

THE PRINCIPLED PATRIARCH

WORKBOOK *&* LEADER'S GUIDE

Embracing Biblical Manhood

**Stephen
Phinney**

Author Of 'The Art of Spiritual Warfare'



THE PRINCIPLED PATRIARCH

Embracing Biblical Manhood

Dr. Stephen R. Phinney

DEDICATED TO:

Carl Ver Steeg

*A father-in-law who was my father, mentor, and teacher!
I miss you, Dad, but I eagerly look forward to
spending eternity with you, as well as
the other “greats” of Biblical manhood.*

THE HOLY WORD OF GOD

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The Principled Patriarch: Embracing Biblical Manhood

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ISBN: 978-1-300-51573-9

Printed in the United States of America

LuLu Press, Inc.



IOM America

P.O. Box 71

Sterling, Kansas 67579

(602) 292-2982

www.iomamerica.net

ChristAsLife@iomamerica.org

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Phinney, Stephen Ray

The Principled Patriarch: Embracing Biblical Manhood/by Dr. Stephen R. Phinney.

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X-Changed Life Publishing

Cover Design: Inphinnety Designs

Sterling KS

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INTRODUCTION

Patriarchs are light unto a dark world. Their lives are to be living examples of traditional Biblical values that teach others to glorify God the Father. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden, nor can a leader who functions in his God-given abilities. He is a light to all citizens who need to find their way.

The world around us is lost and requires true dynamic leaders to show them the way. Patriarchs train patriarchs. This training starts on the home front. The whole goal and purpose of leading the home are for the community – training the next generation to be “lights unto the world.” God designs people to follow – each seeking to find a leader to believe in and follow. If the Biblical patriarch had the mentality of “being fruitful and multiplying the earth,” we would change a dark world within several generations. But, since the average male has the mindset of “taking care of themselves,” we fall short of God’s purpose of Biblical manhood.

Our role as men should spill over into the communities that we serve. All the ways and actions we appropriate within our homes should be how we manage the community and work world.

If a man desires a leadership position within the church, community, or nation, he desires a good thing. A man who lives with his wife in an understanding way, has his children under control, and manages his household with a servant-style leadership, is well prepared and qualified to lead in society. The home is the starting place and training ground for public leadership. Many men today have this backward – accepting leadership positions outside the home before their homes become a Biblical model of proof of their ability to lead.

Paul tells us in **1 Timothy 2:12-14** that women are not to be teaching or having authority over men. Why? Adam was formed first, then Eve. Those created first are given the command to lead those given the mandate to follow in church, community, and home. Therefore, if a woman desires a leadership position, it must be under the headship of her husband, if not married, her father. The point is that what works for the home's leadership is the same standard of leadership God uses in society.

A man cannot be trusted as a qualified leader (light unto the world) in the community unless he has proven his leadership within the home. The family is like a training institution for the man’s leadership. When he has passed the test of having his household in order, he will be a prime example of being a light unto the world. When a

man attempts to lead in the community without having his family in order, he is sure to have a “train wreck.”

The wisdom of this kind of direction and counsel has rarely been questioned until equalitarianism became the norm for family, church, and community. Once a Godly patriarch disregards the societal pressures of Christian feminism, they will be able to embrace the Truth of God’s order of male leadership.

Men, who hide behind the “light of woman,” or women's spiritual leadership, resist the light of God’s ordained order. This results in the confusion and the emasculation of men. Men, who function as true lights of the world, live and operate by the life and light of God the Father. God will only shine His light through His order of creation. He will not bypass His order to please His creation.

In our society today, women open their doors, defend themselves and demand to be treated equally. Who is to blame for this? It is that of man! The need for a man to practice male manners is more critical today than at any other time in history. Because women are so accustomed to caring for themselves, men have habitually taken the backseat to be gentlemen.

One would think that the women of our culture today have learned to demand their rights to be treated fairly due to men not treating them fairly. Well, this is simply not true. Women who function in independence do so because they observed men not treating their authority figures with all dignity. Men who do not show courtesy and manners to their authorities are modeling a lifestyle of disrespect and independence. Men bear the responsibility of showing their followers honor by honoring others. When a man honors his “up-line” first, he will find it relatively easy to honor his “down-line.” How can we expect women to honor us if we do not honor our authorities?

Honor looks like respect, courtesy, and manners. When a man honors authority, he will offer his services by allowing leaders to go first, helping them carry their load, serving them, and doing what they can to make their job easier. This is what most men expect from their women. If the patriarch is not doing like-minded service for their leaders – how can they expect their women to do differently? God may require women to service their disobedient male leaders, but it is not the ideal way. Respect, courtesy, and submission require modeling such a role. Leaders who expect honor without personally practicing honor border on abuse of authority. Christ, Himself, didn’t even demand such honor. He modeled it first and then requested honor and respect from His body.

Men need to show respect for authority by demonstrating honor/manners to the woman called to serve them. This is accomplished by opening car doors, serving her

needs first, or treating her as a “weaker vessel.” When a man shows common courtesy to a woman, he demonstrates how Christ honors the Church.

Being a gentleman is the perfect way of honoring God. When a man respects the guidelines of society, church, and God, he reveals God's order. A man interested in honoring God is recognizing the ordained roles God has assigned to His earthly structure. Men should care for all women in the same way they are commanded to care for their wives. Women should respect all men in the same way they are mandated to respect their husbands. This does not mean that men or women should act out their marital roles with individuals outside their homes. It does mean they should show everyone the same kind of honor and respect. Although, it should be noted that women should maintain God's “chain of command” even within society. In like manner, men should treat all women with the same dignity they tend to show their wives. A word of caution to men, do not allow your willingness to be a gentleman to breed a familiarity of passion or attachment (intimacy) that belongs to his wife, if not married, to Christ Himself.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY

Due to the need for men to understand the basic functions of Biblical manhood, this study has been written to give each patriarch the outline needed to fulfill it. Men need to get back to the traditional principles of patriarchy. Our women, children, communities, and nation need a few good men – husbands, fathers, and leaders willing to lead according to the divine Word of Truth.

We are in the middle of a cultural battle that wages war against both male and female genders – boys being emasculated and girls being masculated. Whatever happened to the patriarchs of our day? Why are women asserting more male dominance than our males? Why do men default to women leading their families, homes, and communities? These are just a few questions in **The Principled Patriarch** study.

This study is not for “interested onlookers!” This study is for the serious at heart – men who seek to find God's solutions to man's historical problems. This study is designed for small groups or individual private studies. **The Principled Patriarch** is guaranteed to challenge and refresh the souls of all men of intent.

FOR THE SMALL GROUP LEADER

The best way to use this study in a small group setting is to consider the following:

1. Have each attendee complete a minimum of 3 lessons per week.
2. Before coming together, pick two questions from each lesson for group discussion.
3. Open each meeting with prayer.
4. Review the lessons from the week before.
5. Ask the group for personal testimonies regarding actions taken from previous lessons.
6. As a group leader, read the introductory paragraphs of each lesson before asking the group to share the answers to the questions you have chosen for group discussion. Continue this method with all three lessons the group attendees were required to study.
7. Ask for personal prayer requests from each attendee – then, as a group, pray for all stated requests.

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Lesson 1

The Heart of the Father

God seems to be focused on restoring the hearts of the fathers to their children and their children to their fathers before building them into a leader. Malachi 4:5-6 reveals the heart of the Heavenly Father in a significant way.

Look up Malachi 4:5-6 and make a statement of what this passage means to you:

Who is it that “turns the hearts” of the characters mentioned in this passage?

_____.

Whose hearts are being turned? _____.

What will God do if a father does not allow this to happen?

_____.

Look up Luke 1:17, then answer the following questions:

1. Whose heart gets turned back first?

2. What does restoring hearts to our children have to do with salvation?

3. What is he saying here about the ones who are disobedient?

4. Did you know that God starts all REVIVALS through the relationship between a child and their father? Why would this be true?

A man, who functions with his wife and children as if they are his most important mission on earth, reveals his inner character. Please answer yes or no to these questions:

Question	Yes	No
Would you give your life to save your wife and/or child (ren)?		
Would you physically fight off an attacker if your wife or child is assaulted?		
Would you allow another man to come into your home and take your woman?		
Would you allow a "cult" leader to come into your home and captivate your wife's mind?		
Would you allow Satan to take control of your home?		
Do you allow media in your home that contains sex, language, and violence?		
Have you read every book your wife has read regarding spiritual growth?		
Do you allow your children to watch media you have not personally screened?		
Do spiritual ideas flow through you 1 st and then to or through your wife?		
Do you wash (read) the Word to your wife regularly?		
Do you teach your children how to study the Bible?		
Would your children say you are the primary instructor of your home?		

Most family leaders respond in a "manly" or "warrior" fashion on the first five questions, but the last seven questions tend not to. Was this the case with you?

_____.

Read Psalm 127 and then answer these questions.

1. Who does God say must build a man's house?

_____.

2. What type of labor does God call things done outside of this order?

_____.

3. Who has God designed to guard a man's city?

_____.

4. What does God say about rising early and going to bed late?

_____.

5. What does it mean to "eat the bread of painful labors"?

_____.

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6. Review v2b and state why God needs plenty of our sleep time:

_____.

7. What does God say about children in this passage?

_____.

8. What does God say is our reward? _____.

9. What is the comparison God makes with arrows and children?

_____.

10. Why are children an extra blessing when we are young?

_____.

11. What does God say about birth in v5?

_____.

12. Now, the most important question is, what does all this have to do with “speaking to the enemies at the gate”?

_____.

_____.

For the serious Patriarch (Optional Reading)

Topic	Scripture	√
Mamma's Boy	Genesis 2:24	
Honoring Dad	Exodus 20:12	
A Father's Instruction	Proverbs 1:8	
Father Watching You Sin	Matthew 6:4	
Husband Like a Father	John 10:30	
I Am Fatherless	Psalms 68:5	

Patriarchs of the Word

Patriarchs cannot be what God wants them to be unless they are rooted in the foundation of God's Word as the source of wisdom and counsel for daily living. True Biblical patriarchs do what God says when the world, or even the church, says you are foolish for doing it. Men who function as servant leaders long to discover God's will and are quick to repent for their failures (sins). These men are determined to put God the Father's will into practice at all costs. Without a man like this – there can be NO revival in the land.

Take a few moments to check your level of commitment to God's Word. Please answer each question honestly. Jesus said in Matthew 5 to let your "yes be yes and your no, be no".

Question	Yes	No
Do you open the Word of God at least once a day?		
Have you ever completed a historical study on the Bible?		
Do you take time to memorize the Word of God?		
Upon any given week, are you involved in a "Bible Study" of some type?		
Do you go to the scriptures to find practical solutions to your challenges?		
Do you own your own Bible?		
Does it look worn?		
If married, do you read the Word over your wife sometime throughout the week?		
If you are a father, do you read the Word to your children at least twice a week?		
Do you pray over the scriptures you are reading for practical application?		
Is the Bible the sole standard for what you believe?		
Can you dialogue with friends about Bible passages without having your Bible with you?		
If you were asked to find the book of Ecclesiastes without looking in the Table of Contents, could you do it?		
Do you know how many books there are in the Bible?		
Could you explain the difference between the Gospels and other New Testament writings?		
Could you explain what a Concordance is and how to use it?		
Have you read the Bible in its entirety like a novel?		
Do you believe the Bible is the absolute authoritative Words of God?		
Do you believe the Bible is inerrant (containing no mistakes)?		

How often do you open the Bible each day? _____ Each week? _____ Each Month? _____.

What does **Hosea 4:6** have to say about what happens to a man who does not know the Word of God?

Looking at this same passage, what happens if we “reject” His Knowledge? And how does He reject leaders (priests) because of it? _____.

In this verse, God says He will forget our children if we fathers _____ the Word of God.

Look up Joshua 1:8 and respond to the following questions:

1. What does God want men to do with the Word each day?

2. What was the “so that ...” in this verse?

3. According to this passage, how are we men to be guaranteed to be prosperous?

5. What does Joshua say about how we can have success?

A Man’s Home

Most Christian homes appear to be much like a non-Christian home; same parenting style, same kind of schools, same media, same divorce rate (actually higher), and same kinds of sins. Look up **James 4:4** and answer the following questions:

1. What does friendship with the world do?

2. Those men who do choose to be friends with the world make themselves what?

God is into supporting men. What does **2 Chronicles 16:9** have to say about the eyes of God?

According to this passage, what types of hearts does God tend to support?

From the perspective of 2 Chronicles, what does He say about the reason we will have wars?

Write a statement of commitment as to what you plan on doing with today's lesson:

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Declaring the Word	Deuteronomy 5:5	
Full of Hot Air	Job 16:3	
Word – Like a Spot Light	Psalms 119:105	
Speak In Truth	Jeremiah 23:28	
Word Is God	John 1:1	
Word is Like a Razor	Hebrews 4:12	

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Lesson 3

Making A Difference

Patriarchs know their purpose in “making a difference” in the world they serve. God the Father has given every man a passion and desire to make their mark on the generation that follows them. A Biblical man knows and understands that they serve a God that is a culture changer. He sees his purpose for living as the same purpose the Father has in His creation of him.

Many men have been deceived into thinking that it takes a multitude of men to change a person. With God’s ordained plan, it only takes a “few good men.” We, men, are designed to make a difference –in our blood, our DNA, the very fiber of our existence.

Review Isaiah 58:12 and list the two things God says we men will do:

1. _____
2. _____

What are the two things that we are called to be in this passage:

1. _____
2. _____

What do you think it means to rebuild the waste place and ancient ruins and shall raise the foundations of many generations?

The primary reason why men do not focus on making a difference is that they strive after their pleasures. Men who seek their way typically mislead their followers to do the same. But those faithful few, who take delight in the Lord, live above earthly pleasures.

List the primary pleasures that tend to get in the way of your ability to make a difference:

1. _____	6. _____
2. _____	7. _____
3. _____	8. _____
4. _____	9. _____
5. _____	10. _____

Ancient ruins, or waste lands, come in many different forms. The best place to start is on the home front. List out the four primary areas you need to “repair” or “rebuild” in your daily living:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Now list your “wish list” on how you would like to make a difference in the world around you:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Most men are confused and frustrated about knowing how to change. God is clear about how He can change a man – His hand is not so short that He cannot touch man's heart. Look up **Isaiah 59:1-4** and answer the following questions:

1. What does God say about the power of His hand?

2. What does He say about His ability to hear?

3. What does this passage say about our iniquities (sins) and their effect on our relationship with the Father?

4. What does it say about the power of the tongue?

5. What do confusion, speaking lies, and conceiving trouble bring forth?

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God is a redeemer that forgives and heals all men of their sins. The man who decides to embrace their healing and transformation is promised five actions from God. Look up **Isaiah 59:21** and list these actions:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Since the future of our homes, communities, and nation is in the hands of the patriarchs, and the nation's condition depends upon our men's mindset, we need to start with ourselves. Once Christ has arrested us to make a difference, we then can focus on rebuilding the lives of those that follow us.

No man can change anything without the power and might of the Lord. **Zechariah 4:6** tells us, “*Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the Lord Almighty.*” It starts with a simple prayer, asking God to arrest your heart for true change.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, I pray that you would arrest my heart for true and lasting change. I ask that I would allow Christ to be my might & power and that I would not attempt to make these changes with my strength. I choose this day as the patriarch you have called me to be. I pray all this in the blessed name of my Husband, Jesus Christ. Amen

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Now Is the Time	2 Corinthians 6:2	
Corrected by a Dumb Ass	2 Peter 2:16	
Showing Diligence	Hebrews 6:11	
Disciplined by God	1 Corinthians 11:32	
No Fear but Pure Power	2 Timothy 1:7	
I Am Fatherless	Psalms 68:5	

Notes:

Threats to Patriarchy

A Biblical view of men and women is that of Complementarianism – men and women are created equal in God’s image but have different roles. Egalitarianism (e·gal·i·tar·i·an·ism), on the other hand, is the view that men and women have been gifted equally so that no role is limited to one sex. Maintaining, relating to, or based on a belief that men and women are, in principle, equal in all aspects and should enjoy equal social, political, and leadership rights and opportunities. This is classified as Christian feminism.

Complementarian response built upon a biblical vision of male headship in which men lead their families and churches by mirroring God the Father and Jesus as the head of the Bride (the church), whom Scripture portrays as the loving, sacrificial, protective Patriarch of His people.

Many men today are living according to an egalitarian belief based on the fact that role equality is considered to be extremely reasonable, and research has shown many conservative and evangelical households to be among the “guiltiest” when it comes to giving way to externally applied pressure regarding egalitarianism and family harmony, relational happiness and emotional health. In other words, men of our generation tend to default to female leadership to keep the peace.

Christian men are known to maintain headship in the sphere of ideas, but their day-to-day decisions are based on a process of negotiation, mutual submission, and consensus. That’s what our Biblical patriarch (forefathers) would have called feminism.

Embracing Biblical patriarchy protects the doctrines of God from departure from what is right. To reject male headship leads to a redefinition of the Fatherhood of God and His divine sovereignty. This is just another way of promoting the view that God is impotent and limited in knowledge. Rearranging the order of God has been Satan’s goal and objective from the beginning. Converting our homes into “Christian Egalitarians” is one of his main tools and man’s worst enemy.

What humanistic ideas have penetrated the Christian home that threatens patriarchy?

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

In your own words, define “Christian Feminism”:

It is not wise to confuse “Christian Feminism” with being equal regarding the inherent worth and dignity of being children of God. Spiritually, we are all created equal, but we are called to function differently in the leadership roles assigned to us by the Living God.

Look up Ephesians 4:17 and state what the Bible says about our walk:

God has asked men not to conform to the world's ideologies and the fashionable trends of this age. Look up **Romans 12:2** and answer the following questions:

What are we being asked NOT to “conform to?”

What are we supposed to be proving?

Christian men need to rid their thinking of feministic influence. They need to fill their minds with the design of God –embracing the masculine mind embedded in them by the Father. If a man walks according to the worldly fables of man, he will become emasculated. If he walks according to the teachings of God, he will find his fulfillment as a man.

Look up **1 Corinthians 10:3-5** and answer the following questions:

What does the Word say that we war against?

What does this passage say our “weapons of warfare” can accomplish?

In what ways has “Christian Feminism” invaded our churches?

1.

2.

3.

4.

Men, fathers, and Christian leaders need to consider repenting of the following sins:

1. Failed Leadership
2. Not rejecting the idea of Christian Feminism
3. Not following God’s design of the male role /responsibilities
4. Not protecting the role of patriarchy

Commit yourself this day to be a man that does not conform to the “traditions of man” but is transformed in your masculinity by the doctrines and ways of God. Go now and practice the true characteristics of manhood by standing firm in the immovable things of God.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Topic	Scripture	√
Being Insulted	2 Corinthians 12:7-10	
Desires of the Flesh	Ephesians 2:3	
Abstaining from Lust	1 Peter 2:11	
Following Instead of Leading	Deuteronomy 6:14	
Faithless Patriarchs	2 Timothy 2:13	
Faint Hearted Followers	1 Thessalonians 5:14	
Abstaining from Evil	2 Timothy 2:19	

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Abusive Speech	Colossians 3:8	
Foul Mouthed Leaders	1 Timothy 6:4	

Write out a description of your view of manhood.

True Biblical Man

C. S. Lewis wrote of the disparate strands of manhood-- *fierceness and gentleness*--*can find healthy synthesis in the person of the knight and the code of chivalry. Here these competing impulses--normally found in different individuals--find their union.*

The balance required for authentic Christian manhood is found in his God-given strength and power. Without the gentle side of man, men would be mere brutes. Tenderness and compassion without masculine firmness and aggressiveness produce a male without the fire to lead or inspire others.

