

## 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?