

Fathers: The Point Man of the

Family Part 22 Timothy 2Guided Growth with Pastor Keith@ CBC June 23rd

The Bible often describes life in terms of a spiritual warfare. As Christians, we are in enemy territory (2 Cor 4:4; Eph. 2:1-3; 6:10-18; James 4:4; 1 Jn 2:15,16; 5:19; Phil 2:15) on mission for our King and Commander in Chief. (Col. 1:13; Phil. 2:13-16; 1 Peter 2:9) God has commissioned the Father to act as the "Point Man" in the spiritual battle for the hearts and souls of his family "unit".

How do we succeed in our God given mission to safely lead our family "units" safely through this hostile world?

- Accept your Responsibility! (To Lead {Eph. 5:23} and Love {Eph. 5:25})
- Know your Enemy. Eph. 6:12 "For we wrestle ... but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."
 - By Getting equipped by developing the qualities necessary to safely

and successfully lead your family.

Below are some of the suggestions I received this week from some of you about what the "P" in Point man might be.

- 1. Prayerful. Luke 18:1 "men ought always to pray, and not to faint" (ekkake'ō: weak, quit, fail.) Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."
- 2. Provider 1 Tim 5:8 "if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."
- **3. Protector** Mt. 12:29 "first bind the strong man, and then he will spoil his house". 1 Pt 3:7 "husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor to the wife, as unto the weaker..."

4. Patient James 1:19-20 "let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

5. Perseverance Ro. 12:11,12 "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation"

1 Cor 13:7 (love) "Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

2 Tim. 2:3 "Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ..."

- 6. Partner 1 Pt 3:7 "giving honor unto the wife, ... and as being heirs together of the grace of life;"
- 7. Patterned after Jesus Eph. 5:25,28 "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it...So ought men to love their wives"

8. Perceptive. The Term "Bishop" in the NT is Episkopē'. From Epi: after or over

and skopos: to inspect or look. (to look out for or look after) That's the part of the Pastor's Job! *"feed the flock of God..., taking the oversight thereof"* 1 Peter 5:2; Acts 20:28

It's also the Father's Job!

A. What should the point man "look out for?

- 1) Danger from your surroundings. 2 Tim. 2:22 "that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."
 - a) Military uses special equipment to "Identify Friends or Foes" (IFF system)
 What if it fails to work? What if we just "ignore" it? (See Mt. 7:15)
- 2) Distractions 2 Tim. 2:4 "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier"

Mk 4:19 "the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke (sympnig'o: crowd, strangle) the word, (and the relationship) and it becometh unfruitful."

3) The condition of your (family) Unit. Proverbs 27:23 "Be thou diligent (yada) to know (yada) the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds."

Know the condition of those under your care!

(Strengths, Weaknesses, Abilities & Vulnerabilities) (See Heb. 3:12,13; 10:23-25)

1 Peter 3:7 "husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge giving honor... as not the weaker vessel"

> What happens if you push your unit beyond their ability? (1 Tim. 6:3)

4) Of your enemy. (An awareness of the tactics used by the enemy.)

1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant because your adversary the devil...seeks whom he can devour..."

2 Cor 2:11 'Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

Rev 12:12 "Woe to the inhabitants of the earth! For the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knows that he hath but a short time."

Conclusion:

Isaiah 21:6, 11,12; Ezek. 3:17-19; 33:1-9 all speak of God appointing watchman.

Ez. 33:7 "So thou, son of man, I have set thee a watchman; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me."

Application:

1) Watchmen, Where are you most vulnerable? (1 Cor. 11:28) Prayerful? ____ Providing? ____ Protecting? ____

Patient? ____ Persevering? ____ Partnering with your spouse? ____

Patterning your life after Christ? _____Perceptive? _____

2) Will you purpose to partner with God and your family to prepare?

2 Tim. 2 opens with a call for men to be strong and protect their families (and churches) from Spiritual attacks, and closes with the reality of people becoming snared by the Devil.

In Ezek. 30:20 God says: "I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none!"

Will He find one in you?