In the Old Testament, we see David as a poet and singer, but also a warrior and king. He had the fierceness to kill Goliath, the giant, and the tenderness to provide for the needs of the people of God. His compassion and masculinity found their perfect blend.

Keeping the right balance between our impulses toward power and aggression and the need to be gentle and responsible is a challenge most men face.

Our men need a vision for masculinity that challenges and inspires if our women, children, community, and nation are stable and healthy. In an age of great social, spiritual, and gender confusion such as these, there is a desperate need for clear guidelines and models that can inspire the men of this generation to embrace their God-given masculinity.

To be a true Biblical man, we must get back to the basics:

1. The Word of God – knowing it better than we know our occupations.
2. Hearing God in our minds and hearts.
3. Live with Christ as a Bridal Member that is responsible and pure.
4. Study the foundational writings of manhood, fatherhood, and what it means to be a patriarch.
5. Know history to fight off the enemy of today – passivity.

Look up 1 Corinthians 14:20 and answer the following questions:

What way are men NOT to be like children?

When it comes to men obtaining experience in evil things, how are we to live?

Regarding male thinking, how are we commanded to be in light of this passage?

Understanding history and culture is the key to realizing where we stand in the flow of events and ideas that have shaped our identity as men.

As a man, what shapes your educational choices, vocation choice, music preferences, and ways of relating to patriarchs and spiritual leadership is the key to understanding your culture. If a man's primary training source is something other than the Bible, we have an eternal crisis. Please answer the following questions as honest as possible: (if single, reflect on your growing up years)

1. Who in your family reads the Bible the most? _____

2. Who reads the Word to the children the most? _____

3. Who in your family understands Biblical history the clearest? _____

4. Who teaches Biblical history and culture to the children the most?

5. Between you and your wife, who models Christianity the best to your children or interested onlookers?

6. Who leads spiritually or makes the most decisions in our home? _____

The industrial revolution damaged the American family more than any other movement. Here are the primary effects of this "revolution."

- Industrialism took fathers away from their wives and children to make BIG money.
- It allowed parents to let their children "vacate" and not work alongside the parents.
- It activated feminism – women demanding their cultural rights.
- It permitted women to be workers outside the home.

- It turned children into parents – parenting themselves and sometimes their parents.
- It removed the patriarchs' protection from the home.
- It turned the leadership over to the strongest personality within the home.
- Fathers, mothers, and children lost their God-given significant places in the family, and, more significantly, the fathers lost their children's hearts.

To be a true Biblical man, one must be a man of the Word. List four ways you can become a man of the Word:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Word Multiplying	Acts 12:24	
Spreading the Word	Acts 13:49	
Word of Grace	Acts 14:3	
Receiving the Word	Acts 17:11	
Teaching the Word	Acts 18:11	
Word of God Growing	Acts 19:20	
Word of God Without Failing	Romans 9:6	
Word Will be Executed	Romans 9:28	
Word Comes by Faith	Romans 10:17	
Hold Fast to the Word	1 Corinthians 15:2	
Word of Reconciliation	2 Corinthians 5:19	

Notes:

The Principled Patriarch

Lesson 6

True Biblical Woman

Biblical women who profess the Christian life should be modest, sober, silent, and submissive as it becomes their place. They must be very modest in their apparel, not affecting vulgar, showiness, luridness, flamboyant or loud attire because they have better ornaments such as *good works*. Note, good works are the best ornament; these are, in the sight of God, of great price. Women that profess Christianity should, in their dress, as well as other things, act as true Biblical women; instead of laying out their money on fine clothes, they must lay it out in works of caring for their husbands, children, and community, which are properly called good works. Women must learn the principles of their faith, learn Christ, and learn the scriptures; they must not think that their sex excuses them from that learning necessary to work out their salvation.

They must be silent, submissive, and subject and not usurp the authority of their husbands, church leaders, or employers. The reason given is because *Adam was first formed, then Eve* out of him, to denote her subordination to him and dependence upon him and that she was made for him, to be a help-meet for him. And as she was last in the creation, one reason for her subjection, she was first in the sin against authority. *Adam was not deceived*, that is, not first; the serpent did not immediately attack the man, but the woman was first in the act of rebellion, and this mandate became her primary consequence of usurping.

Look up 2 Corinthians 11:3 and state in your own words what this means:

According to this passage, what is the reason the minds of men have led astray?

A true Biblical woman is purified in bearing children and raising the children to completeness (1 Timothy 2:15). Look up 1 Timothy 2:11-12 and state the five requirements of the New Testament woman:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

What does 1 Timothy 2:14 say about deception?

Why is a dress code so important for women? Well, it is quite simple. The extensiveness of the guidelines of Christianity; they apply not only to men, but to women, not only to their persons, but also to their dress, which must be modest, like their design; and to the outward way they stand, sit, or move, it must be modest with all subjection. An individual's dress typically is a confession of their level of modesty and spiritual humility. The more daring the dress, the more seductive the attitude – not to mention the openness of temptation it provides for interested on-lookers.

Look up 1 Timothy 2:9-11 and list the guidelines of God's design of reverent behavior:

Women have always been more vulnerable to the dangers of seductive apparel; it was more necessary to caution them in this respect. Since it is easy for a woman to adorn herself with external things, this should prove her ability to do the same with good works.

Look up Titus 2:1-2 and itemize the six power points of manly wisdom:

1		4	
2		5	
3		6	

Now review Titus 2:3-5 and list the 12 power points of a Godly woman:

1.	7.
2.	8.
3.	9.
4.	10.
5.	11.
6.	12.

We must *be in behavior and attitude*: both men and women, accommodate our behavior to our faith. Those virtues recommended to all men are not fitting to them only but applicable to both sexes. Men and women are to hear and learn of their roles and duties from the Word, not from the fashionable modernistic views of our age. By actively caring out the roles and guidelines of the Word, we are demonstrating the gospel of Jesus Christ – and most importantly, demonstrating the function of Christ and His bride.

As we profess our Christianity to the world, we must demonstrate Godly decency and respect for the gospel through our clothing and gestures, looks and speech, and all manners. This form reveals the inward principles and habits of true Holiness, influence, and order for future generations.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Faith of a Woman	Matthew 15:28	
Women of Respect	Mark 5:33	
Woman's Faith Saves Her	Luke 7:50	
Perceptions of a Woman	John 4:19	
Bound to her Husband for Life	Romans 7:2	
Cannot Send her Husband Away	1 Corinthians 7:13	
Single Women Should be Devoted to Christ	1 Corinthians 7:34	
Man is Head of Woman	1 Corinthians 11:3	
A woman is the Glory of Man	1 Corinthians 11:7	
Woman Comes from Man	1 Corinthians 11:8	
Woman Created for Man's Sake	1 Corinthians 11:9	
Woman & Man Dependent on Each Other	1 Corinthians 11:11	
Woman's Hair is Her Glory/Covering	1 Corinthians 11:15	
Women to Get Counsel from their Husbands	1 Corinthians 14:35	
To Quietly Receive Instruction	1 Timothy 2:11	
Not to Exercise Authority over Man	1 Timothy 2:12	
Fellow Heir & Equal to Man Spiritually	1 Peter 3:7	

Men of Authority

What is the definition of a “wimpy man”? It is a man that defies submitting to authority and defiles by not asserting authority. A man who submits to authority takes on the most difficult task known to man – that of doing what he is told. A man who asserts authority opens himself up to the most vulnerability known to man – rejection from defiant followers.

Men of war must clearly know the words of commands, understand them, embrace them – and then carry them out to the “T.” One of the primary reasons battles are lost on the battlefield is that the commander did not make the orders clear, distinct, and understood. The second most common mistake of war is that of the troops not being trained to carry out the orders. This we can be assured of, Christ, as our Commander in Chief, will communicate His orders to us. But, He does leave it up to the leaders in the field, leaders of the church, to train and equip the troops for warfare. We call this discipleship, mentorship, and equipping.

Men of our generation are reluctant to submit to authority. Men have adopted the deception that they can be their leader and somehow live this life independently. Well, men who function like this have fallen prey to the first tactic of warfare – get the troops to turn on their commanders. The exactness of obeying commands is the key to being an effective warrior in the battle against the world, the flesh, and the devil.

What is the commission given to men in 1 Corinthians 11:3?

Authority establishes order. Without order, a kingdom will collapse and be taken over by an enemy. Authority is the fiber that holds everything together within a kingdom and gives the followers appropriate functionality. God is a God of order, and His order provides a pathway for His work to be accomplished.

Proverbs 8:30 talks about a “master craftsman,” look up this verse and state the authority figure:

God holds all things together by making use of His authority. Colossians 1:16-19 reveals the importance of His authority and what it accomplishes. Look up these verses and summarize what you believe these verses are saying:

Since we understand that there is an authority structure within Heaven, would it not be easy for us to understand that authority on earth would be equally as important? It is the authority of Heaven that ties Heaven to Earth. A man, who does not accept this, will view authority as a humanistic attempt to manipulate or control the people.

All mankind is under authority, even if they don't acknowledge it. Even Satan is under the authority and cannot accomplish anything without God's permission.

Look up Matthew 8:5-10 and describe the two levels of authority. What are they?

The best way to understand authority is through God's creation order. There was God, His Son, and the Holy Spirit in the beginning. Then we discover the "sons of God" – angels, Lucifer included. Upon creation, he created Adam, and then He formed Eve from Adam's side. This is how we understand the structure and flow of authority (Genesis 2:7-24).

The sin of Adam was that of passivity. Because Adam "took from the woman and ate," he demonstrated a behavioral confession of his passivity. He had direct, authoritative orders from God NOT to eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. But because he did "harkened" (listened) to the voice of his woman, instead of God's voice, the ground became cursed by God. God's order of business has not changed. God expects man to first listen to the Lord, wash his wife with the Word, then lead his family with the directives of the Lord. Most men fear their wives and listen to their counsel and guidance before they "hearken" or listen to church leaders or God Himself.

Look up Hebrews 13:17 and state the mandate given to men regarding authority:

Please list our six primary areas that you tend to be passive about:

1.	4.
2.	5.
3.	6.

Men today lack assertiveness, initiative, courage, vision, and drive. The first place to start is in the beginning. Consider applying the following guidelines:

1. Pick a mentor that is clear in the Bible teachings that are accurate and Christ-centered.
2. Confess your passivity to God and commit to Him; you will be a man of initiative, courage, vision, and drive.
3. Do not hang around those that promote worldly ideas – it only breeds confusion.
4. Study the Word and discover everything you can on authority and leadership.
5. Commit yourself to a men's small group for one year.
6. Be a part of a local church – be active in the Men's Ministry.
7. Commit to keeping your priorities straight – God, wife, children, church, job, and then friends.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Leaders Get Double Honor	1 Timothy 5:17	
Be Subject to Leaders	1 Peter 5:5	
Subjection to Authority	Romans 13:1-6	
Wife has Authority Over Your Body	1 Corinthians 7:4	
Authority Over Will	1 Corinthians 7:37	
Women Respecting Authority Because of Angels	1 Corinthians 11:10	
Boasting of Authority – A Mistake	2 Corinthians 10:8	
Authority Given To Me	2 Corinthians 13:10	
Christ Over All Authority	Colossians 2:10	
Authority of the Lord	1 Thessalonians 4:2	

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Reprove With All Authority	Titus 2:15	
Submit to Human Authority	1 Peter 2:13	
Despising Authority	2 Peter 2:10	
Rejecting Authority	Jude 1:8	
Christ – the Supreme Authority	Jude 1:25	

What did you learn from this lesson?

Emasculating the Father

The Father makes it clear that He is the beginning and the end. If we could find all the spoken and inspired words describing God in the Word of God, we still would not come close to describing the Father of Heaven. It will take an eternity for us to discover God's attributes. This is the primary reason we should be so excited about going to the Father and spending eternity with Him. I have my order in for multiple interviews myself!

The Hebrew word picture for "father" is the *strength or leader of a house*. This Hebrew word includes that of a natural father. It is also used for the founder or the first ancestor and for an author or maker of anything. "Father" applies to the one who provides care, like a father to the needy and a master or teacher. "Father" is also for the God that we choose to follow.

This word comes from two primary ancient pictures, 1) **Alef** – ox, strong or first, and 2) **Bet** – house. The first letter of the Hebrew alphabet (beginning of the house) is Alef. This word also means *the leader of a family or tribe*. This is where the English-speaking descendants get the letter A. Aloof is a derivative of Alef; it means *gentle or to tame an ox*.

Bet is the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The ancient word picture of **Bet** is a *tent, a house, or a family*. **Bet** is also used as the number 2 in the Hebrew numeric system. This is a significant factor because **Alef**, the *first strong leader*, and **Bet**, *house or family*, clearly reveal the importance of a father embracing his strength (priority) and applying his strength within his home (second priority). The word Authority comes from *Alef ta Bet*.

Many people, including His children, attempt to emasculate Him by making Him out to be passive, inactive, and egalitarian – feministic. Since people generally tend to rebel against authority and view authoritative figures as immovable and harsh, they work diligently at forming an image of God to be that of a non-gender. Well, I have news . . . God is masculine. He is all male, and this might be why 100% of the references of God in the Holy Word are He, His, and Him. There are no references to God being shim, she, her, or it – just He. This isn't very respectful to some, and I will be as kind as I can on this one – get over it.

God is not only a Father but a Leader. He leads the world in the same fashion as a Father. Being a Father and Leader to the people is all the same to Him. His leadership is for the generations.

Even Jesus passed over His will for that of His Fathers. Review Matthew 26:42 and state what Jesus decided to do with His own will:

According to Mark 7:10, what did Jesus say were the consequences of a man who spoke against his father?

Why is it important for a man to leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife? Mark 10:7 contains the answer:

In the end times, Mark 13:12 tells us what the family's condition will be. Please look up these verses and state the answer:

In 1 Corinthians 4:15, Jesus said that He is not only our Husband, but a

Read 2 Corinthians 6:18 and write out what the Lord Almighty promises us, men:

Our Father has given us something very special to understand Him and the knowledge He offers. Read Ephesians 1:17 and state what this is:

To not emasculate our Heavenly Father, we must embrace He is in full control. Ephesians 4:6 says; *One God and Father of all who is over all and through all.* Knowing this, we can see clearly that God the Father covers the basis of our manhood. He is our Father, Leader, Provider, Protector, Educator, and pure example of maleness.

Manhood is a difficult concept for most men to understand. Many men are clueless about what it means to be a man. Men cannot truly understand their manhood unless they take the time to know the Father. By knowing the Father and understanding how He functions, men can see what it looks like to be a man.

Men of our society today typically gain their view of manhood through the counsel of women. This is why men have lost their way. They look to women to gain the details of their roles as a man. This is nothing short of emasculation through feminism.

We need to be called back to the original design, and the Father only reveals that plan. Since most men do not have a male model to replicate their manhood after, they attempt to “invent” their form of manhood.

The Bible gives us clear direction and examples of manhood. Men need to be men of the Word and devoted to the power of prayer. Through these two, they will be groomed to accomplish their primary mission in life – demonstrating the Father's design. A father initiates actions that replicate the Father. When men do this, they bring glory and honor to the creator of men.

By modeling the behavior of God’s Son, Jesus Christ, we will exemplify the truest and most honorable man that ever lived and will live. How can we lose? We men can shape our families, women, children, and communities by following the rules and guidelines of the Father.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Man Leaving His Father	Genesis 2:24	
Leaving Your Father’s Land	Genesis 12:1	
His Covenant is With Fathers	Genesis 17:4	
Cooking for Our Dads	Genesis 27:9	
Fathers Who Have Rebellious Children	Deuteronomy 21:18	
When Parents Forsake The Man	Psalms 27:10	
God Is a Father to the Fatherless	Psalms 68:5	
Father Having Compassion	Psalms 103:13	
Listen To Your Father’s Instruction	Proverbs 1:8	
A Father’s Correction	Proverbs 3:12	
Make Your Father Glad	Proverbs 10:1	
Accepting A Father’s Discipline	Proverbs 13:1	
A Father of a Fool has no Joy	Proverbs 17:21	
Foolish Son is Bitterness to the Mother	Proverbs 17:25	
Assaulting Your Father	Proverbs 19:26	

The Principled Patriarch

Lesson 9

Servant Manhood

Any man, who desires to become a great leader, must first become a servant. This is the model that Jesus demonstrated for men. He didn't come to be served. He came to serve and give His life as a ransom for all mankind.

Most men today are driven to manipulate women to serve them, primarily sexually. Although, in most cases, with day-to-day activities. Women have labeled our men as being selfish, ego-centered, and self-serving. I wish I could say that our women are wrong on this, but they are not. Most men have no clue what servant manhood is all about.

How are we to know what biblical "servant manhood" looks like? We can discover the answer to this question by observing how Jesus responds to His Father. The more a man studies Jesus's role with His Father, the more we understand servant manhood. Jesus said He could do nothing of Himself, but only what He can see His Father do, for what the Father does, the Son does. Since the Heavenly Father loves His Son, He reveals all things that the Father does to His Son. As you can tell, the key here is *following the Father*. It always comes back to the Father.

Men need to concentrate on the Heavenly Father, their earthly and spiritual father. By watching and doing what they do, men can demonstrate servant manhood. If a man does not have a "healthy" earthly father or spiritual father, he is required to learn directly from the Heavenly Father. He promises to be a Father to the fatherless.

Look up John 14:10 and write down in your own words what Jesus is saying here about His actions:

Now review John 20:17 and discover what is being said about the Father. Re-write the verse and replace the word "your" with your name:

Men tend to be power hungry, and this is what stops them from being able to be servant leaders. Jesus was not about revealing His power. True humility knows that you have the power to do mighty things but don't have the need to prove it. Patriarchy has been given a bad name because of men's pride and ego. True patriarchs don't need to display their authoritative power; they demonstrate it through acts of service. When men abuse their leadership roles, the followers will ultimately choose a new leader to follow. People, men, and women alike, intuitively desire to follow servant-type leaders. Jesus knew this, and this is why He came in the form of a bond servant.

Look up Matthew 20:25-28 and list the characteristics of Jesus' leadership style. Write a brief explanation of what the scriptures say about each of these words:

Gentiles:	Give:
Authority:	Ransom:
Great:	First:
Servant:	Slave:
Son of Man:	Serve:

The world's idea of leadership is to exercise authority over another by revealing your immovable position of power. The Bible calls this "lording it over" another. True leadership is not about a battle over the "wills." It is about serving another to move that follower in the direction you have laid before them. Serving moves hearts and behavior always follows the heart.

Read Philippians 2:7-9 and write out the guidelines that are provided for men to lead effectively:

A man does not need to give up his position of authority or his power to be a servant leader. The man does need to demonstrate obedience to his leaders by serving them. This is their training ground for being a leader. A man, who demonstrates their position and power by servant influence, will discover the power of servant leadership.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Men are Bond Servants	Romans 1:1	
Serving Man or God	Galatians 1:10	
Faithful Servant	Colossians 1:7	
Good Servant	1 Timothy 4:6	

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Servants Don't Quarrel	2 Timothy 2:24	
Fellow Servant	Revelation 19:10	
Servants Heed His Words	Revelation 22:9	

Write a review of your experience regarding this study at this point.

Death of Man-hood

Great patriarchs do not strive to live; they purpose to die! Jesus mastered this principle – if any man desires to come after Jesus, he must deny himself, take up his responsibilities and follow Jesus. Any man who desires to save his life will lose it, but if a man loses his life, for Christ's sake, he will save it. Self-dying, not promoting self-life, is the key to living as a principled patriarch.

