

THE MOST NEEDED MAN IN THE WORLD

The most needed man in the world today is not a doctor, or a lawyer, or an actor, or an astronaut, or even a preacher or elder. What the world needs in the worst way is more godly fathers. As our homes deteriorate, so does the nation. A home will never be what God would have it if the man of the house is not a man of God. The picture of the father God would have is mentioned in **Ephesians 6:1-4** which states, **“Children obey your parents ... and, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”**

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

This text delves into the subject of family relations and concludes by stressing the role of the father as the provider of **“the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”** It is not exclusively the work of the church or the preacher to train up the children of the world. God gave that glorious and responsible task to the fathers of the children. Certainly a faithful congregation can aid in the rearing of a child, but the duty lies in the person of the father.

When Paul addressed the family unit, he began in the beginning citing that man was first formed, then Eve (**1 Timothy 2:13**). The husband is to be the head of the wife due to his place in the very creation of the human race (**Genesis 1, 2**). In **Ephesians 5** the Spirit adds, the husband is to be the head of the wife as Christ is head of the church. He leads her out of his love for her, and would gladly die for her as Jesus died for the church (**Ephesians 5:22-33**). Far too many men are unwilling to stand up and be the head of the house. We are in

desperate need to once again have men who will stand as “real men,” not shunning their God-given position. There is no place for cowardice in the heart of godly fathers (**Revelation 21:8**).

TRAINING UP CHILDREN

Not only is the man to be the head of the wife as Christ is the church, he is also to train up his children in that which is most important. Often fathers worry about the financial and educational futures of their children more than their spiritual future. Friends, such things ought not to be. Nothing is as important as preparing children for a life of godly service. In **Deuteronomy 11:18-21**, God clearly sets out what it takes to truly prepare our children to be able to stand in the day of adversity. **“Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul ... And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, ... walkest by the way, ... liest down, ... risest up ... That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, ...”**

God doesn't tell us to just take them to services once or twice a week. Rather, He instructs us to put His word ever before our children and to train them up in His way. Many fathers fail in this area for a number of reasons. Some are ignorant of what the word of God teaches, and therefore are unable to pass on to their children that which they do not know. The solution is quite simple, study God's word with the diligence and persistence due it. **“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15; Cf. 2 Timothy 3:16,17).**

Others have a knowledge of God's word but lack a scriptural love for their children and therefore fail to take the time or make the effort needed to train them in the ways of Jehovah. **“He that begetteth a fool doeth it to his sorrow: and the father of a fool hath no joy” (Proverbs 17:21).** How many children have ruined their lives because their father didn't really care enough about them to lead them to Jesus and instruct them in His divine ways? **“For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth” (Proverbs 19:26).**

Many fathers are simply too busy. Their intentions are good. One day they are going to get “around to it” but far too many never do. The love of money and prestige take them from home and keep them out late, day after day, week after week, and year after year. Sadly many awake from the stupor of their materialistic life too late to save their children from the pit of hell. Children are a gift from God and we should be appreciative of it. But they will make us miserable if we fail them as fathers.

WE NEED GODLY MEN

Fathers be men. Stand in the old paths of God on this matter (**Jeremiah 6:16**), and such misery can be avoided. What the world needs today is for you, as a man created in the image of God, to rise up and be a REAL father, a Christian father, a father after God's own heart. We can achieve biblical fatherhood if we are willing to comply with the ways of God on the matter of being a father (**Isaiah 55:8-9; Philippians 4:13**).

Michael Light from *Seek Ye First* (Fall 1999)

ANNIVERSARIES

John and Louise Dodson, 06-22;
Ted and Julia Thrasher, 06-22.

ILL

Sunday: Millie Robertson (PM).

Wednesday: Millie Robertson.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

HOME BOUND

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Barbara James' Aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at the Sweet Life of Rosehill in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

The Parish family was visiting relatives last weekend. Chris Edwards is away on business in Chicago, IL this week. Ted and Julia Thrasher left for Hawaii on June 20 and plan to return on June 30.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the family of brother Vic Cooney who passed away on Sunday, June 14. Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 20 at the Church of Christ in Mammoth Springs, Arkansas.

GUEST SPEAKER

Brother Lance Grimsley will be our guest speaker for this Sunday and next Sunday. Lance and his wife Renee are members at Chipman Road in Lee's Summit and have been OABS students for several years. We welcome the Grimsley's to Olathe!

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 50; Sunday PM, 35; Wednesday PM, 31.

"Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)" **Ephesians 6:2**

Those To Serve

June 21, 2009

BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Cole

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Joel Nelson
SONG LEADER..... George Thomas
OPENING PRAYER John Cody Carter
PRESIDE..... Trent Thrasher
ASSIST..... John Dodson
ASSIST..... John James
CLOSING PRAYER..... Chris Edwards

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER Steve Brown
CLOSING PRAYER..... Jared Nelson
LORD'S SUPPER..... Trent Thrasher

WEDNESDAY 24th

SONG LEADER..... Jeff Nemechek
INVITATION Joel Nelson

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher

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