



# Fathers: The Point Man of the Family Pt 6

Eph. 6:10-18

*Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC July 28<sup>st</sup>*

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.*

*O: 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 in calling and character.*

## **T: Trustworthy: worthy of confidence, dependable.**

Pr. 20:6-7 *“Most will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?  
7 The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.”*

(They can depend on and follow his footsteps with Confidence!)

### **Characteristics that cultivate Confidence:**

#### **1. Truthfulness.**

A. Dishonesty is devilish! John 8:44 *“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”*

Pr 25:19 *“Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.”*

#### **2. Trusting (God and Others)**

A. God’s Nature and Word is truth. 1 Jn 1:5-7 *“God is light, (phos: to manifest {true}) and in him is no darkness (skoti’a: obscurity, confusion, deceit) at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, (truth) as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”*

1. The closer we are to God, (aka: Trust and Obey)

a) The more we can recognize / respond to the truth.

b) This gives confidence (clarity) to us and to those who follow us. Pr. 4:18 *“But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.”* (See also Pr. 3:5,6)

**The converse is also true!**

2) The further we are from God,

a) The less we’re able to recognize / respond to truth.

b) This breeds insecurity in those that follow us. (Pr. 4:19; Mt. 15:14)

#### **B. Since our (human) natures aren’t always trustworthy:**

1) We need to cultivate “Grace and truth”. (Jn. 1:14)

*God’s Grace Reveals God’s Truth and Enables us to Respond to it!*

2) Trusting others trains us by helping us to:

a) Recognize how God deals with us. Philippians 1:6

- b) Allows us to be instruments of His Grace, Helping others to know Him and Grow.  
2 Pt 3:18 *"Grow in Grace and knowledge of our Lord."*

3. Teachable. Mt. 28:20 *"Teaching them to observe (guard, value) all things whatsoever I have commanded you."*

2 Tim. 2:2 *"the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."*

A. Life's most important battles are being fought by men who are inadequately trained.

- 1) No wonder the casualty rate is so very high. Hosea 4:6 *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected (ma-as': spurned {for lack of interest /value}) knowledge, I will also reject thee! seeing thou hast forgotten (Shākah: been oblivious of) the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."*

2 Tim 2:15 *"Study to show thyself approved unto God..."*

- 2) If we devoted as much energy to our skills at work as we do developing our skills at home, how would it affect our job performance/advancement?

We cannot lead others where we're not willing to ourselves go! (Phil. 3:17-19)

B. Most professional jobs require Continuing Education.

- 1) So does being a Husband and Father!

- 2) God's plan involves on the job training:

- a) In the home (Deut 6:4-7) *"these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."*

- b) In the church. (2 Tim. 2; Titus 2)

## Conclusion:

Dads you are training your sons to be husbands and fathers. (Pr 17:6)

*"Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers."*

Moms, you are training your daughters to be wives and mothers!

Ezek. 16:44 *"As is the mother, so is her daughter."*

## Who's training you?

We need to remember that one day, our children will follow our examples, instead of our advice.

**Application:** 1 Cor 4:2 *"Moreover it is required in stewards,*

*(Oikonom'os: literally a house/home manager)*

*that a man be found faithful."*

*(Pistos: Trustworthy: worthy of confidence: dependable)*

- Can your family (friends) depend on you to safely guide them toward Good and God?
- Can your God depend on you to carry out His orders?

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day;  
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way.  
The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear,  
Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear;  
The best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds,  
For to see good put in action is what everybody needs.

I soon can learn to do it if you'll let me see it done;  
I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run.  
And the lecture you deliver may be very wise and true,  
But I'd rather get my lessons by observing what you do;  
For I might misunderstand you and the high advice you give,  
But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live.

When I see a deed of kindness, I am eager to be kind.  
When a weaker brother stumbles and a strong man stays behind  
Just to see if he can help him, then the wish grows strong in me  
To become as big and thoughtful as I know that friend to be.  
And all travelers can witness that the best of guides today  
Is not the one who tells them, but the one who shows the way.

One good man teaches many, men believe what they behold;  
One deed of kindness noticed is worth forty that are told.  
Who stands with men of honor learns to hold his honor dear,  
For right living speaks a language which to every one is clear.  
Though an able speaker charms me with his eloquence, I say,  
I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one, any day.

Edgar Guest