Is it not true that Jesus came to give His life to save ours? Why wouldn't it be true for patriarchs to give their lives to save or help those he is responsible for? Nothing turns a follower off more than a leader doing things that profits them. Self-denial is very attractive. It communicates safe leadership. A man, or patriarch, that has to "put his foot down" and prove his authority is confessing he has already lost it. When Jesus was in the garden and said, "Not as I will, but as You will," He revealed that He too was under a Supreme Commander. So it is with a patriarch; when followers see him pushing his will aside for that of Christ's, he reveals headship even in his own life. People, in general, enjoy submitting to those that submit. It reveals the principle of a leveled playing field.

Unless a man yields his patriarchy to the headship of Christ, he will rule his family or followers with a harsh and demanding mindset. Servant leadership will be far from him. A man who seeks to lead in this manner will be stating that he expects others to die daily for their schedule. That makes the patriarch out to be a god.

Look up Luke 9:22-23 and answer the following questions:

- 1. If a man's headship is much like Christ's, how many things must be suffered?**

- 2. If a patriarch wishes to follow Christ's example, list the three requirements:**

a.

b.

c.

- 3. When a man exemplifies his leadership, the principles found in James 1:19-20 come to light. Review this passage and list the three mandates of a leader:**

a.

b.

c.

4. From this passage, we should learn what the “wrath of man” does NOT accomplish – what is it?

5. Deuteronomy 5:8 shows us two things He requires of a patriarch – what are they?

a.

b.

Angry men act as if they have ownership over their own lives and the lives of their followers. A man's authority was given to him to steward – it's delegated. Anger reveals a secret sin of ownership. Ownership provokes the hand of God to be jealous. When a man is jealous, he reacts to someone attempting to steal what he believes is his. Since jealousy is the emotion that provokes anger, understanding “ownership” is critical.

Look up 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and write a summary of what you see being said here:

Do you ever feel justified by “stepping outside” of God's bounds? _____ Look up 1 Samuel 15:22-23 and state the consequences of Saul not dying to himself and choosing to step outside of God's plan:

Yes, a patriarch's home, business or position of authority is symbolic of his kingdom, BUT he must always remember that it belongs to God, and he is to serve those who reside within it by dying to his own will.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Unless You Die . . .	John 12:24	
Men Dead to Sin	Romans 6:2	

Patriarch's Authority

How many men do you know today have a great relationship with their authorities? I know a few! A servant leader understands this critical need to participate in an intimate relationship with another leader. It is what makes him a great leader.

We have been called patriarchs to submit ourselves to every human institution of authority. When we do this, we prove what is right. Men, who master the art of submission, learn the secret to dealing with harsh authorities – we silence their ignorance. Most men are provoked to go into “hand-to-hand combat” with aggressive and unreasonable authorities. This only proves our ignorance.

God wants Christian patriarchs to act as free men but not to use our freedom as an excuse to cover up our rebellion against authority. It is far more important to show other leaders we are bond-slaves to Christ than it is to win the battle of influence.

God wants us to honor all men, love and serve others, fear Him (not man), and even honor an unreasonable authority figure.

We have a mandate to submit to our authority figures, not only to those who are kind and reasonably logical but also to those who are unreasonable and have not earned our respect.

Look up and read 1 Peter 2:13-18 and answer these questions:

1. What is the purpose of submitting to every human institution?

2. What is the will of God in verse 15?

3. Verse 16 talks about our freedom. What is the mandate that comes with our freedom?

4. What does verse 18 say about our submission and respect?

5. In verse 19, it talks about finding favor with God. How do we gain this favor?

6. Many men are good at enduring harsh treatment from authority figures when they do something wrong against the authority. What does Peter say here about how we are to act when doing right and being harshly treated because of it?

Patriarchs have been called by their Supreme Patriarch to suffer as He suffered. One of our greatest temptations is to revile (disgrace) when we have been mistreated. Reviling is a fancy way of saying, "you threaten me – I threaten you." The only way to stop ourselves from threatening others is to trust the threatening person with the true Judge, God. Men who revile others are attempting to heal themselves through "leveling the playing field." Revenge causes us to stray from Christ, submitting to authority figures that revile purify us, and keeps us close to our Shepherd.

Study 1 Peter 2:21-25 and then answer the following questions:

1. What purpose is a patriarch called to fulfill?

2. What are we to do while being threatened by an authority figure?

3. What did Christ do, or does, when we threatened Him with our sinful choices?

4. Explain how allowing others to wound us brings healing to the offender:

5. What does verse 25 say we continually do if we revile authority figures?

Because men have been wounded by their fathers, they tend to set up their own style of worshipping the Lord, outside of the authority of the church. These men are guilty of anarchy and being “pew” sitters. Coming to church like it is a movie theater – leaving and deciding on their own how to apply it. A true patriarch will devote himself to submitting to Christ, church leadership, the body of Christ and the structure of the local church. Anarchy or patriarchy - that is the question!

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Church Members Subject	Ephesians 5:24	
Patriarchs Submitting to God	Hebrews 12:9	
All Things Submit to ...	1 Corinthians 15:28	
Patriarchs Submitting to Government	Romans 13:1-3	
Submit and the Devil Flees	James 4:7	
A Warrior Understands Authority	Matthew 7:29	

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Lesson 12

Patriarchs That Provoke

Provoking patriarchs are leaders who attempt to train their followers in their ideas' admonition (earnest rebuke). You ask, "What is wrong with that?" If we train our followers to be like us, they will commit the same sins as us. We need to be training followers in an incorruptible and eternal image – to replicate a flawless and perfect life.

Leaders that try to mold others into their image provoke anger in their students. Most patriarchs that do this often wonder why their subordinates have no long-term change. The image of man changes according to the wind of the day. Gods, on the other hand, are unchanging and unwavering.

God's created beings intuitively know that they are to be functioning in His image. When we force man-kind to operate in an image other than Gods, we, as leaders, provoke them to wrath. If today's patriarchs molded themselves after the image of the Father, they carry a certain guarantee to train up followers to be effective in daily living.

Jesus used a style (His Life) that encouraged followers to be like His Father. Even Jesus was not able to do anything in and of Himself. He replicated the actions of His Father. When His followers saw Him doing something – they saw the Father. Now we can replicate Jesus' actions safely. Since the proof of the love is in showing and revealing, what and why the leader is doing, we can only assume patriarchs need to give a clear understanding of all their actions. Secretive leaders are manipulative leaders.

Patriarchs that have a dependent relationship with Christ can then be a foundation for followers to build upon. By using this model, patriarchs will not be provoking wives, children, and employees to anger. They will be unveiling Christ – a safe foundation.

Look up Ephesians 6:4 and rewrite the verse placing your name where it says "father":

As leaders, God wants us to deal with what makes us decide to be angry before we come home to our families. Look up Ephesians 4:26 and write down the directive it gives to us as men:

Anger provokes immorality, impurity, passion, evil desires, and greed, which teaches our followers idolatry. For it is on account of these things that God is provoked. Review Colossians 3:8 and list what God wants us to “put aside.”

Whatever a patriarch does, he is to do it with full intent as unto his Patriarch (the Lord). Patriarchs that are “men-pleasers” do not get rewards for their service. Look at Colossians 3:23-25 and write out the consequences of leaders doing things unto men:

Instead of provoking followers to obey, they need to grant them justice and fairness in all things. Review Colossians 4:1 and state why:

Patriarchs who master the art of speaking in such a way that their followers want to listen find the mystery of servant leadership. How does Colossians 4:5-6 direct us to conduct ourselves?

A non-provoking leader exhorts without error and impurity, and deceit. Since they know they have been approved by God and entrusted with the gospel, they speak not as men-pleasers but as God pleasers. They lead in like manner – not expecting others to follow them but the life of Christ within them. They Lead through “pre-approval” and do not push followers to “prove themselves” before approval. Pre-approval means

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“grace.” Grace-based leadership means avoiding flattering speech that manipulates; rather, they assert their authority to develop emerging followers and leaders of Christ.

Grace-based patriarchs are gentle, like nursing mothers, who tenderly care for their followers. They have found affection for others while imparting truth. Truth is harsh, so the patriarch needs to be as gentle as possible.

For the Serious Patriarch (Optional Reading)	
Patriarchs Without Deceit	1 Thessalonians 1:3
Patriarchs of Approval	1 Thessalonians 1:4
No Flattering Speech	1 Thessalonians 1:5-6
Proved to be Gentle	1 Thessalonians 1:7-8
Full of Grace	John 1:14
His Grace is Enough	2 Corinthians 12:9
Grace for Humble Patriarchs	James 4:6

Notes:

Patriarch – A Family Man

The family has always been the institution God has used to reveal the structure of the 1st family – God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Even if the patriarch is single, he is called to be a family man. He is to support all family dynamics – otherwise, how would we have our generations? Paul was a great example of this. He was a single man who taught more about the institution of marriage and the family than any other writer of the New Testament – if not the Bible as a whole.

God established His family order in the Garden. He created man and woman with the order of being “fruitful and multiplying” throughout all the earth. Throughout all the generations, the family has been the breeding ground of faith, and faith is rooted in the process of submitting to ordained authority. Most authority structures come and go, but the family unit remains the model for the entire world to see God.

The family structure is the perfect area for a patriarch to learn the Heavenly leadership dynamics. A man who has his household in order can and should assist in heading the church.

Patriarchs often become elders of the church. These patriarchs of patriarchs are to be above correction, husband of one wife, having children should believe in Christ, and not be accused of obeying rebellious. This leadership level should demonstrate being selfless, without anger, not attached to drinking alcohol, not into gaining through manipulation, but filled with self-control and devoted to the Word of God.

Where can we find such a leader? They are rare! Many rebellious men, empty talkers, are filled with deceit. Titus 1:10-11 tells us men such as these need to be silent because they are “upsetting God’s order of the family.” They tend to “interpret” the Word and teach through their sinful choices. Well then, what are we to do? Men who have violated and are willing to teach the purity of God’s order and doctrines should again be placed in leadership. This is where grace comes into play. If a leader continues to use their sin to obtain sorted gain – they need to be “silenced.”

Look up Titus 1:5-16 and read this passage twice. Once you have done this, answer these questions:

1. Why did Paul leave these patriarchs in Crete?

2. What are the five primary qualifications of an Elder?

1.	4.
2.	5.
3.	

3. List the 13 “musts “ of an overseer:

1.	8.
2.	9.
3.	10.
4.	11.
5.	12.
6.	13.
7.	

4. How do you help a “rebellious” leader become sound in faith? v13

5. Verse 15 tells us how pure patriarchs view life vs. impure patriarchs. Write out the difference found in this passage:

6. Review these same scriptures and summarize what this passage says about a patriarch being a “family man.”

7. **Patriarchs profess to know God, but their deeds communicate something different; what does God classify them to be?**

After studying this passage, a patriarch could feel condemned and hopeless. I am here to say that God's GRACE appears to all of us, providing a way out for all leaders who stumble. He instructs us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and live with Heavenly common sense. He gives hope to all struggling leaders and redemption for every lawless deed to purify Himself patriarchs for His possession – leaders who are zealous for good deeds for all to follow. (Read 2 Timothy 2:21-24 carefully)

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Patriarchs Without Deceit	1 Thessalonians 1:3	
Patriarchs of Approval	1 Thessalonians 1:4	
No Flattering Speech	1 Thessalonians 1:5-6	
Proved to be Gentle	1 Thessalonians 1:7-8	
Full of Grace	John 1:14	
His Grace is Enough	2 Corinthians 12:9	
Grace for Humble Patriarchs	James 4:6	

Write a personal statement about God's GRACE in your life:

The Principled Patriarch**Lesson 14**

Patriarchs And Government

The age-old question is, “where did the idea of government come from?” The answer is almost too simple – the family. Often we think of government as liberals with authority attempting to manage our daily affairs. In reality, government evolved from the governmental unit of a family. *Govern* comes from the idea of a single leader providing oversight for a group of followers living within a designated territory. *Mental* comes from the idea of controlling the way people think within that territory. This is where the government gets its bad reputation. It is a single leader managing the people by guiding the people's minds to think as one unit. This is also where we get the idea of community (commune – one mind). If we leave this concept in the realm of government, we have rebellion – people demanding their rights – democracy. We must put government back into its original design – that of single patriarchy providing doctrines of truth for each family member to follow.

The core of all governments is the families that live within these governments in each individual society. Originally, God set up all governments (kings) to submit to the prophet or high priest of God's Holy Tabernacle, the church. Historically, like King David, leaders were chosen and commissioned by the high priest. This would ensure God's family structure is at the government's core. That way, the government would have to support the values and structure of the Hebrew family life. Due to the ever-so-changing ideas of the family unit, our governments have evolved into being like most families – liberal and independent.

It is the church's responsibility to restore the hearts of the fathers to their children – and the children's hearts back to their fathers- to restore the family unit. Once the family unit is restored to its original design – our governments, in theory, should follow suit. This is the primary mission of the church today. Also, this is why you find so many ministries involved in government today. If we lose the battle on the home front – we lose the battle in government. Traditionally, people vote on issues for leaders who support their family values or lack them.

To win over the hearts of our governors, we are required by God to submit to them. This becomes the patriarch's primary challenge: submitting to unreasonable authority. The importance of respecting our commissioned governmental leaders now becomes of utmost importance and priority for every patriarch.

What is your opinion regarding our national governmental leaders?

Look up Romans 13:1-5 and honestly answer the following questions:

1. Who is to be in subjection (submission) to governing authorities?

2. Where do all forms of authority come from, and who established them?

3. If a patriarch chooses to resist authority, what is he opposing?

4. What will the patriarch receive if they do oppose authority?

5. Write out the question found in vs. three, then answer it:

6. God calls opposing authority evil; v4 tells us to be afraid, review the verse and explain why:

7. It is necessary to be in submission, not only because of anger but also for _____ sake.

Those who rise against “government itself,” who seek anarchy and confusion, and who oppose the regular execution of the laws will suffer severe consequences. It is implied, however, that those manmade laws shall not be such as to violate the rights

of conscience or oppose the laws of God. The Greek text seems to imply that they are the same.

This passage also reveals that God has ordained or appointed such leaders and laws. This means we should regard “government” as instituted by God and agreeable to His will. “When” established, we are not to become anxious about the “titles” of the rulers; not to enter into angry contentions or to refuse to submit to them, even if they have obtained them by oppression.

Key: If the government is established, and if its decisions are not a manifest violation of the laws of God, we are to submit to them.

A patriarch who chooses to rebel against existing authorities must understand that there are consequences. The word used in this text is κρίμα (krima), which denotes “punishment.” This passage affirms that the man that does resist shall be punished. The question is, “will they be punished by God or man?” Well, it is not clear. But we do know God will allow and support it.

Dear patriarch, as a matter of conscience, or of “duty to God,” because “He” has appointed it, and made it necessary and proper, learns to embrace all established authority. A good citizen yields obedience because it is the will of God, and a Christian makes it a part of his Christianity to maintain and obey the just laws of the land; see **Matt. 22:21**; compare **Ecclesiastes 8:2**, “I counsel them to keep the king’s commandments, and that in regard of the oath of God.” God seems to be making a significant point here – hold fast to it, my friend!

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

A Man Under Authority	Matthew 8:9	
Son of Man Has Authority	Matthew 9:6	
Authority Over Your Will	1 Corinthians 7:37	
Live a Tranquil Life	1 Timothy 2:2	
Reject Authority & Revile an Angel	Jude 1:8	
Fear the Proper Authority	Luke 12:5	
Man Ruling Under Own Authority	Jeremiah 5:31	
Exercising Authority to Hurt Others	Ecclesiastes 8:9	

Patriarch The Steward

We have established the primary governorship of a patriarch, but one of the key practical aspects of this role is being a steward. A steward is an employee of a king, with the responsibility to carefully guard and care for that king's possessions. Since being a steward is a requirement of being a patriarch, it must be understood that he needs to be a man caring for his possessions as if they belong to the King of kings, Jesus Christ.

A man's external possessions should express the order in his mind and heart. A wise young ruler once said that you could evaluate the condition of a man's heart by looking at his garage. There is a great deal of truth to this. The level of care that a man puts into his externals, house, car, office, etc., clearly shows the condition of his spiritual life. If a man says he loves his King (Jesus) but treats the King's possessions (the man's stuff) as if they are "only material things," he proves only one thing – how he cares for his King. The truth is that all of what we own belongs to Christ and the Father. Whatever he decides to give us, He expects us to steward them with the care of perfection. An illustration I have used with my children is; to *manage this task as if you will be presenting to a King upon completion*. The mindset of excellence changes quickly unless the child views authority as "just another man telling me what to do."

A true steward understands that he is a steward employed by God. He is in charge of God's "stuff," who is the owner. The steward knows that he will have to account for everything entrusted to him. Nothing is too small and insignificant in his plan. God watches a patriarch in the small things to entrust larger things or responsibilities to him. The actual quote from the Word is; that *He who is faithful in the small things will be entrusted much*. God owns the patriarch's family, friends, possessions, and all that his fingerprints touch. A wise steward knows this and fears his day of account.

Stewardship is taught, not caught. Most men are clueless about how to care for their families and possessions – primarily because their fathers never taught them. This is where the idea of a mentor comes in. Each man needs another to help him care for his "stuff." I remember one of my mentors required me to return home to re-clean a power tool I had borrowed three times until it was cleaner than the day I borrowed it. I have never forgotten that lesson and now care for the possessions of others like they belonged to Christ. Stewardship is the evidence that demands the verdict on a man's devotion to his King.

1. Look up Genesis 44:1 and explain the role of the steward:

2. Read through Malachi 3:8-12 and list the responsibilities of a Godly steward:

3. Stewards who give sparingly discover they reap sparingly, but those who give freely discover blessings eternal. Look up 2 Corinthians 9:8 and list those blessings:

4. God asks us to steward our tasks with a certain motive in mind; look up Colossians #:23-24 and state what this motive is:

5. It is easy to find out where a man's heart is; review Matthew 6:20-21 and explain why this is true:

6. God desires for you to prosper; according to 3 John 2, what two ways does God desire for us to prosper?

7. By looking at Deuteronomy 29:9, we find a technique that God uses to prosper us; what is it?

8. What does Joshua 1:8 have to say about success and prosperity?

Stewards who trust and believe in God are blessed in their communities and workplace and shall increase in all they do. The Lord will cause the steward's enemies that rise against them to be dealt with according to their deeds. He commits to bless His stewards with all He has set aside for them in His eternal storehouse. When a steward puts his hand to do something, God works to prosper his actions and investments. Not every treasure box saved for each steward is the same, but is assured of this; a steward of the Lord will be given his portion.

Steward, give, and it shall be given to you. Take, and it shall be taken from you. A Godly steward knows this principle like he knows his checkbook balance. Any man, who can hear these words, let him hear them. If you and I seek the Kingdom of God first, He promises He will add to our bottom line. Why? So the steward will turn around and promote and prosper the ministry of the Lord.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Collection of the Saints	1 Corinthians 16:1-2	
Treasures in Heaven	Matthew 6:20-21	
Measurement Given – Measurement Received	Luke 6:38	
Things Added Unto You	Matthew 6:33	
Forsake Possessions & Have Life	Matthew 19:29	
Freely Give – Freely Receive	Matthew 10:8	
Listen to God's Voice and Be Blessed	Deuteronomy 28:2-12	
Prosper If . . .	1 Chronicles 22:13	

The Principled Patriarch**Lesson 16**

Patriarch the Policy Maker

You have heard it said, “Lead, follow, or get out of the way.” Only one being has the prerogative to say this – God the Father! Although He would probably say it this way, “allow Me to lead, follow, or get out of the way of My Leadership.” God has clearly defined goals for His patriarchs. He lives His leadership out through His assigned leaders by providing leadership, provision, protection, and purpose for His people.

