

Fathers: The Point Man of the Family Part 5 2 Timothy 2

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith

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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
- > Develop the qualities necessary to successfully lead your family.
- P: Prayerful, Provider, Protector, Patient, Persevering, Partner, Patterned after Jesus, Perceptive.
- 0: Observant, Open, Optimistic (courageous), Obedient (to God), Objective (Mission Minded!)
- I: Inspires (by being) Intentional, Involved, Interested, (takes) Initiative, Intimate, Models Integrity

N: Nerve (courage) and Noble

1. Nerve Joshua 1

"Steadiness, courage, and a sense of purpose when facing a demanding situation."

- A. The "Demanding Situation" Joshua 1:2 "Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to the children of Israel."
 - 1) Joshua had been here 40 years earlier. Num. 13:31:33
 - 2) Even God said the giant's "height was like cedars" Amos 4:9
- B. "A Sense of Purpose" Joshua 1:5-6 "For unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them."
 - 1) He would lead Israel into the Promised land, hus fulfilling God's Promise!
 - 2) Of course, this would involve many battles.
- C. "Steadiness, courage." Joshua 1:5,7 "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee...Be strong and of a good courage: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee! I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law,..."
 - 1) Based on his *Readiness* to obey the directions of His Commander. Joshua 1:8
 - 2) Based on the quality of his <u>Relationship</u> to his Commander. Joshua 1:9

Nerve involves Endurance, Courage and Self (<u>God</u>) Control!

- ➤ It takes NERVE (courage) to follow God. (Particularly into demanding situations.)
- It takes NERVE (courage) to lead others.
- > God gives NERVE (courage) to those who will trust and obey him. Isaiah 40:29-31 "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength."

2. Noble

- A. Position: "Belonging to a hereditary class with high status; aristocratic." (High or Noble Born!)
- Ro. 8:16,17 "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."
- 1 Peter 2:9 "ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; (Peripoi'ēsis: A Purchased, Priceless, and Preserved, Possession.) that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God..."
- B. Principled: "having or showing fine personal qualities or high moral principles and ideals." (High or Noble Character!)
- Eph 4:1 "Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called...22 put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."
- Col 3:1-2 "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth...
 - 5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, (worthless lusts) and covetousness, which is idolatry...:"

Application: To live Nobly and with Nerve we must...

- 1) Learn to say "No!" 2 Tim. 2:4 "No man that warreth entangleth himself"
 - a) To Temptation/Distraction. (Heb. 12:1,2)
 - > Sometimes from others. (Pr. 1:10-19; 29:24,25)
 - ➤ Ultimately from ourselves! (James 1:12-16; 4:1)
- 2) Learn to live in the "Now!" (Phil. 3:13-14) "I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."
- a) Satan is "the accuser" (Katēgore'ō: Plaintiff) Satan means "Slanderer" or "accuser". Rev 12:10,11 "Now is come salvation, strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night." (Job 1)
- b) Jesus is our "advocate". 1 Jn. 2:1-2 and Rev 12:11 "And they overcame him by > "the blood of the Lamb, (Christ See Ro. 8:37-39)
 - > and by the word of their testimony" (martyri'a: evidence of a cleansed/changed conduct! (Eph. 5:8; 1 Jn 1:9) We need to stop giving Satan so much ammunition against us! (Job 1:8) and they loved not their lives unto the death."

Commitment to Christ and their commission! (2 Ti. 2:3,4)

These all produce: "Fear thou not; for I

Am with thee: be not dismayed; for

<u>I</u> am thy God: I will strengthen <u>T</u>hee; yea, I will

Help thee;

yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:10