the Lord Jesus Christ. **Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Isaiah 26:3, Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Colossians 3:15, And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.**
- e. You can only become an effective father as you allow Jesus to lead, obeying the still small voice of the Holy Spirit as He speaks the words of the precious Saviour at the right hand of the Father. **John 16:13, Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**
- f. **Jesus is ready to save you today.**
- g. If you know not Christ as personal Saviour, everything that you have done in the name of good or bad, is for nought.

- h. God is not in the business of regulating the lives of unbelievers; He strictly holds unbelievers to the message of the cross; it is the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and faith in His blood that provides salvation.
- i. Every single father needs to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- j. We need to have Bible study with our children.
- k. Fathers need to lead the family in family devotions.
- l. We need to lead our family to Church not just send them.
- m. We need to get involved in the local church so they can become grounded in sound doctrine and learn how to support the local church. We must remember it is the local church that is the pillar and the ground of the truth. **1 Timothy 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**
- n. I believe the Word of God is perfectly alive and true today when it says in **Proverbs 22:6, Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**
- o. The problem is we do not know how old is old, sometimes old might be a teen-ager, sometimes old is forty, fifty, or sixty.
- p. We need to stay with God's Word and make sure we impart the Preserved Word of God to our children. **Deuteronomy 6:7, And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.**
- q. The Bible says in **Matthew 11:28-29, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**
- r. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;** Romans 3:10, **As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:** Romans 10:9-10, **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- s. Please stand.

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