Modern-day patriarchs are called to provide God’s direction and initiative to those designated to follow him. Since men are “wired” to be task-oriented, this calling should be relatively easy.

We live in a “directionless” society, each person leading themselves in the ways of their desires. If it “feels good,” do it. God’s children require someone to “point the way” to a Christ-centered and Godly way of living. Most men today use their God-given “task orientation” to build their economic welfare. Patriarchs need to establish goals and policies to assist their followers in accomplishing the goals and objectives of the Living God. Some of these goals should be:

1. **To develop family members that follow Christ**
2. **To have followers that know the Word**
3. **To have a family that supports and serves the local church – the body of Christ**
4. **To have family members that are focused on evangelizing the world they live in**
5. **To be prepared to embrace the responsibilities of being the next generation of patriarchs, as daughters, supporting the patriarchs of their day**
6. **To teach their daughters to ways of women and to train their sons to be a masculine patriarch**

None of these goals will be established in their followers without five elements coming into play:

1. **The patriarch takes the initiative to live by example**
2. **Setting a 13-year projected patriarch plan for his children (13 being the Hebrew age of adulthood)**
3. **Establish clear and reachable goals for the followers by making use of “bit size” objectives**
4. **Establish policies and rules that will be used as “cattle rails” to direct them in meeting the patriarch’s goals**

5. Develop a system of discipline and consequences that will bring the “straying” follower back in line

These fabulous five cannot become a reality for a patriarch unless he is willing to accept the daily risk of decision-making. Most leaders hesitate to make decisions due to their “fear of failure.” Men are not quick to display their failures. A Godly man must not fear looking like a failure – he is one! He needs to accept this fact; without Christ living His life through them, he will fail. We are born failures; this is why we need our leader, Christ, to come to dwell within us. Once we accept Christ into our lives, He will lead us as men. Some of the tougher decisions that men tend to avoid making are:

- ✓ Dating vs. courtship
- ✓ Immoral media within the home
- ✓ Types of friends for their children and spouses
- ✓ Attendance of a local church
- ✓ Family finances
- ✓ Leadership within the home – defaulting to their wives

Some of my passivity that I struggled with for many years was that of defaulting to the strength of my wife. I used the competence of my wife to decide on education, morality, and parenting. Even though this mistake of “defaulting” produced great kids, it doesn’t negate my failure in this commission. The result was an exhausted wife and mother of my offspring. A responsible patriarch will cultivate his wife’s gifts and talents without using her strengths as an excuse to be passive.

By allowing my wife to be the “policymaker,” I found myself obligated to submit to her leadership. By doing this, I found myself in a “role reversal” problem. The facts are the one who makes policy becomes the leader. True masculine leadership uses all gifts, talents and abilities to mobilize a family’s strengths to carry out the patriarch’s mandates or policies.

God made it easy for men to make policies for his home – get to know His. The Father spent thousands of years establishing Him; why would I “drum up” my own? The commands and policies of a father should match those of the Heavenly Father – line for line.

Look up Proverbs 6:20-23 and answer these questions:

1. Who is being spoken of in this passage? _____
2. Whose commands are we required to keep?

3. What does it say about mothers in this passage?

4. What are we asked to do with these policies?

5. What are these policies GUARANTEED to do?

6. What are these policies “likened” to?

Our policies light our path as leaders have established for our family/followers. Our words should not become like the Word of God; they should be the Word.

What does Psalm 119:105 have to say about this?

One of the most interesting facts about establishing policies is that it “forces” relationships. When we are required to return to the leader for ongoing direction, we are placed in a position of having a relationship with that leader. Many Christ-followers view the Bible, or mandates of God, as non-relational and simply a bunch of rules. Well, they are! Rules create dependency, and dependency promotes intimacy. The difference for us is this; Christ fulfilled the Law and rules of the Heavenly Father for us. Now, as believers, we can allow Christ to live out these guidelines through us by experiencing an intimate relationship with Him.

Now the parallel of the patriarch, if a leader fulfills the policies they establish for their household by being a living example, the followers will adopt the policies as a way of living. The burden of obedience becomes light.

Review Genesis 18:19 and write a statement regarding what God requires of a patriarch:

What does Exodus 10:2 tell us to do with our grandchildren?

If a leader chooses not to be responsible and continues in sin, what does Exodus 20:5 say will happen?

Look up Deuteronomy 6:7 and list the four ways we are to teach our children:

1.

2.

3.

4.

Psalms 78:5-6 reveals to us that we are to “make known” the policies of God to our children; what does this passage say about the benefits it gives our unborn children?

Proverbs 22:6 reveals the motive we are to adopt in training our children; what is it?

Patriarchs that lead their won followers with diligence, having their children submit to their policies, will be a perfect candidate for leading the church and community by mastering the art of policymaking and empowering others to follow them.

PRINCIPLED PATRIARCH

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Father to Children	Isaiah 38:19	
God of Families	Jeremiah 31:1	
Presenting Children	Jeremiah 49:11	
Telling Your Children the Truth	Joel 1:3	
Making Children Angry	Colossians 3:21	

Notes:

Patriarch the Protector

Most patriarchs view protecting their children as warring off the bully next door. Even though this is one protection aspect, it is not the most critical. Children develop their view of protection through the actions of their fathers. I believe most leaders would embrace the fact that God is the ultimate protector. Although the question remains, “how does He provide this protection?” He certainly uses His angels (Psalm 34:7) and the Holy Spirit to protect, BUT He also uses man as the principled protector. This role has many spiritual, psychological, and physical dimensions.

Let’s start with the easiest, physical protection. A patriarch must determine where his family should live to provide safety from the evils of man. Even though we cannot keep evil from lurking over the shoulders of our children, we can be sober and alert to the common sense aspects of physical protection – neighborhoods, safe structures, safe vehicles, intruders, which children play with, and the influence of strangers. Physical protection is so much more than these. Some of the most dangerous influences are; who care for our children (babysitters), the educational environment, abusive spouses, and the stresses of a busy life.

We are responsible for keeping our environments free from as many harmful and stressful elements as possible. Life’s “fast pace” does more damage to our families than most external intrusions. This brings us to the psychological.

When we neglect to protect our children from the evil things that form our children’s psyche, we expose them to the desensitizing of the enemy. The enemy rarely comes in our homes’ front door unless it is through the media. The number of Christian children today exposed to “sex and violence” through cartoons, music, video games, and TV is astronomical. These are subtle, OK, maybe not so subtle, forms of conditioning on the minds of our children. It prepares them to consider sex, violence, and demonic imagery as “normal.” Once this occurs, the enemy will have direct access to their spiritual lives.

The world tells us that we do not fight flesh and blood BUT powers of darkness and principalities of the air (Eph. 6:12). If a child is conditioned to see evil as “normal,” they will most likely adopt “evil” companions, friends and lovers. One of the worst forms is that of a child adopting “strange teachers,” leaders that teach vain philosophies that lead the child to question God. This, of course, is the overall goal of the enemy.

The family patriarch is to be the gatekeeper; it is his role to decide what influences he wants to be a part of his refuge. He needs to evaluate all forms of influence; media, books, friends, toys, games, education, and spiritual training. Plenty of “Christian liberals” are more than willing to train your children in worldly ideas such as; same-sex marriages, women pastors, homosexual pastors, and many other strange and demonic teachings. A man cannot guard his home against influences that he considers “healthy.” The patriarch must know, believe and live according to the “conservative values” of the Living God.

Patriarchs, it is not the job of your church’s youth workers to formulate the minds of your children – that’s your job!

Look up Matthew 13:19 and answer this question, what happens when our children hear the Word and don’t quite understand it?

Review Mark 3:24-25 and explain what happens if a house is divided against itself:

According to 2 Corinthians 11:3, how have we been led astray from our simplicity of Christ?

What does Ephesians 2:2 have to say about the course of the world?

By reviewing 1 Thessalonians 2:18, we find an ability Satan has in hindering us; what is it?

By looking at 1 Timothy 3:6-7, we can see what male pride can and does.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Write a summary of what you have learned from this lesson and what you plan to do with it:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

The Principled Patriarch**Lesson 18**

Patriarch as a Teacher

A leader who fails to give moral training to their followers could carry the price tag of the loss of life. A patriarch should call his wife, children, or followers to listen to their words of wisdom. These teachings encourage, comfort, and challenge these he is responsible.

To have a goal of being a dynamic leader is not enough! Our dynamic leadership is the tool to lead our followers to us for instruction. We need to be qualified teachers and moral trainers; failure to fulfill this role can be devastating. It should be known that a leader cannot teach the things of God unless he is taught. Many men in our modern culture are unteachable, which means they teach themselves only the things that benefit their “bottom line” – money. Sad to say, most men learn just enough to prosper themselves.

One of the misnomers of “teaching” is that of a scholar imparting doctrines. Even though this is partially true, being a teacher is much more. Teaching encompasses training in all seven areas of life; spiritual, psychological, marital, parental, social, physical, and financial. Training and preparing a household in these seven areas of life requires a lifestyle of teaching. It is the simple process of explaining “how things work” as you go through life. Any area the patriarch stumbles into that they have not trained needs to first go for the return home to train those he is responsible for. This is why it is so important for the patriarch to be teachable.

Teaching is not “downloading” information. However, it takes the information into the mind and heart. Without heart change, change is only temporary. With heart change, the student will carry it as wisdom throughout all the days of their lives. Now, how do we reach the heart? It is accomplished by making the information transformational – training the whole person. Proverbs 4:23 tells us that “for out of the heart springs all of life.” When we take information and show the followers how it works practically, they will be more likely to embrace it as wisdom and knowledge from the heart.

Secondly, when we use God’s Word as the method of instruction, the Bible says that the scriptures are alive, active, and will never return void. In other words, when we use the Word of God in our training and teaching, it is guaranteed to come back to us with a return – heart change. Life-training, plus God’s Word, produces heart change that will have eternal benefits.

Jesus did not tell His disciples to go to seminary or formal school to be great teachers. He walked and talked with them daily as they went about their mission – explaining life as they lived it.

Look up Psalm 34:11 and write out the mandate given to patriarchs:

Genesis 18:19 reveals several significant truths; what are they?

In reviewing Deuteronomy 4:9, there is a command given to us regarding grand parenting; what is it?

In Nehemiah 8:3, 7, 8, we learn the importance of a teacher training others; who are they to train?

Look up 1 Corinthians 14:35 and state what the Word says about where our wives are to be taught.

Psalm 34:11 shows us what we should teach as a top priority; what is it?

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of what, according to Psalm 1:7; 9:10?

Beyond our families, teachers are encouraged to do what, according to Jesus in Matthew 28:19?

By looking at 1 Corinthians 8:1, we discover that knowledge by itself does what?

Proverbs 22:6 is a passage with a guarantee; what is the guarantee state in this passage?

What do you believe Paul is saying to men in Galatians 4:19?

Proverbs 4:4 tells us if we retain the words of teachings, we get what?

When we patriarchs speak the truth, 1 John 1:6 tells us how we should do it; what does it say?

The safest way to live is in the ways of God. Walking in His path brings blessings and hope. All patriarchs are “home school” teachers, even if their children attend traditional schools. The ways of a teacher are understood by watching how he lives his life and ultimately how he passes his life training on to others.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Prepare Your Heart	Ezra 7:10	
Fathers Training	Psalm 78:2-8	
Teaching His Will	Psalm 143:8-10	
Apply Words of Patriarchs	Proverbs 22:17-21	

If you are married, write a letter to your wife and communicate what you are learning.

The Principled Patriarch**Lesson 19**

Patriarch and His Rod

What about those times when teaching and instruction are not enough? When followers, children, in particular, don't listen or obey. Patriarchs that are "all talk and no do" cannot reinforce their commands. They end up spoiling their children. Spoiling is exactly what the word says; it causes their children to spoil – go bad.

Fathers, spiritual or parental, must correct and restrain rebellious behavior. When moral standards are not reinforced, immorality enters the patriarch's domain. Immorality is like cancer; if not caught immediately, it will spread to the whole body – the family. Corruption has never been, nor will ever be, something God allows unnoticed. Disregarding God's mandates is the reason for His hand of discipline.

God is intense when it comes to a patriarch's responsibilities and obtaining Godly behavior from his followers. For He knows, because He imparted it, the patriarch has the power to restrain rebellion.

Over the past 30 years in training parents in the art of disciplining their children, I have found most men leave the discipline up to the matriarch of the household. Why? My experience has been because this is what they saw from childhood. Men typically leave the physical discipline up to their wives for one of two reasons:

1. They fear they will be too harsh – discipline out of anger
2. Their wives don't want their husbands touching the children because of reason pointed out in #1

Proverbs 23:13-14 mandates us not to withhold correction from a child, for they will not be destroyed if we physically discipline the child. When we use the "rod" paddle, we are saving their souls from entering hell. I know it is hard to accept, but our actions of physical discipline block their souls from being taken by the enemy.

The "rod" is an external instrument representing the patriarch's authority. A father should never use his hand! The hand is the external representation of love and tenderness. The child should look upon the paddle with fear but look upon the father's hand as an instrument of comfort and love.

The world, or enemy, has successfully convinced our Christian parents that physical discipline is "abuse." We live in a society that has put the fear of "government" into the hearts and minds of our parents. Our government has no right telling us how to raise our children – only our Heavenly Father does. If God says that we should physically

discipline our children, then He probably has a good reason why. After all, He created us and thus knows what it takes to restrain evil behavior – rebellion.

I am going to give you practical steps in disciplining your children. If you carry these steps out precisely, you will find great success. Please note, when it comes to the physical discipline part, the “spanking” is only done once! It is not the spanking that changes the child; it is the process of the discipline cycle. This approach also protects the child and parent from stepping over the line of abuse. I have used these steps for over 20 years with my clients, children, and grandchildren. They work!

1. Buy an egg timer - the more annoying the sound, the better.
2. When the child decides not to listen to you, ask him to go and get the paddle. The paddle should be wider than their buttocks and kept in the kitchen, within his reach.
3. If he decides not to listen without resistance, pick him up, grab the paddle and walk him into the bathroom.
4. Tell him that he needs to choose to be completely silent before the bell rings – ding the bell to show him what it sounds like.
5. Let him know if he makes any, I mean any, type of noise when the bell goes off; you will reset the timer again.
6. Set the bell outside of the door. Do not go into the bathroom until the bell sounds off.
7. If he is making whimpering sounds, open the door and tell him it must be completely quiet. Reset the timer.
8. Never set the timer for over 8 minutes and adjust it for different times each time – unpredictability is the key. The idea is to catch him in the act to reset the bell. The resetting of the bell is what develops discipline in him.
9. Once it is completely quiet, and you wait until the bell sounds, go in and sit on the toilet lid.
10. Have him stand in front of you.
11. Ask him what he did wrong.
12. If he whines, complains, or stalls, without hesitation, stand up, reset the bell (don’t ever tell him how long the timer is set for), and do it all over again until he chooses to submit without any resistance.
13. Once he accepts his discipline process, ask him if he is ready for his spanking. If yes . . .
14. Put him over your knee; he is to grab your ankles willingly and give him **one** spanking.
15. Allow him to cry.
16. Every few seconds, offer a hug to him.
17. Once he receives the hug, pray over him.
18. Ask him if he wants to pray.
19. When he leaves the bathroom, have him reconcile with any people he has offended.
 - I was wrong for _____.
 - Will you please forgive me?
 - Thank you for forgiving me!

- Hugging is now appropriate
20. If he disrupts the process, start the Bell System all over again.

You must be consistent in doing this for a minimum of three months. Don't start this unless you, if applicable, your spouse is serious about the Bell System. This process will hurt them if you do not decide to "do this at all cost." Consistence will change the child's life – I gar-un-tee it.

The Bell System is used to help give the child and parent time to accept their responsibilities. In short – it calms the storm. The bell should only be used if the child refuses to accept their discipline by showing signs of a "fit" or if the parent is angry.

Look up Proverbs 23:13-14 and write out these verses. Keep in mind some translations use the term "beat." Properly translated, this word means discipline/punishment.

By reviewing Proverbs 13:24, you will find two significant principles regarding love and hate; what are they?

According to Proverbs 22:15, what does it say about foolishness, and how is it removed?

What does Hebrews 12:11 have to say about children trained through physical discipline?

A father is much like a prophet; he represents the life and teachings of the Heavenly Father. He is a spiritual, psychological, and physical representation of God's authority. This includes spiritual training, psychological preparation, and physical discipline. Most importantly, he becomes a vessel of blessing and protection for all those he is

responsible for. A patriarch that embraces the entire job description of manhood will build a new generation of God-fearing obedient people for God.

The Lord shall teach all your children, and great shall be the peace of our children.

The Principled Patriarch**Patriarch as Pastor**

Patriarch as a Pastor? Why yes! He is a shepherd that leads his flock in prayer, song, and direction. He rises early and prays for his followers, each one individually.

This has been a life-long challenge for me. It is easier for me to get up before the sun and go to a small group breakfast than it is for me to rise early to pray for those within my household. Nonetheless, God calls me daily to begin pastoring my flock, my family, by paying for them.

God says that He sends angels to encamp around those that fear Him. Our fear of God starts by being on our knees. My maleness tends to believe that my work acts accomplished more by food than by knee. The reality is much more is accomplished by prayer than by my actions. A patriarch needs to rise early to get his marching orders – then hit the floor running!

Praying for our followers is more than asking God to bless their lives. It is interceding for them regarding every need and want within their souls. But, I will say this before saying, Amen, we as patriarchs should pray a hedge about our family members. Asking God to place a “hedge of protection” about them. It worked for Job, and it will certainly work for us!

Look up 1 Peter 5:8 and state what the enemy is being compared to:

What does Mark 12:1 have to say about the hedge we are to pray into existence?

Regarding the protection of the hedge, what does Daniel 6:22 have to say about it?

What does Heb 1:14 have to say about “ministering angels?”

What does the Holy Spirit do on our behalf according to Romans 8:26-27; 34?

According to 1 Samuel 12:23, what does God call prayerlessness?

I have found the best way to pray is by praying scriptures. Read the following passages for living proof.

Scripture	× Done
Ephesians 1:16-19	
Ephesians 3:14-19	
Colossians 1:9-12	

Humility is the key to reaching the heart of god. When we pray, we should appeal to the Father with a humble heart – not with a heart of ordering Him.

What does John 14:14 have to say about a humble prayer?

James 5:16 reveal to us what the prayer of a righteous man accomplishes; what is it?

Revelation 1:6 says that God has made His patriarchs kings (leaders of authority) and priest (pastors) for His Divine purposes. We have been chosen as a royal priesthood so that we as leaders will proclaim His praises, who has called us out of the enemy's hands and into His hands as shepherd of the light.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Out of Darkness	1 Peter 2:9	
Christ as Our Priest	1 Timothy 2:5	
Pastor – a Living Sacrifice	Romans 12:1	
Beginning of Wisdom	Proverb 9:10	

NOTES:

Patriarch as Navigator

When you think about a navigator, one will think of a leader charting the way. A navigator plans the way days, months, and even years ahead of time when necessary, always keeping in mind the easiest path for his people to follow. The navigator probes ahead, checking out the horizon, looking for the enemy, scouting out places of refuge, and scanning for hidden obstacles that might get in the way. He is the first to sense danger, see difficult journey segments, discover the safest trail to blaze, and then return to lead his followers in the charted way.

Most men today define “provider” as providing financial and structural stability for their families. Well, it is much more. In reality, it means pro-vision, a proactive leader looking ahead and providing his followers' vision, mission, and purpose. When a man is functioning as a true provisionary, he is constantly looking ahead, giving direction, and providing for the necessary needs for completing the mission.

A Biblical navigator is a man who always seems to know where he is going, with a keen sense of leadership to assist others in joining him. Too many men squander their pro-vision on themselves. This is why their followers develop a habit of not trusting their leaders. Nothing will communicate “failure” to a family more than a man spending time charting his way to success. When family members see their leader using his energy, experience, and resources to respond to help each family member get to their destination, you have trust and obedience from the followers.

Most followers feel a daily sense of vulnerability to the enemy – a vulnerability to discouragement, weariness, distractions, and disorder. A true Biblical navigator trusts his woman to handle the details of daily life. She is gifted in mastering the details that keep the family safe and secure. When a man has a woman committed to his vision – he has found a good thing. God designs men to be “big picture” or visionaries. The confusion comes with some men when they have to navigate while having to be responsible for the infinite details of daily living. I can assure you that a man who becomes burdened by day-to-day details will sacrifice his navigation skills.

The stature of a man is measured by his ability to navigate life spiritually, relationally, and physically. In that order! When he fails to do this, the family is left to fend for themselves – provide their leadership to survive. Once this happens, the man quickly realizes he has too many chiefs and not enough Indians. The navigator will then turn to

the outside world to navigate a group of followers obligated to follow – his employment.

To discover the way, a navigator must climb high above life circumstances to gain vision and wisdom. Many of our family patriarchs today focus their energies on what is in front of them. God has given men the supernatural ability to rise above circumstances and look to the horizon for solutions.

Look up James 1:5 and state how a man is to gain wisdom:

Review Psalm 32:8 and write out what is being said about men navigating the way:

Psalm 51:6 states where God places His wisdom, where is it?

Navigators are required to light the way for followers. Followers then look at their feet when they walk and don't look to the horizon to properly plan their way.

What does Psalm 119:130 have to say about how the navigator is given this light?

According to Proverbs 3:5-6, what is required of the navigator to have a path directed?

In Isaiah 30:21, God gives the most practical advice to a man who needs direction, what is it?

A promise is given to a navigator’s children in Isaiah 54:13; what is it?

Romans 1:19-20 tells us one of the methods God uses to point the way; what is it?

1 Corinthians 12:8 reveals to us how God gives the navigator supernatural wisdom and knowledge; how are they given?

God’s grace and peace are multiplied unto the navigator through His knowledge through Jesus. This is all done through the power He gives each leader for the Divine purpose of showing him how to direct others. Not only does god have such wisdom and direction available to man, BUT it comes to us with a great and precious promise. When a navigator embraces this promise, he becomes a partaker of God’s Divine Nature, and by living in His Divine Nature, we can escape the world’s lust. Of course, the lust of the world blocks a man from navigating effectively.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Heart of God	Jeremiah 24;7	
Having Skills	Daniel 1:17	
Revealing Others by Spirit	1 Corinthians 2:9-14	
Reveals Truth in Our Minds	Philippians 3:15	
Direction Made Known	Colossians 1:26-27	

The Principled Patriarch**Lesson 22**

Patriarch of One Woman

God says it is not good for man to be alone. A patriarch of God is created to have a woman (singular) at his side. When God said this to Adam in Genesis 2:18, Adam had already concluded that he was lonely and needed a helpmate. Helpmate is not a role of being lesser or inferior but fulfilling the incomplete part of man. God forming Eve from Adam's side communicates that she is to be in his likeness for his likeness. The man was created in the likeness of God, from the dirt, I might add, and Eve was formed from this same likeness but with the understanding that she was to return to his side for love, protection and guidance. From the image, one was formed is where that created being is to find authority – a man from God and a woman from man. This is where we get the authority structure of the family.

Women are perfectly designed to remove the loneliness that plague man. This is why men tend to have an affair (via live or porn) when they do not believe their wives are "fulfilling their role." It is a sad fact, BUT men are far quicker to add another woman to their lives than it is for a woman to add another man. Surveys say most women have adulteress relationships excuse their husbands are not loving and protecting them. This is not to be an excuse but a simple statement of truth.

Men typically think that their loneliness is removed through sexual fulfillment. Even though there is some truth, men are never fulfilled through sex. Men are truly satisfied through the comfort of having a woman (singular) being by their side to love, care and help them accomplish their daily objectives.

A woman is a life-giver, and a man is a life manager. When a woman gives life to her husband by nurturing, comforting, and feeding him details of daily living – he then has more adequate data and support to be a life-manger. The functional design becomes dysfunctional when a man adds another woman to the mix.

Since man is the initiator, "penetrator," and the woman is a responder, "penetrated one," that makes man responsible for all forms of adultery. Even husbands who have lost their wives to adultery still took another man to steal his bride through penetration. God holds man primarily responsible for all adulterous affairs, knowing God holds all women responsible for accepting the penetration.

A true patriarch of God does everything within his resources in God to fulfill his wife's greatest need – to be loved, accepted, and protected. When he fails to do this, he

offers his woman to be loved, accepted, and protected by another man. In many cases, the woman will not choose another man but become her own protector, thus bound by self-love. This dear patriarch is an independent woman who becomes "dripping rain." Men who live under these circumstances will tell you this is "the loneliest place on earth." Adultery now knocks at his door.

A man who is committed to being a man of one woman has a BIG job on his hands. Such a big job will take a dynamic relationship with Christ, a mentor, and a passion for purity.

Some pop-psychologist says that learning the nature and ways of a woman is the key to male happiness. In reality, this usually provides more data for male seduction. Men need to focus their efforts on learning the nature and ways of a Godly man. By being equipped in the man's role, the woman will be more apt to complete him as a man. By being equipped in the man's role, the woman will be more apt to complete him as a man. Eighty percent of a man's role is to be completed by his responsibility to his created design. The remaining 20% is to be completed by a woman. If the man became all male in his 80%, the woman would be drawn out of necessity to fulfill the remaining 20%. But, if a man does his part, a woman is more apt to do hers.

Men need to work hard, be trained, and use their god-given design to fight for their role. They need to be the patriarch of one woman. They must resist looking for another woman who is "more suitable" for them. The woman you have is the woman you have been called live in an understanding way.

Review 1 Peter 3:7 and write out what a husband is being asked to do:

Read Genesis 2:24 and state what God says about a husband and his parents:

Reviewing Deuteronomy 24:5, we find that God gives specific instructions about the first year of marriage; what is it?

Proverbs 5:15-19 gives clear counsel regarding a man being of one woman; what is it?

What does Ecclesiastes 9:9 have to say about a man's reward on earth?

What do 1 Corinthians 7:3 have to say above the marriage bed?

Review 1 Corinthians 7:14-16;33 and write down the answer as to why a man should not entertain the idea of divorce:

What is said in Ephesians 5:28-29 and summarize the mandate given to men:

According to 1 Timothy 5:8, we find a warning given to patriarchs that don't care for their families; what is it?

What does 1 Peter 3:7 have to say is why a man's prayers are hindered?

If a patriarch fights for the doctrine of being a "man of one woman," he will find that his woman will soon respond in her God-given design. Her need to respond is great. Do this, my friend, and you will find your loneliness disappear; do it not, and you will find yourself inept and lonely.

Patriarch of Understanding

There is a dreaded reality for those of us married men: having our prayers hindered. Patriarchs with wives are to live with our wives in an understanding way, honoring them and treating them as co-heirs of a life filled with grace. God tells us in 1 Peter 3:7 that our prayers will be hindered if we don't.

It is my experience as a counselor that most men go through their lives thinking that God is blessing their every move, despite having wives who are embittered toward them. Well, my friend, it is only a matter of time, and God will "close in" on a man who functions in this manner. God has a special place in his heart for women. He is very quick to protect them and expects us to learn the ways of women to live with them in an understanding way. It doesn't matter how bitter or "rebellious" they are; we are responsible for leading them in the way of understanding. That happens through the way we care for them.

Women are prone to sudden fear; when they see their husbands, fathers, or leaders operating in selfishness and not protecting them, they will do whatever is necessary to care for them. It becomes difficult to expect a woman to submit to a patriarch primarily interested in their own agenda. Even though God requires them to do so, it is the greatest challenge for many women. Men need to wake up and realize the difficult and defenseless position a woman is in when God requires her to entrust her life to a man and, often, a selfish one. This is why men must live with their wives in an understanding way. Men must be reminded how difficult it is to give up their mother, father, childhood home, and former way of life and join their woman's full interest and life. It is almost awe-inspiring!

All of us as patriarchs should have a deep understanding that he a woman, by her own free and willing choice, places her life in the hands of a man to care for her all the days of her life that it comes with great sacrifice – her life.

A man that takes special care and consideration for his wife to make her joyful and at peace will set himself up for long and contented life. A man who does not do this will spend his valued resources fighting to "keep his little woman happy." Women who are not lived in an understanding way will "milk" their man for everything he is worth. If a woman is not loved and cared for internally – she will, without doubt, turn to externals to

find happiness. If a man wants to lose everything he has, all he has to do is live with his wife thoughtlessly or recklessly.

A man who lives with his wife in an understanding way will serve her by meeting her every need while strategically planning to meet her wants. A responsible leader knows the difference between a woman's needs and wants and knows how to fulfill them in God's timing.

Let me offer you a counseling technique, men who place a special emphasis on their wives submitting to them are admitting to male chauvinism. Men, who are quick to find new ways to serve their wives, are men who understand the language of women. This kind of man leads by humble service – he leads by empowering those he leads.

According to Deuteronomy 24:5, why should a man not focus on his business during the first year of his marriage?

What does Proverbs 18:22 have to say about a man finding a wife?

Look up 1 Peter 3:7 and list the primary mandates of a man living with his woman:

Ephesians 5:25 gives us Christ's example of caring for women; what are they?

What does Genesis 1:27 have to say about honoring women?

Look up Galatians 3:28; 4:7 and state what is said about the wife's position:

What does Proverbs 14:1 say about a woman's labors?

What does 1 Corinthians 11:11-12 have to say about the value a woman brings to the home?

Many men are intimidated by "needing help," what does Genesis 2:18 have to say about this?

To keep it simple, a woman exhibits the characteristics of a king but as a queen. She is the representative of the authority she serves, meaning she must have all the same qualities he has yet to be submitted. A woman is not inferior; without her, the patriarch is incomplete. He needs her qualities to function in the fullness of his own.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Women are Domestic	Genesis 18:6	
Women are Timid	Isaiah 19:16	
Women – Fond of Indulgence	Isaiah 32:9-11	
Women – Easily Led into Error	2 Timothy 3:6	
Women – As a Leader	Isaiah 3:12	
Women – Real Estate Brokers	Ruth 4:3-9	

The Principled Patriarch**Lesson 24**

A Patriarch's Virtuous Wife

Since finding a woman who clings to traditional virtues is hard to find, we need to talk about how to assist a woman in returning to the Biblical values of a woman.

Let's first look at what a virtuous woman looks like from God's perspective:

1. She is Christ-centered. She is a woman who knows God and has a dynamic relationship with Christ. She takes her relationship with God seriously by living according to the Word of God.
2. She reflects the characteristics of Christ. Because she lives what she believes, she displays the life and qualities of her Savior, Lord, and Husband – Christ. The woman of virtue works diligently to present herself as Holy and pure before her husband, children, and Lord. She is a hard worker at home, caring for those under her husband's watch.
3. She is dedicated to her husband and their home. A virtuous woman is focused on meeting her husband's needs before that of her children or friends. She is a worker at home, fully dedicated to loving her husband and children as an example of the Bride of Christ to Christ. A virtuous woman does not dishonor the word by attempting to steal her husband's role. She allows him to fail and learn from his mistakes. She is patient when being mistreated by those she loves.
4. She is an overseer of the home while her husband is away. Her strengths, skills, and spiritual gifting are used to stabilize and secure the domain her husband is responsible for. She sees herself as an "office manager" of the home. A virtuous woman is quick to provide food, clothing, and shelter "fixings" for their home. She is not afraid to work with her hands – using "scraps" if needed.
5. She keeps herself "well kept" for her husband. Instead of allowing the day-to-day burdens to tempt her into looking un-kept, she keeps herself well dressed and pretty for her husband. She understands that her appearance is a direct reflection of her husband. She understands the importance of keeping her husband's eyes fixed on her.
6. She uses her resources within the home to assist in bringing financial success to her husband. She is a money manager of the resources her husband brings home. A virtuous woman is a budgeter and a steward of all they have. She is not afraid to use her skills to build a broader income base without forsaking her priority of being a "worker at home."

7. She is an instructor, trainer, and teacher within the home. She is filled with wisdom on the “how to” of day-to-day living. Her husband and children can depend on her for domestic discoveries. She is a “home-school” teacher – knowing how to equip her children in the educational academics of life.
8. She is content with being a woman. The virtuous woman does not try to find life outside her calling as a wife, mother, or grandmother. She is confident as a woman because she does not resist the god-given mandates of women.
9. She is a qualified helpmate. She takes great “pride” in knowing she is her husband’s primary and most resourceful helper. She does not fight the traditional values of womanhood. She delights in her ability and capacity to compete with her husband.
10. She avoids being “male” at all costs. A virtuous woman is all women. She does not attempt to compete with men, nor does she try to take on the role of male even when her husband refuses to. She is feminine, delicate, quiet, gentle, and pretty. She refuses to dress, talk or act masculine. She is all woman.

Look up Proverbs 31:10-31 and place the value of a woman in each verse:

Verse	Value
V10	
V11	
V12	
V13	
V14	
V15	
V16	
V17	
V18	
V19	
V20	
V21	
V22	
V23	
V24	
V25	
V26	
V27	
V28	
V29	
V30	

The Principled Patriarch

Lesson 25

A Patriarch's Rights

There are so many demanding their rights today. An accomplished patriarch only claims the rights that the Heavenly Father gives him. An untrained patriarch will tend to demand rights that have never been given to him to claim. This is not only selfish but rebellious. God will never support a man who demands anything – let alone “his rights.”

Rights are synonyms for right, privilege, prerogative, and birthright. These nouns apply to something, such as a power or possession, to which one has an established claim. **Right** refers to a legally, morally, or traditionally just claim or a master or servant. “An unconditional right to say what one pleases about public affairs is what I consider to be the minimum guarantee of the First Amendment” (Hugo L. Black). **Privilege** usually suggests a right not enjoyed or embraced by everyone: *Christians have rights over the dominion of darkness and all of its possessions.* **Prerogative** denotes an exclusive right or privilege, as one based on custom, law, or office of mastery: *It is my prerogative as to the one in authority to change my mind.* A **birthright** is any right or privilege to which one is entitled, such as an estate descendible by law to an heir or civil liberty under a free constitution. It may be used in primogeniture (the privilege of the firstborn), but it applies to any right resulting from a father's descent or direct decision.

This lesson will help you delineate the “rights” of a slave from the Hebrew legal, moral, and traditions that God the Father imparted to His people. All patriarchs need to understand this lesson to *claim* what is rightfully theirs and not *claim* prerogatives the devil would have you *claim*. Before doing this, answer the following questions for a few moments.

How does it challenge you to feel when you hear someone “demanding their rights”?

Do you believe you have the “right” not to be mistreated? _____ Explain your answer.

Place a “check” by the adjectives that best describe you when you believe you are being treated “unjustly.” When conducting this exercise, remember that we are hunting for manifestations common in your life regarding your attitude toward “human rights.”

Actions	✓
Vengeance	
Hits	
Hateful	
Unkind	
Unloving	
Bitter	
Angry	
Uncontrolled	
Hurtful	
Argues	
Contentious	
Spiteful	
Pride	
Disobedient	
Unforgiving	
Unmerciful	
Impatient	
Intolerance	
Ungrateful	
Selfish	

Words	✓
Disrespectful	
Harsh words	
Unwholesome talk	
Cursing	
Gossip	
Loud	
Name-calling	
Quarrelsome	
Provokes	
Debates	
Deceit – lies	
Whispering – tells secrets	
Backbiting	
Boasting	
Blasphemy	
False accusations	
Mocking	
Murmuring – complaining	
Arguing	
Vulgarity	

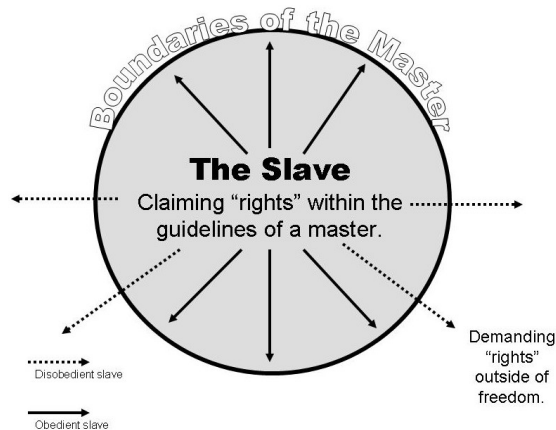
Look up 1 Peter 2:18, then write a summary statement of what you read:

Rights of a Hebrew Slave:

As noted in the original Hebrew text, the Hebrew slaves fared far better than the secular Grecian, Roman, and other slaves of later generations. The treatment they received

and the **rights** they could claim made their lot reasonably good. Remember that a slave was a slave; some masters disobeyed God and even abused their “brothers in bonds.” As usual, the unfortunate female slave got the full measure of satanic inhuman cruelty. Certain rights were discretionary, it is true, but many Hebrew slaves enjoyed valuable individual and social privileges.

In this study, we will parallel the *rights* of the Hebrew slave with the same *rights* God the Father gives us as “bondslaves” of His domain. When studying the **rights of Hebrew slavery**, keep in mind that the concepts and privileges of a righteous slave had the prerogative to function freely within the boundaries set forth by the Heavenly Father (see diagram).



As far as Scripture statements throw light on the subject, the slaves of Old Testament times might claim the following rights, namely:

Right # One – Freedom

Freedom is the condition of being free of restraints. It is the liberty of a slave who finds peace amid oppression and the exemption from an unpleasant condition: *freedom from want*. It is the capacity to exercise choice, which the world calls “free will,” even under unreasonable authority (1 Peter 2:18).

True freedom's bottom line is the power to act, speak, or think without externally imposed restraints. *Freedom* is the most general term, but *liberty* stresses the power of free choice. *License* denotes deliberate deviation from normally applicable rules or practices to achieve a desired effect or desire. In God’s reality, it denotes undue freedom.

When a servant functions within the boundaries of a master, they are free to live freely within those boundaries through the liberty of the “power” of choice. When a servant takes *license* and demands “rights” outside the master’s boundaries, they step into undue freedom or unreasonable bondage. The master is obligated to use the boundaries (rules) to put them back into submission. This is what causes the servant to “feel” mistreated.

God not only put guidelines on the servants but the Hebrew masters as well. Look up Lev. 25: 44-46 and fill in the blanks:

"You shall not rule over him with _____, but are to revere your God. As for your male and female slaves, you may acquire male and female slaves from the pagan nations around you. Then, too, it is out of the sons of the sojourners who live as aliens among you that you may gain acquisition, and out of their families who are with you, whom they will have produced in your land; they also may become your possession. You may even bequeath them to your sons after you to receive as a possession; you can use them as permanent slaves. But in _____ to your countrymen, the sons of Israel, you shall not _____ with _____ over one another." Lev. 25:43-46

When God transferred us from the slavery of sin (Satan) into the Kingdom of God as "bondslaves" of His service, the only difference was the *severity* vs. *love*. Satan uses the Laws of God to beat us and shame us to live a life motivated by guilt. God uses His Laws (guidelines) to love and protect us. True freedom is resting within the boundaries of protection. True bondage is fighting the boundaries that are meant to preserve us.

Right # Two – Good Treatment

"Thou shall not rule over him (Hebrew slave) with rigor (strictness or severity, as in temperament, action, or judgment), but shall fear thy God... You shall not rule, one over another, with rigor" (Lev. 25:43, Lev. 25:46). The non-Hebrew (unsaved) seemed to be left unprotected. God put this stipulation on the Hebrew masters because He, God the Father, manages His "bondslaves" in the manner He required of the Hebrew masters. The Hebrew requirements have always been the guidelines that God uses in handling His people. God not only requires *good treatment* of His people, He demands it.

Right # Three - Justice

An ancient writer raises the question of fairness to slaves. *"If I have despised the cause of my man-servant or of my maid-servant, when they contended with me; what then shall I do when God rises up?"* (Job 31:13). No doubt the true Hebrew master was considerate of the rights of his slaves. The fact that the Hebrew master could punish a Hebrew slave "to within an inch of his life" gave a ready opportunity for sham (something false or empty that is purported to be genuine; an imitation) justice. *"And if a man smite his servant, or his maid ("bondman or bondwoman"), with a rod, and he die under his hand; he shall surely be punished. Notwithstanding, if he continue a day or two, he shall not be punished; for he is his money"* (Exodus 21:20).

The Hebrew slave was given the *right* and *prerogative* to be given just and right treatment by their master. Therefore, in the case of Christians having the right and

privilege to be treated justly by God, they can rest in the truth that God will use *justice* in managing all of their affairs.

Right # Four - Family

The slave, before his release, might have his wife and children (Exodus 21:5). God is for the family unites because He established the family model. One of the *rights* Christians can claim; once the leader of a household becomes saved, he can claim the salvation of the members of his household (Acts 16:31); *they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."*

And your house - your family. Acts 16:31 does not mean that his family would be saved simply by his belief, but that the offers had reference to them and to himself; they might be saved as well as the father of the home. His attention was therefore called at once, as every man should be, to his family. He was reminded that they needed salvation, and he was presented with the assurance that they might unite with him as their father or husband in the peace and joy of redeeming mercy. Many Bible scholars believe this passage implies that a father's faith may be expected to be the means of the salvation of his family. It often is so, but the direct meaning is that salvation was offered to his family and himself, implying that they should also be saved if they believed. In any case, God the Father is actively pursuing the head of the home for salvation because He knows that the body will soon follow once the head is saved.

Faithful earthly fathers should feel free to claim the *rights* of having their complete household saved. This should give us a clear understanding of why the enemy works so diligently to distract and confuse the men in our culture. Satan is less threatened by the *woman of the house* becoming saved than by the head of the home. God's promise comes through leadership.

Right # Five – Voluntary Slavery

Even when the seventh year came, the slave had a right to pledge himself, with awl-pierced ear, to perpetual service for his master (Exodus 21:5; Deut. 15:16). The traditional interpretation of "forever" in these passages is "until the next Jubilee year."

The parallel is this; the six years of bondage are related to the mark of man, the number six, and the period you were not a Christian. The seventh year is related to the year of your salvation. The "until the next Jubilee year" is an eternity for the Christians. Heaven is an ongoing state of Jubilee (freedom). The *right to pledge himself* is the individual's right to choose to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, keeping in mind that the *awl-pierced ear* is a symbol of volunteering oneself to be a slave for the rest of eternity.

Therefore, the critical point for remembrance is that even though we have been freed from the domain of darkness, we still become enslaved to the Kingdom of Light.

Right # Six – Money or Property

Some cases at least indicate that slaves could have money of their own. The servant is given rights and privileges of wealth in certain cases (Prov. 15:6). Just as in the world we live in today, many Christians are given the ability by the Father to prosper in a world that is temporarily under the service of an authoritarian leader, Satan (Lev. 25:49). Within this privilege, Christian servants can free others from earthly masters that are unfair by using their resources to free them. God gives His servants the rights and abilities to prosper as much or more than those who promote wicked slavery. God uses the wealth of the “ungodly” to prosper the children of God (Isa. 60:5). God the Father wants His children to enjoy prosperity as servants – like a gift.

Look up Ecclesiastes 5:19 and fill in the blanks: *Furthermore, as for every man to whom God has given _____ and _____, He has also empowered him to eat from them and to receive his _____ and rejoice in his labor; this is the gift of God.*

Right # Seven - Elevation

A chance to rise and be promoted was allowable in some instances. For example, Eliezer, a foreign slave in a Hebrew household, and Joseph, a Hebrew slave in a foreign household. Each rose to a place of honor, power, and usefulness (Gen. 15:2; Gen. 39:4).

Many times in the scriptures, we find that God the Father takes His servants and promotes them within the wicked mastery of earthly leaders. Joseph was not only sold repetitively as a slave but every time he was placed under a master, the master would prosper because of Joseph being with them. To take this story literally, you will find that the ungodly masters used the prosperity and blessings placed upon Joseph to gain for themselves.

God didn't seem to mind this because the story communicates that God used their usury to bring prosperity to His people suffering and protect them from the wickedness of that particular master. If you look in our world today, you will find this *right* practiced frequently.

Right # Eight – Religious Worship

After being circumcised, slaves were allowed to participate in the paschal (Passover) sacrifice (Exodus 12:44) and other religious occasions (Deut. 12:12). As servants of God, we have been given the *right* to worship God as we please, particularly in the free world. But, to keep this Hebrew *right* in its proper context, we need to understand this prerogative was that of God, granting Christians to worship Him in different ways. Some children of faith sing with their hands lifted; others lean more toward liturgical worship – preplanned worship by another leader. God doesn't restrict the *right* of Christian worship because it is one of the divine *rights* and *freedoms* are given to us by our Master. The important thing here is He wants to be worshiped. Something the original leader of worship (Satan) would not do.

Right # Nine - Gifts

Upon obtaining freedom, slaves, at the discretion of masters, were given supplies of cattle, grain, and wine (Deut. 15:13). Our parallel here is once we become a "bondservant" of the Lord, He gives us blessings that come directly from wicked or masters of darkness (Gen. 31:16). Joseph's life was a classic example of this. He became wealthy by the hand of the wicked ruler he served. God turned around and used this wealth to prosper His people. Today we find Christians being blessed by God for the same reason. When a Christian thinks wealth is for his prosperity, God will decrease his land. God simply prospers His servants to feed those who are in need. A wealth of a believer belongs to the Lord and His mission.

The New Testament Conception:

There were slaves during New Testament times, as in our culture today. To date, God has never given the church the *right* to issue edicts sweeping away this custom of the old Judaism, but the gospel of Christ, with its warm, penetrating love message, **mitigated the harshness** of ancient times and melted cruelty into kindness. The equality, justice, and love of Christ's teachings changed the whole attitude of man-to-man and master-to-servant. Apostle Paul proclaimed this truth: *"There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, ye all are one man in Christ Jesus"* (Gal. 3:28). The Christian slaves and masters are both preached in Paul's letters to live Godly lives and make Christ-like their relations one to the other - obedience to masters and forbearance with slaves. *"Bondservants, be obedient unto ... your masters,... as bondservants of Christ ... and, you masters ... forbear threatening:... their Master and yours are in heaven, and there is no respect of persons with him"* (Eph. 6:5-9).

Christ was a reformer but not an anarchist (rebel). His gospel was dynamic but not dynamistic (philosophical). It is provoking, electric with power, but permeated with

love. Christ's life and teaching are against Judaist slavery, Roman slavery, and any form of human slavery that replicates satanic slavery. Know this, not once did He abolish or disregard the existing structures of mastery on the earth His Father created. He used His gospel and the light of His life to make human emancipation from satanic slavery earth-wide, to obtain the opportunity to become slaves for Himself. **1 Corinthians 7:22** tells us; *for he who was called in the Lord while a slave, is the Lord's freedman; likewise he who was called while free, is Christ's slave.*

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19 and write down what Paul decided to do because of understanding his freedom:

If you agree with Paul in his conclusion, I challenge you to pray this as a commitment to Christ, your Master, for daily living.

- ☐ **I prayed this verse as a lifelong commitment**
- ☐ **I could not bring myself to pray this verse**

The Principled Patriarch

Lesson 26

Unreasonable Authority

Servants, be subject to your masters – 1 Peter 2:18 tells us; “*Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle but also to those who are unreasonable.*” The Greek word used here (οἰκέται *oiketai*) means properly “domestics” - those under the authority of a domestic master or living in the same house - from οἶκος *oikos*, “house.” These persons might have been slaves, wives, or children. The word would apply to them, whether they were hired or owned as slaves or blood relatives. The appeal here would be, and still is, strictly applicable to persons subservient as domestics, even if they had voluntarily hired themselves out to be such. While they remained in that condition, it would be wise of them to perform with faithfulness, loyalty and reliability in their duties as Christians, and to abide with Christian meekness all the wrongs that they might suffer from those in authority over them.

Those hired and under a need of “going out to serve” for a living are not always free from being mistreated, for there are trials within those conditions of life that cannot always be avoided. It might be better, in many cases, to accept the master’s conditions of service than to attempt a change of situation, even though they were entirely at liberty to do so.

Please check the items that best describe your communication style with those in authority over you.

Style	✓
Avoid communicating with authority figures	
I use healthy words but a “sharp” tone in addressing authority	
I frequently yell	
I use sarcastic and demanding words	
I use vulgarity	
I use words that produce guilt	
I communicate effectively	

Style	✓
I use loving and encouraging words most of the time I communicate	
I use nonverbal’s that typically communicate “I don’t care.”	
I use nonverbal’s that say, “I care, and I am listening.”	
I listen before I talk	
I tear up when confronted by an authority	
I give authority the appearance I am listening, but in reality, I am thinking about other things	
I laugh or smirk when addressed by the authority	

Explain the style of discipline your father used on you and how or if he was harsh.

Check the box that best describes you when a harsh authority figure challenges you.

Response	✓
Ungracious in speech	
Interruptive	
Disrespectful	
Gives "silent treatment."	
Name-calling	
Judgmental	
Raises voice	
Rolls eyes when offended	
Manipulates	
Controlling	
Pouts (depression)	
Frowns	
Doesn't listen – talks too much	
Unforgiving	
Vulgar in speech	
Harsh and critical	

Response	✓
Verbiage is filled with mercy	
Waits on authority – patient	
Respectful tone & attitude	
Gently responds	
Calls on God's name for help	
Stands forgiving	
Quiet when hurt	
Maintains good eye contact in turmoil	
Allows authority to have control	
Rests – knows God is in control	
Joyful while being stressed	
Soft and caring appearance	
Hears authority out	
Seeks the forgiveness of authority	
Words used to bless authority	
Loving and gentle when being harmed	

Harsh Authorities:

The word here rendered "masters" (δεσπόταις despotais) does not necessarily imply that those who were under them were slaves. The word used here applies to the head of a family, whatever the condition of those under him. Interestingly, it is frequently applied to a Christian relationship with God and Christ. However, it is to be known that Peter was not addressing just Christians but people in general who were under authority. It is certainly implied that they were pursuing such a course as was inconsistent with real Godliness. In addition, these "heads of families" were disobedient to the Word (1 Peter 3:1). Peter is speaking directly to those who were under these "masters" who were suffering because of the master's grievous wrongs.

Look up 1 Peter 3:1 and explain why you believe we can change authority figures through silence:

Count their masters worthy of all honors – We are called by the Father to treat **unreasonable authority figures** with all proper respect. We are to manifest the right spirit in serving them, in whatever our masters did; we are not to do anything that would dishonor the representation as children of the Father. The injunction here would seem to have particular reference to those whose masters were not Christians. The meaning here is that the slave, us, ought to show the Christian spirit toward our master so that our walk with Christ would not be dishonored; we ought not to give our masters occasion to say that the only effect of the Christian beliefs was to make us restless, disappointed, dissatisfied, and disobedient. In a humble and trying situation and under the yoke of bondage, we ought to exhibit patience, kindness, and respect for our master. As long as the relationship continues, we are to be obedient. This command, however, was by no means inconsistent with us desiring freedom and securing it if the opportunity presented itself.

Look up 1 Corinthians 7:21 and explain in your own words what you believe God is saying here:

Be obedient to them - This is the uniform direction throughout the New Testament. The idea is that we are to show in our relationships with harsh authority the excellence of Christianity that we profess. If we could be made free, we should prefer that condition to a state of bondage (1 Cor. 7:21), but while the relationship remains, we are to be kind, gentle, and obedient as Christians. In the parallel place in Colossians 3:22, it is said that they were to obey their masters "in all things." But evidently, this is to be understood with the limitations implied in the case of wives and children. For example, a master, husband/father, has no right to command that which was morally or illegally wrong.

Look up Colossians 3:22 and fill in the blanks: *Slaves, in _____ things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with _____ service, as those who merely _____ men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.*

According to the flesh, the Father gave us this design to limit the obligation to obedience. The meaning is that they, **authority figures** had control over “the body, the flesh.” They had the power to command the service, which the body could render, but they were not lords of the Spirit. This is a critical point for you and me to embrace. It will assist us in maintaining the balance of submission to **harsh authority**. Our soul acknowledges God as Lord, and to the Lord, we are to be subject in a higher sense than to their masters.

With fear and trembling – The Greek definitions here are to do this with a dread of offending them. They have authority and power over you; you should be afraid to incur their displeasure. Whatever might be true about the correctness of slavery and the duty of the master, it would be more to the honor of our beliefs in Christ for us to perform our tasks with a willing mind than to be disrespectful and rebellious. We could do more for the honor of Christ by patiently submitting to even what we felt to be wrong than by being punished for what would be regarded as rebellion. These directions were addressed to us as servants and not to our masters.

Is your fear and trembling out of fear of being hurt or dread of offending a master? Explain your answer.

That God's name and doctrine are not blasphemed – The power behind this statement is almost overwhelming. Our goal here should be that Christ not be dishonored and criticized, and there may be no occasion to say that Christianity tends to produce discontentment and lead to an uprising. If the effect of Christianity had been to teach all who were servants that they should no longer obey their masters, that they should resist them and assert their freedom by violence, or that their masters were to be treated with humiliation on account of their usurped rights over others, the effect would have been obvious – war. There would have been a loud and united outcry against the newly founded “religion,” that of Christianity, and it could have made no progress in the world. Instead of this, Christianity taught the necessity of patience, humility, and forbearance in the endurance of all wrong - whether from private individuals (Matt. 5:39-41; 1Cor. 6:7) or under the oppressions and exactions of government (Rom. 13:1-7) or amid hardships and cruelties of slavery. Please keep in mind that these peaceful injunctions, however, did not demonstrate that Christ approved the act of a harsh master “that smote on the one cheek” or that Paul regarded the government of Nero as a good government, but it does demonstrate the power of submission.

In singleness of your heart - With a simple, sincere desire to do what is right, as, unto Christ, we are rendering proper service to our masters, we are serving the Lord, and that we are doing that which will be well-pleasing to Christ (1Cor. 7:22). Loyalty, in whatever situation we may be in life, is acceptable service to the Lord. A Christian may serve the Lord Jesus in the condition of a servant as if he were a gospel minister or a king on a throne. Besides, it will miraculously lighten the burdens of such a situation, and make the toils and sufferings of a humble/harsh condition easy, if we remember that we are then "serving the Lord." *Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; not by way of eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.*

Not with eye service - That is, not with service rendered only under the eye of the master or when his eye is fixed on you. When walking after the flesh, we as slaves will usually obey only when the eye of the master is upon us. Christians that agree to labor for stipulated wages may be trusted when the master is out of sight, but this is not the case with a slave. When we are obligated to be "driven" by a master, who tends to be harsh, it is impossible to avoid, except where true Christianity prevails. As children of the Father, we are at liberty to serve with the heart of Christ. This commandment is of great importance to all under the service of masters. They are bound to perform their duty with as much faithfulness as if the eye of the master was always upon them, remembering that the eye of man may be turned away, but that of God never is.

Christianity is filled with "men-pleasers." Sadly, most children of the Father's purpose is to please people instead of pleasing and honoring God. When man focuses on pleasing a master instead of the Master directly, they place themselves in the position of idol worship, and the master becomes the god of their lives. The being we give our pleasure to be the being we are saying is our god. As you and I serve our **harsh masters**, we need to do it unto Christ (1Cor. 7:22). If we do this, we will be doing the will of God with a pure heart. When we render acceptable service to God, from a pure heart, we can perform the services demanded of us, or we may be placed in, however humble/harsh.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Jesus Submitting to Authority	Matthew 26:39,42	
Jesus as an Example	Mark 14:36	
Jesus as an Example	Luke 22:42	
Jesus as an Example	Hebrews 5:8	
Paul as an Example	I Corinthians 16:7	

An Unreasonable Patriarch

Thus says the LORD, "For three transgressions of Judah and for four I will not revoke its punishment, because they rejected the law of the LORD and have not kept His statutes; their lies also have led them astray, those after which their fathers walked."
Amos 2:4

We do not understand this principle completely, but we, as children, tend to “walk” in the same pathways that our fathers walked. We carry out like-minded sins and actions that they committed against the Lord. The Heavenly Father is quick to reveal to us this sinful tradition. He desires us to deny the flesh our fathers gave as an inheritance to us and embrace our new inheritance – His son's past, present, and future behavior.

Describe the “feelings” you had when your father acted unreasonably:

How did you respond to him when he acted this way?

In what ways did you attempt to “win” his favor when he acted unreasonably?

Have you ever reconciled with him for your negative (sinful) reaction? _____ If not, are you willing to do so? _____ When will you do this? Month _____, day _____.

Because of your father's unreasonable behavior, presently, what leader (father figure) do you project these same responses? _____ Have you reconciled with this leader for

acting this way? _____ Are you willing to do this? _____ When? Month _____, day _____.

"I said to their children in the wilderness, 'Do not walk in the statutes of your fathers or keep their ordinances or defile yourselves with their idols.'" Ezekiel 20:18

What statutes (rules) or ordinances (regulations) of your father do you continue to defile yourself? Example: legalism, perfectionism, etc.

In what ways are you "harsh" with yourself?

Do you see any correlations with your father? _____

Bringing Joy to the Heart of an Unreasonable Father:

Galatians 4:1 & 2 tells us: *"Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father."*

One of the earth's most difficult, if not impossible, tasks are submitting to a father who acts unreasonably. God the Father designed a father/child relationship to be tough and tender. Many people grow up under a father figure that was not reasonable in guiding them, and thus the child could not embrace a loving relationship with them. This concept of a **date set by the father** is critical in understanding the authority process of being released from childhood to behold the inheritance. Paul likens this example of an earthly father keeping his children in "bondage" of childhood to Christ coming to set us free from the **father of lies** to be placed under the authority of the Heavenly Father. It is evident in the scriptures that God uses the regulations of the **date set by the father** to prepare the child to be at rest while under earthly leaders when they part from their father's home. It also prepares them to live effectively under the care and reasonable authority of our Heavenly Father.

A child being held under the time clock of childhood is their most difficult task. It seems that once a child reaches the age of 13, they want to leave their parents and “start their own lives.” According to the Hebrew and Greek text referencing adult transitioning, there is no “starting one’s own life.” It is a transfer from one father to another.

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. Hebrews 13:17

Hebrews 13:17 reveals to us that we are to be obedient to our leaders. The reference here is to our religious teachers, civil rulers, earthly fathers, and others who have been placed over us as authority figures. We are to show them proper respect and to submit to their authority in and out of the church, as far as it was administered per the precepts of the Savior. The obligation to obedience does not, of course, extend to anything wrong in itself or which would be a violation of the Laws and ways of God the Father. The doctrine is that subordination is necessary to the church's welfare and that there ought to be of our character to yield all proper obedience to those who are set over us in the Lord.

And submit yourselves - That is, to all they instruct that is lawful and right. These are about a social order:

- (1) Those things, which God has positively commanded - which are always to be obeyed.
- (2) Many things the society has agreed on as needful for its welfare are to be submitted to unless they violate the rights we have as children of the Father.
- (3) Many things are in themselves a matter of no expressed Divine command and no formal performance by the community. They are matters of convenience, things that tend to the order and harmony of the community, and of the respectability of these “rulers” in the church and elsewhere should be allowed to judge, and we should submit to them patiently.

Consequently, we must submit to all the proper regulations for conducting public worship, promoting religion, and administering discipline in the church.

For they watch for your souls – hopefully, these leaders have no selfish aim in this. They should not seek “to lord it over God’s heritage.” They do this for your own good, and you should therefore submit to these arrangements. In addition, this shows the true principle on which authority should be exercised in a church. It should be in such a way as to promote the salvation of the people, and all the arrangements should be with that end. Therefore, the measures adopted and the obedience imposed should not be random, oppressive, or severe but should be such as will promote salvation.

Nevertheless, if they are oppressive or severe, we are called by God to honor them by obedience *to the Lord*.

As they that must give an account - To God. The ministers of religion, as well as ministers of society, must give account to God for their reliability. They must soon be called into judgment about how they handle you for everything they teach and for every measure they adopt. This is why we are to refrain from *judging* them. There is, therefore, the best security that under the influence of this solemn truth, they will pursue only that course which will be for your good. It is not the "job" of the child to correct their fathers. God will correct them in His way. Your role is to submit; His role is to hold these fathers in account for their dealings with your soul.

That they (fathers/leaders) may do it with joy, and not with grief – the Greek word here is *μη στενάζοντες* meaning - not sighing, or groaning; as they, your leaders, would who had been unsuccessful. The meaning is that you should obey, that when your father/teachers see your joy when suffering unjustly, they can be joyful and glorify the Father. Why? They will see the primary characteristics of the Father – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, long-suffering, self-control, and gentleness.

For this is unprofitable for you - that is, when your father/leader lacks joy, they will treat you more "harshly" and take advantage of you all the more. When these unreasonable fathers/leaders lack seeing the joy in the hearts of their children, natural or spiritual, they become adversarial and will tend to increase their "heavy control" to prove their points that seem to be resisted. Do as these leaders, no matter how harsh or gentle. Consequently, it would help if you rendered them all proper honor and obedience.

Look up Romans 13:1-5 and fill in the blanks:

"Every person is to be in subjection to the governing _____. For there is no _____ except from God, and those which exist are established by _____. Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of _____; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear for _____, but for evil. Do you want to have no _____ of authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same; for it is a _____ of God to you for good. But if you do what evil, _____ is; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil. Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake. Romans 13:1-5

In summary, we can read this passage most practically; ***every child is to be in submission to their fathers. These fathers carry no authority of their own, but only that which God gives them because He established it in them. Therefore, if a child resists their authority, they resist and oppose the ways of God, and those children that oppose their fathers will receive blame for themselves. Fathers are not causes for fear of the child performing correctly, but for keeping evil out of their lives. Do your children have no fear of authority? Do what is right in serving your fathers; your earthly and Heavenly fathers will praise you. However, if you do what is evil and resist them, you will bear the rod of circumstances. If you submit to your father, it is a ministry unto God, who has the ability and prerogative to bring anger upon you. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to your fathers, not because of anger but also to live a life with a clear conscience.***

God has given you the power and ability to bring joy into your father's heart. When they experience joy, they will be led back to the Lord, or in some cases, to the Lord for the first time. If you, as a child, desire to win your father over to the gospel of Jesus, you will honor and submit to them in the same way you do unto the Heavenly Father. There is no difference! To God, they are the same. Go now and serve with a heart of joy and peace.

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Patriarch's Good Conscience	Acts 23:1	
Respect Toward all Men	Acts 24:16	
Giving No Offense	2 Corinthians 6:3	
Blameless Behavior	1 Thessalonians 2:10	
Serving Fathers with Pure Hearts	2 Timothy 1:3	

The Principled Patriarch

Lesson 28

Tough Times For Patriarchs

Christ here foretells in Matthew 24:4 the going forth of deceivers; He begins with a caution, *Saying that no one misleads you.* The disciples expected to be told when these things should be and let into that secret, but this caution only piques their curiosity. Christ wanted the disciples to mind their duty, follow Him, and be not seduced from following Him.” The fact is that Christ conceals much of the prophetic knowledge because of evil doers’, not Bridal members. If Christ had revealed what the Father has concealed, the lawless men would use it to mislead many. Most inquisitive types need to be kept away from the secret things of God, for otherwise, they will use them to seduce. 2 Thess. 2:3 tells us; *Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.*

Christ reveals that seducers are more dangerous enemies to the church than persecutors. Three times in this discourse, He mentions the appearance of *false prophets*. The appearance of these seducers was the occasion of dividing the people into parties and factions, which made their ruin easier and speedier, and the sin of the many that were led aside by them helped to fill their measure. Secondly, it was a trial to the Disciples of Christ, and therefore agreeable to their state of trial, *which they which are perfect, may be made manifest.* This is the message for the Bride that we would be perfected by staying on our toes.

APOSTASY MUST COME

Most conservative Christians are annoyed by other “Christians” that are liberal in their thinking – not believing the Word to be literal. In the end times, many Bridal members will view the Word of God as primarily “cultural,” not literal and absolute. Christ warned us of these times. By the way, we are in those times right now. This period of Christianity is called the **Apostasy**; *a falling away first would come.* We may not be in the middle of the **Great Apostasy**, but we are certainly entering the warm-up phase.

The primary evidence we need to watch for is when the Bridal members are more offended by what Christ says than non-Christians. As a counselor, this has become my

overall experience. I have a much better working relationship with non-believers than most Christians. This is why the divorce rate in America is higher within the Christian church than in the world. The Bridal members are abusing the scriptures to prove their “rights” as humans. These are the “birth pangs” of apostasy.

This apostasy will not be within civil government but in spiritual or Christ matters, from sound doctrine, instituted worship and church government, and a holy (live by His absolutes) life. The apostle Paul speaks of very great apostasy, not only of some converted Jews or Gentiles but also with Christians in general, though gradual. The purpose of the apostasy is to give occasion to the revelation of the rise of the antichrist, Satan. Be assured that no sooner was Christianity planted and rooted in the world than there began to be a defection in the Christian church. Whenever God lays **absolutes** down, Satan starts an apostasy. It was so in the Old Testament church; presently, after any considerable advance in Christianity, there followed a defection: soon after the promise, there was revolting. The warning for those who believe God in what He says must be prepared for Satan to create in us a “falling away” each time we decide to “put our foot down.” Apostasy always follows covenant unless blocked by embracing absolutes.

What liberal philosophies do you hear taught in the church today?

What liberal philosophies do you practice in your life?

What is the best way to protect you from being deceived by false teachers?

TOUGH TIMES WILL COME

James 1:2-4 tells us: *Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.* The suffering state of the Bride of Christ in this world is represented in this passage and a very instructive manner; if we attend to what is plainly and necessarily stated, together with what is fully expressed, we will experience joy.

It is implied that troubles and afflictions may be the lot in life for most Christians, even those with a “spoiled” or “overprotective” lifestyle. We can walk in a constant state of joy yet endure grievous afflictions. Joy does not mean living a pain-free life. The Bride of Christ must not think it strange if they encounter troubles. These outward afflictions and troubles can only provide a temptation to walk in despair; they cannot force us to give up our joy. Satan uses hardship and suffering to draw men to sin and to deter them from their duties as Bridal members. Our afflictions are in God's hand; they are intended for the trial and improvement of our walk in Christ. The only way to remove the impurities in raw gold is to purify it by fire. So it is with the Christians that we, too, must be baptized by fire. It is a part of our commitment to the Groom. Our trials may be of many different kinds; therefore, we must put on God's whole armor. We must be armed on every side because temptations lie on all sides. The trials of a good man are such as he does not create for himself nor sinfully pull upon himself, but they are often a result of a passionate love life with the Groom.

Please take a few minutes, look up the stated verses, and fill in the blanks with the appropriate answers:

Do Not Be Frightened At The End:

*"You will hear of _____ and rumors of wars. See that you are not _____, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. **Matt. 24:6***

Don't Exchange Truth for Fear:

*"For nation will rise _____ nation, and kingdom against kingdom and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes." **Matt. 24:7***

These Things Are The Beginning of the End:

"But all these things are merely the _____ of birth pangs." **Matt. 24:8**

The Bride Delivered to Persecution:

"Then they will deliver you to _____, and will _____ you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name." **Matt. 24:9**

Many Bridal Members Will Fall Away:

"At that time, many will _____ away and will betray one another and hate one another." **Matt. 24:10**

Many Bridal Members Will Grow Cold:

"Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. Because lawlessness is increased, most people's _____ will grow cold." **Matt. 24:11-12**

Members that Endure Shall Be Saved:

"But the one who _____ to the end, he will be saved." **Matt. 24:13**

After The Tribulation:

"But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE _____, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS _____, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken." **Matt. 24:29**

Signs in the Sky:

"And then the sign of the _____ will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory." **Matt. 24:30**

Then He Will Gather His Bride:

"And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET, and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His _____ from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other. Matt. 24:31

Learn From The Fig Tree:

"Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. "Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things occur. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not _____. "But of that day and hour, no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. Matt. 24:32-36

Be On Alert:

*"Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which _____ your Lord (Groom) is coming. But be sure that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. For this reason, you also must be _____; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will.*" Matt. 24:42-44*

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Tribulation Will Come	Revelation 7:14	
Times of Trouble	Daniel 12:1	
Affliction Will Come	Matthew 24:21	
Hour of Trial Will Come Upon the World	Revelation 3:10	
Great Tribulation	Revelation 7:14	

Claiming His Victory

God did not give us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and a sound and reasonable mind (2 Timothy 1:7). Fearfulness is not of God. The Holy Spirit does not make us afraid; rather, He gives us the supernatural spiritual power of Christ, fills us with His love, then gives us a mind of Christ.

Satan is the author of fear. He and his demons are masters of fear. Fear is the fuel he uses to pull us away from the power of God's love. Satan walks around on this earth looking for opportunities to deceive and destroy. We are called to be sober and awake because our enemy is ready and willing to devour us at the first opportunity – when he sees a believer submitting to fear. An older lion will get on one side of the prey and roar vociferously, producing fear in the prey and causing it to run toward the younger lions waiting in ambush to leap out and kill them. Satan uses the same technique! He roars to instill fear and then attacks. Without the submission to fear, our faith stays steadfast, and we can resist (1 Peter 5:8-9).

What reasons would you list for a marriage union to dissolve?

Is there ever any reason for our marriage union with Christ to dissolve? Please explain your answer.

Is there any sin that God cannot forgive? Please explain your answer using scriptures.

Is there any sin in a marriage that God cannot resolve? If yes, what scriptures support your answer?

VICTORY REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING

Satan is an enemy to be understood regarding the limited power God gave him to rule over the earth, but we are not to fear him. The only appropriate fear in life is the fear of God, two very different types of fear. One type builds respect and unity, and the other destroys it. Our victory over Satan is laid out in the scriptures. It is total and complete. When men apply by faith this victory, which is freely given to us by the Holy Spirit, we can overcome all temptations the enemy throws our way!

What is the will of Satan anyway? The enemy seeks to use three primary tools; the world, the flesh, and his demonic forces. The flesh tempts, the world offers illustrative examples of sin, and the demonic forces pull it together for the fall. He does not want you and me to hear the voice of the heavenly Father. He knows that when we hear God's voice, we are apt to submit to it. This is why he fills our heads with chaos and distractions. He doesn't care what distracts you; he just wants you to follow his voice and will. That is the ugly part of submitting to the temptations offered by our flesh; we are carrying out the will of Satan himself.

In **2 Corinthians 2:11**, the Lord tells us, *"so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes."* Ignorance is the key here. God wants us to be wise as serpents and gentle as doves in our view and understanding of the devil's schemes. So let us not be ignorant!

The day you asked Jesus into your life, you became what the bible describes as a "believer." The moment this happened, God put the Holy Spirit into your body. It is like a mother giving birth to her child, flesh of flesh. This is the same way our Spiritual re-birth takes place; Spirit gives birth to our newborn spirit. As Christians, we become reborn, regenerated, filled with the Holy Spirit, and sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise (Ephesians 1:13). Now, the point: neither Satan nor his evil forces can enter our lives -- not for a moment. We are sealed and sealed with a promise. And be reminded that God never breaks a promise.

A believer's soul, made up of his mind, will, and emotions, is in the process of being transformed on a day-to-day basis. Satan knows this, so he takes advantage of deceiving the mind and emotions to have the will submit to temporary slavery. We must grow in Christ for the enemy's activity to be resisted. If you and I believe a lie and take action upon that lie, we give Satan a foothold in that particular area of our lives. Picture a tabletop; each time we submit to one of his lies and take action on this lie, the enemy places one more object on the tabletop. If the believer continues a pattern of submission to the enemy, the tabletop becomes full of his objects after a while. The process I took you through these past days was removing these objects one at a time. Now that your tabletop is clear, you must keep it clear. Use the authority you have been given to keep the enemy away from your table. Believe me; he is coming back for another round!

To stay unconditionally free, stay in the habit of dispatching Jesus Christ's power in all your prayers and verbiage. The thoughts that torment your mind will cease, the feelings that overwhelmed you will be gone, and you will remain enslaved to Christ.

There is constant victory available to us through our authority in Jesus Christ. Use it as often as you need to. Stand in your new convictions and learn to lead others with this newfound freedom. You are a child of God who has been delivered from the domain of darkness and transferred into the Kingdom of Christ's light. Walk in the light, my dear friend!

The only way to break the cycle of lies that the enemy placed within our souls is to claim the Truth:

1. There is no marriage relationship with Christ that the Father cannot heal.
2. The primary purpose of our marriage to Christ is not to be happy but to glorify the Father and
reflect His redeeming love.
3. God uses the weaknesses of Christians to conform us to the original image He created us.
4. True love, God's love, is perfect and unconditional, and it never fails. We cannot love Christ in
our strength – God must do the loving through us.
5. Our marriage with Christ is a covenant. God is a covenant-keeping Father. He will never break His covenant based on our fear of intimacy.

6. God will always forgive us without limits. Only humans put limitations on forgiveness. Humans base their level of forgiveness on their level of pain.
7. Your faithfulness to the Father is the means of your spiritual healing. Healing requires faith, and faith demands action.
8. You cannot solve marital problems by putting another pair of shoes under the bed – thus, you cannot solve your spiritual problems by looking to other gods. The parallel is the same!!
9. God's grace, through your Groom, is enough for you to complete the work He is doing in you.
10. God the Father will never forsake you regardless of what you must endure here.
11. The rewards for your faithfulness to Christ and God the Father are not given here on earth – they are eternal.

God's Grace Is Sufficient:

And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is _____ in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9

The Blood Of Christ Is Sufficient:

But if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son _____ us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

Sin Shall Not Master You:

For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not _____ but under grace. Romans 6:14

Your Past Does Not Have To Haunt You:

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be _____; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such _____ some of you; but you were washed, but you were _____, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

You may have been an adulterer, a murderer, and an alcoholic, drug addict, abandoned as a child, sexually abused or been an abuser yourself. However, if you are a Christian, you are no longer, what you once were. You are a new Bridal Member of the Groom. You are not the same person. You have been cleansed by the blood of the Groom, set apart for His Holiness, and declared righteous in the eyes of the Father!

For the serious Patriarch: (Optional Reading)

Victory In Battle	Psalm 55:18	
Celebrated In Song	Judges 5	
Women In Victory	1 Samuel 18:6,7	
Victory For All	2 Samuel 1:20	
Great Tribulation	Revelation 7:14	
Victory Ringing Out	2 Samuel 22	

The Principled Patriarch

Lesson 30

A Patriarchs Conclusion

YOU ARE A VICTOR

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen." Jude 24-25

You are a victor in Christ Jesus! Don't ever forget this. The enemy will do all he can to have you consider this to be *just another study*. God has done mighty work in your heart and life. You are blameless in Christ, and you should embrace this Truth with great joy. Give God all the glory, majesty, dominion over your life, and authority to rule you daily. When you know the Truth, the Truth will set you free.

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass." **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

It is my daily prayer that God will give you His peace each day. I ask the Lord to sanctify you in every area of your life. I hope your spirit, soul, and body will be complete and without blame until Jesus comes to greet us in His second coming. God is faithful in calling you to daily repentance and Godly living. He will bring all of your struggles with the temptation to pass. This is a promise and commitment to you by the only living God.

"Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen." **Hebrews 13:20-21**

The Lord's covenant (promise) with you comes through the seal of the blood of the eternal covenant of Jesus Christ. Because of this seal, He has equipped and empowered you to accomplish His will in your life. When you rest in the reality that God does this work through you, through the Holy Spirit that resides in you, He will be well pleased with all the efforts you apply in the Spirit. This promise, written in blood, will "seal the deal" in your warfare activities. We may be sheep, but He is the Lion of Judah!

"Now to Him who can do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him is the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen." **Ephesians 3:20-21**

I trust that you will dedicate all of your efforts to the One who can do for you more than you could ask or even think about asking. Your resources are limitless in Christ Jesus. Never fall into the trap of thinking God does not care about the *small* and *insignificant* things in your life. He not only cares about the small things, but He also reveals to us that He will entrust much to us who are faithful in the small things (Luke 16:10).

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." **Philippians 4:23**

I pray that God's grace (unmerited favor) will be poured out on your spirit for daily living. As Satan tries to condemn you with feelings of guilt and condemnation, know that God's grace is never going to change – no matter what you choose to do in walking after the flesh. Condemnation may be one of the major tools the enemy uses to keep you from walking in your victory, but God's grace sustains you to face the lie and walk in what is true about you.

"Take heed to the ministry you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it." **Colossians 4:17**

God is not just interested in *setting you free* from the deeds of your flesh; He wants you to step into the ministry that He has called you to fulfill. That doesn't mean you have to quit your "job," but it certainly means that He wants to use your "job" to accomplish His mission for you and those around you. Consider praying about how God would want you to spread the Word of the gospel in your daily living. It could mean going into *full-time ministry*, or it could mean discipling men one-on-one, teaching Sunday school class, giving your testimony publicly, helping with a ministry you have come to love, or simply ministering to your family. Whatever it is, He wants you to fulfill it.

If you need help locating your calling, get with an experienced discipler (biblical counselor) to aid you in discovering how you can give the life of Christ away in your daily living. This element of healing is critical for your ongoing growth as a believer.

"Diligently help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way so that nothing is lacking for them. Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs so they will not be unfruitful." **Titus 3:13-14**

One of the easiest and most beneficial ways of reaching out to others in need is helping other ministry leaders accomplish the work to which God has called them. Find out their pressing needs, then give time, effort, money, material possessions, skills, or whatever you have to offer. This way, the people and ministries you believe in can be fruitful and multiply the works of God. You and I must engage in good deeds to meet the pressing needs of God's ministry.

"Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!" **2 Thessalonians 3:16**

As God allows circumstances to flood your world, cling to the peace that will surpass all of your understanding. You will find that this kind of peace will guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus. He has already promised you He will be with you through it all; therefore, press on to the mark of excellence. Don't look behind; fix your eyes on Jesus, and He will direct you in all of your plans.

"Guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called 'knowledge'-- which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. Grace be with you." **1 Timothy 6:20-21**

God wants you to put up a shield (guard) around the persons, places, and things He has entrusted to you, remembering that your shield is faith, and faith without works is dead (James 2:22). Apply what you have learned and do not slip back into worldly discussions and arguments that are falsely called "knowledge." These friends or strangers claim to be wise in their own eyes, but their debating and wrangling of words have caused them to go astray from the faith. Avoid such men!

"But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth." **2 Timothy 4:17**

Jesus Christ's mission is to stand with you and strengthen you in all of your ways. He wants you to proclaim all He has shown you to others. This is how He accomplishes His divine will for mankind. He wants all men to hear and experience the freedom they have been given. You were rescued; now help others be rescued!

"Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, since I know that you will do even more than what I say." **Philemon 1:21**

Take great confidence in what God has done for you. Your obedience to complete this and other studies of the Lord are for a divine purpose. Many of you will accomplish far more than I have as a servant of the Lord. One of the greatest privileges of being a minister is watching others embrace truth and carrying it far beyond the measurement initially given to the teacher.

"My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins." **James 5:19-20**

FROM THE AUTHOR: *I hope we have been able to cover a multitude of truths regarding your role as patriarch. I trust this study has brought you into a more dynamic relationship with Christ. This study does not offer a lifetime guarantee from falling into the pit of emasculation. Christ, Himself doesn't even offer that. He warns us of suffering as He has suffered to learn obedience as a patriarch (1 Peter 2:19; 5:9; Acts 9:16; Romans 8:17). God is more interested in what we do with our role as patriarchs. If we embrace the*

truth that all things work together for good, we will not consider it strange when the enemy brings temptations and attacks our way.

Most stories of victory are birthed from pain, struggle, and perseverance. Your story is probably no different. I hope that your story is His story in the making.

Thank you for going through this study, and I pray that your walk with the Groom is rich, free, and full. Please contact me for special counsel or if you have any questions. I will attempt to answer them personally – Stephen Phinney | drphinney@IOMAmerica.org

REAL MEN REJECT PASSIVITY

“A real man rejects passivity. Real manhood begins with a decision to reject social and spiritual passivity at a time when doing nothing is the more comfortable and natural option.” Robert Lewis, *Raising a Modern-Day Knight*†

Understanding Our Actions

As men, we need to understand and know the purpose of our activities. This purpose determines our effectiveness. The success of a chosen task depends on four components:

1. Knowing the target
2. Understanding our weaknesses in “hitting” the target
3. Planning creative solutions to “hit” the target
4. Implement these steps to “hit” the target

Our Target

Our target is to reach the hearts of spiritual, adoptive & natural fathers, helping each man understand who they are in Christ, who they are as men, and who they are as ordained leaders of their homes and communities.

THE WEAKNESS

Most dads in our culture are independent, fragmented, indulgent, and devoid of spiritual purpose. Our challenge is to “convince” dads they need a personal relationship with Christ, their wives, other men, and their children. †

Our Mission

The overall mission of this workbook is to show men the practical details of how to be mentored as men and mentor the children of this generation.

Seven Core Values

1. Compassion

- Each man is to radiate the attitude of compassion toward children.
- Children are drawn to people of compassion – if it is not you, it will be someone else.
- Compassion comes from God's love, and passion comes from self-love.
- No matter how stubborn a child might be, they cannot resist someone loving them. †

Second Core Value

2. Care

- Caring is the action of compassion.
- Caring demonstrates love, acceptance & forgiveness.
- A selfish dad cannot care for a child without wanting something in return.
- True caring is Christ caring through the dad.
- The act of caring starts with demonstrating unconditional love to their children. †

Third Core Value

3. Church

- The church is the functioning agent to reach the lost or "wayward" children.
- Children need to be connected to the body of Christ.
- The same thing is true for dads who are out in the world functioning as independents.
- Dads need to be connected to other men for personal growth. †

Forth Core Value

4. Correction

- Correction is the act of making a crooked path straight.
- The act of correction does not force a child to change; it leads the child to repentance through fatherly kindness.
- Many dads interrupt correction as confrontation – using the law to change their children's hearts.
- The law arouses more rebellion – Romans 7:5
- True correction is done with love, joy, patience, peace, gentleness, self-control, faithfulness, and kindness.

Fifth Core Value

5. Commitment

- Commitment is the action of fulfilling your word.
- Being committed requires courage, determination, and perseverance even when the dad does not “feel” like it.
- These qualities are not duplicated; they must be manifested through the Holy Spirit that lives inside the dad.
- Children need to see commitment modeled before they will entrust their lives to a father. †

Sixth Core Value

6. Celebration

- Celebration is the act of worship and prayerful thanksgiving.
- Once a dad becomes comfortable and secure in their relationship with their children, they will begin to develop an attitude of thanksgiving.
- When children see their dads openly worship God, they see a vulnerable and dependent dad.
- The attitude and actions children see their dads directing toward God are the same attitudes and actions the children will display toward their dads.

Seventh Core Value

7. Community

- Community is the demonstration of unity between a dad and his family – for the family is the dad’s first and primary community.
- Children act and care for the community the way the father cares for the home.
- There are four layers of community:
 - Home Community
 - Local Church Community
 - The Body of Christ Community - Worldwide
 - Outer Community – City, State & Nation

Mentorship – Fact or Fiction

Mentoring is a relational process of men with experiential wisdom that is transferable to another man. Men are willing to transfer their wisdom, information, experience, confidence, insight, relationships, influence, and contacts to a mentoree, at an

appropriate time and manner to facilitate growth and development in the one they are attempting to empower. †

Characteristics of a Mentor

- Knows what the mentoree needs as a man.
- Can cultivate relationships.
- Is willing to take a chance with a mentoree.
- Is respected by the body of Christ.
- Has a network of resources.
- Is consulted by others.
- Can talk and listen.
- Has a consistent lifestyle of honor & respect.
- Can diagnose the needs of the mentoree.
- Is concerned with the interest of the mentoree.

Responsibilities of a Mentor

The mentor . . .

- A mentor is a source of information & wisdom.
- Empowers with specific skills & actions.
- Offers counsel & feedback.
- Coaches the mentoree in daily living.
- Acts as a sounding board for new ideas.
- A mentor is someone to “run” to for help.
- Aids the mentoree devise and implement a plan.
- Points out interesting facts in the mentoree's journey.

Characteristics of a Mentoree

To be a protégé of a mentor, you need:

- To be willing to submit to authority.
- Goal-oriented.
- Seeking new challenges.
- Willing to take the initiative to change.
- Eager to learn & embrace the truth about yourself.
- Willing to accept personal responsibility for your successes and failures. †

The Dad and His Mentors

- All dads need other men to guide and direct them in all of their ways.
- If a dad surrounds himself with other men who can keep him focused and directed in their father, they will be able to multiply their efforts exponentially.
- Consider embracing five mentors:
- Ministry Mentor
- Business Mentor
- Personal Mentor
- Leadership Mentor
- Friend Mentor

The Five Mentors of a Dad

Finding Your Mentors

As you seek your mentors, remember that they should meet your needs in a give-and-take relationship and be willing to risk their time and expertise for your development. Look for these qualifications:

- Faithfulness
- Honesty
- Humility
- Godliness
- Ambition
- Self-confidence
- Patience

“Boys tend to be emotionally involved with their fathers as role models, even though they may spend more time with their mothers, sisters, and peers. Boys look to their fathers for cues as to how to act out their male roles, and specifically, later on, their roles as fathers.”

1. Faithfulness
2. Honesty
3. Humility
4. Godliness
5. Ambition
6. Self-confidence
7. Patience
8. Service
9. Drive
10. Practicality

11. Self-control
12. Leadership
13. Professionalism
14. Wise

Your Child as the Protégé

Critical note: A Dad cannot be an effective mentor unless he is being mentored effectively.

1. Helping the child find their identity in Christ.
2. Assisting the child in discovering God's life plan for their lives.
3. Assisting the child in discovering their spiritual gifts.
4. Demonstrating the Biblical relationship between God the Father and a child.
5. Assisting them in reconciling conflicts.
6. Establishing and building a relationship with your child that is loyal, faithful, intimate, and forgiving.

Mentoring Your Child

The following is a job description of a dad who mentors their children:

1. Guide – directing the child in the way they should go.
2. Example – modeling character for the child.
3. Trainer – shaping the child's skills.
4. Father – nurturing the child.
5. Teacher – instructing the child for daily living.
6. Tutor – assisting the child in learning.
7. Counselor – ministering to the needs of the child.
8. Leader – leading the child in the way, the truth, and the life.

Sensational Seven

There are SEVEN things you can do to preserve FATHERHOOD with your children:

1. Protection – the father, the warrior
2. Conversation – the father of conversion
3. Affection – the father who affects their children
4. Discipline – the father as a discipler
5. Laughter – the father of joy
6. Faith – the father, a child of the FATHER

7. Conduct – the father of moral guidance

Time with Your Children

Mentoring your children can not occur unless you dedicate uninterrupted time, effort, and resources.

Consider the following suggestions:

- Read the scriptures to your children.
- Pray with your child - specifics.
- Conduct family bible studies.
- Have “date nights” with each child.
- Get involved in their lives.
- Conduct family “table talk.”
- Bring them with you to work/.
- Share your failures and challenges – ask for their advice.
- Share with your children what you are learning from your mentors.
- Treat their mother with honor, dignity, and purpose.

Suppose you maintain a dynamic Father/son relationship with your Heavenly Father and commit yourself to a handful of faithful mentors. In that case, the Lord promises you a life filled with Faithful Fatherhood. And because of God’s mercy and grace, you will move ahead to be a successful father, husband, friend, and spiritual mentor - always knowing your Heavenly Father is your greatest support, guide, and healing agent!

Now, go forth and be a father to the fatherless!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:



Dr. Phinney is the Founder and Ministry Host of the Institute of Ministry (IOM America), Identity Matters Worldview Institute, and the IM Online Worldview School.

Stephen and Jane have been married for over 45 years and have three grown children: Abigail, Elizabeth, and Jessica. Jane and Steve have also been blessed with ten grandchildren. They are dedicated to the institution of marriage, multigenerational family development, local multigenerational family church development, and advancing the believer's identity in Christ globally. Dr. Phinney is a local church pastor, XL-Church, a fellowship that focuses on the believer's indwelling union in Christ.

Stephen has authored multiple books/teaching series on spiritual growth and has published a plethora of articles/booklets assisting others in obtaining a Transformational Biblical Worldview. Visit, IOMAmerica.net

Even though he does NOT put much stock in these degrees, he holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, a Master's in Counseling Psychology, and a Doctorate in Ministry.

His Vision

Christ, Culture, and Creator. Compassion in Action. Helping members of the body of Christ to experience, mature, and effectively communicate the message of identification with Christ in His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension in the believer's various spheres of influence.

He confesses that worldview is birthed through personal identity! Therefore, his readers must understand who they are in Christ before leading another in such a discovery. He aims to integrate the identification of truths into all aspects of ministry communication. His experience is that if any ministry or its workers focus on worldview issues before they gain an experiential understanding of the power of the Cross, they could lead the Church away from the Truth that should set them free.

Because Jesus is Truth, his ministry diverts all students away from using Biblical truths to perpetuate the wisdom of Christ to those who don't necessarily claim His indwelling Life. Most Christian worldview institutions systematically explain the basic concepts of His Truth, existence, reality, and freedom but shy away from the Supremacy of His indwelling promise - living through the believer. Dr. Phinney avoids this modality at all costs.

My Back Story

Even though there are thousands of teachers, preachers, and workers of the Cross that God used to move the message of Christ in you forward – today, few remain focused on such teachings. This demise inflamed my passion for advancing the message of the believer's shared co-death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Christ.

"I wish you dead!"

However, I didn't hear those words spoken until the Lord moved me into the teaching world of eschatology. Since the end times talk is filled with condemnation and judgment for the fake Christians and the haters of God, this ministry focus activated persecution I've never experienced before.

While I am accustomed to generalized persecution, you know, those who despise what you are teaching and let you know of their opinion. Although, when someone or a group wishes you dead, it takes it to a new level.

I can't tell you how many times I have wept at my desk, asking the Lord the question, why me? As selfish as that sounds, the why me is related to why the Lord selected me to say the things that tend to offend the Christian masses – as in the case of fake Christians who follow Christ vs. those authentic ones who He indwells. At three in the morning on a given day, He answered me. "You are a son of thunder. I created you to fulfill a mission to assist in separating the goats from the sheep. I have called you to front the Church of Laodicea."

Being a prophet is no fun. For being the most coveted position stated in the Bible, the cost of such a gift, humanly speaking, is daunting. Can you imagine having people stand before you rattling off the rhetoric of Christianity and having the ability to look into their souls and see the lies that fill their minds? Worse yet, speaking out on what you see? Honestly, this is when the gift "feels" like a curse. Minimally, it leaves God's people with this gift friendless.

From Coward to Son of Thunder

I grew up in what the world classifies as a "dysfunctional home." My father was the son of a great man of God - a preacher who was used to reform the Quaker and Friends church branches. Rumor has it that my father was named after my grandfather's role model, Charles Finney. Because of growing up in a spiritual environment that was ever so public, my father decided to go in the opposite direction of his calling. Because of

this, my father did not allow Christianity to be discussed in our home. Overall, bitterness and fear ruled our household.

My childhood was plagued with illnesses. I was born with allergies that affected most areas of my life. Due to these weaknesses, school attendance did not become regular until my high school years. As a result, I did not know how to read or write until I married my wife. Thus, most of my rejection issues were related to education. However, once I learned to read & write, a new world opened up.

I received Jesus Christ into my life at 16 years of age. It was a "radical" conversion and transformation. However, while I accepted Christ died on the Cross for me, I was not told I died with Him. This led to a performance-based Christian life.

In the mid-'70s, I found myself in a state of unrest. I knew I was born-again and served the Lord the best I knew how. I shared the Word of God and led others to Christ. I was active in church outreach, but there remained a yearning, a spiritual thirst for a deeper walk with Christ. I desired a life of victory and triumph rather than fear and performance - knowing what I was living wasn't enough. I found the classic message of the Church to be dry as bones. I intuitively knew there had to be a better way of living.

While working as a residential care worker in Iowa, a friend & coworker placed a book on my desk that he obtained from his sister while visiting Denver - The Handbook to Happiness by Dr. Charles Solomon. Seeing the graphics on the cover created a "wanting" to read it, but I had a problem - I was functionally illiterate. I was 21 years of age and faking my way through life. After confessing my problem to my wife, she began teaching me how to read using God's Word. At this point in my walk, God introduced me to Dr. Charles Solomon, who was soon to become my spiritual father and mentor for life. Knowing that this "exchanged life" book contained my answer, I pressed on to find a way to read the book. Amazingly, this book became the first book I read from cover to cover. Little did I realize how Christ would use Chuck's book to change my life and the course of my ministry! I embraced the truths of the Exchanged Life. Shortly after this revelation, in 1981, I packed up my family, moved to Denver, and became an intern within Dr. Solomon's training program. This adventure started a father/son relationship until Dr. Solomon's death.

After consulting with Dr. Solomon, he encouraged me to start a non-profit in Colorado Springs that focused on the message of the Exchanged-Life. In 1986, we started Release Ministries - now IOM America. We developed and established a training and counseling center that serviced the community with a special emphasis on ministering to the Navigators and Compassion International staff. During this time, I met my second mentor, Lorne Sanny - former President of Navigators, now with the Lord. Through my relationship with Lorne, I refined my leadership & visionary skills.

Soon these skills were required of me. During the late '90s, after moving our ministry to Arizona, I served as an advisor to multiple politicians. During my advisory position with the state, God gave me a plan to establish a new branch of government called The Faith-Based Initiative. This plan was the basis for my doctorate dissertation at Phoenix University of Theology. To my surprise, this plan was embraced by leaders throughout the United States, modestly in Uganda, ultimately leading to a 5-year collaborative relationship with the White House. Even though I was warned and prepared, God used the dysfunction of American politics to call me back to my roots. I resigned from my position in politics and began to re-establish IOM America.

Once returning to my life calling – uniting Exchanged Life workers, IOM America became dedicated to Christ-as-Life discipleship, conferences & Worldview Center development. We continue to help members of the body of Christ to experience, mature in, and effectively communicate the message of identification with Christ in His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension.

During this time, God reminded me that the plan He gave me for my doctoral studies was not meant for the government but for His Church. After years of ministering the Exchanged Life, God opened the door to kindle my vision afresh to unite workers of the Cross. With permission from the White House to reconstruct the Faith-based Initiative for our use, in June of 2010, we were released to go to work. Today, the Christ as Life Global Commission started as the Exchanged Life Global Initiative. Our overall mission is to unite prophets, teachers, and preachers in sharing the message of Christ in you. The practical advantage is developing a website that will host books, articles, videos, and other forms of media that advance the doctrines of Christ working THROUGH the authentic believer.

Son of Thunder, Step Forward.

Much later in my life, the Lord brought to my attention the importance of eschatology and the indwelling Life of Christ. This led to years of studying cultural issues that have infiltrated the Church. My emphasis shifted to Christ, Culture, and Creator by blending prophetic end-times doctrines and modern movements. A vision we advance to this day. However, this is when the nominal, typical persecution is elevated to intense or severe. I quickly discovered that the Christian masses despise the talk of the end times. I concluded that the "Grace Movement" spoiled the people who believed in God so much that the talk of condemnation, judgment, and fake Christianity became the most resistive theology of modern times. In this, I realized why the Lord is calling all sons of thunder to rise to the surface of the end times.

Since our initiative's early years, I have come to embrace that the full Gospel includes the Grace of God AND His judgments. While I have come to accept who I am in Christ, my challenge to accept my calling is far more challenging. I am sure I will have many more days of resisting my calling; I know one thing: to cement who I am in Him, functioning in the center of what I am called to do.

Thank you for reading this "extended version" of my personal and professional timeline. I believe it is important, if not critical, to know the pathway of the Cross for leaders you choose to serve or assist. Bless you.

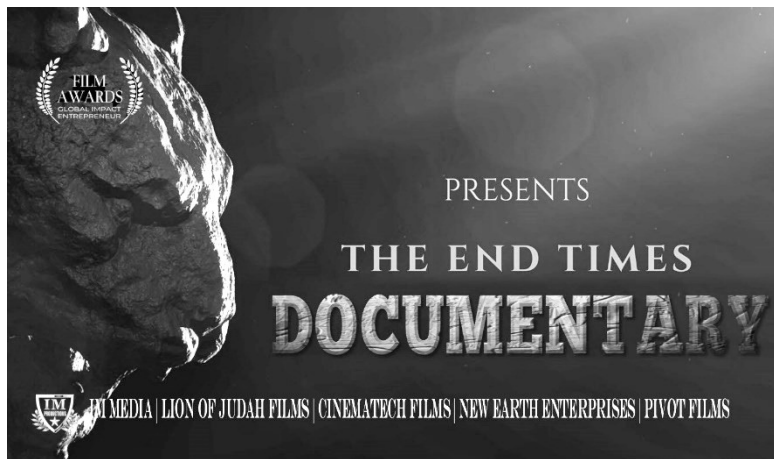
So now, let's get busy advancing the Life of Christ in our Lord's eschatological prophecies and warnings. Time is running out. The Rapture is approaching us, and our time is precious in proclaiming the Day of our Lord.

FURTHER READING & VIEWING:

All are located at **IOMAmerica.net**

- IOM Research Publications
- Dr. Phinney's published books
- Weekly published online articles
- IM Blog Spot. Host to multiple authors
- Dr. Phinney's Eschatology Series
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