



God's Point men Pt 8 Available Eph. 6:10-18

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Aug. 11th

God has commissioned the Father to act as the "Point Man" in the spiritual battle for the hearts and souls of his family "unit".

To succeed we must: Accept your Responsibility (*to lovingly lead Eph. 5:23-25*); know your Enemy (Eph. 6:12) and Get equipped for the challenge. (Eph. 6:10-18) Tim 2:1-3 *"be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also....Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."*

A good "Point Man" must be:

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: By becoming Truthful, Trusting, and Teachable.

M: Mentor: (Mature, Motivated, Mannered)

A: AVAILABLE The greatest ability is Availability! (1 Cor 13)

When the father/husband/wife/mother is (spiritually, physically, emotionally) unavailable, it sets in motion a predictable sequence that includes: *Fearing abandonment; Fearing genuine attachment and intimacy; Crave (male) attention/approval; Assumes blame; Cling to relationships (even unhealthy ones); Overcompensating (Perfectionism)*

We need to be available in order to:

1. Be Aware "Concerned, well informed." Pr. 27:23,24

"Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds."

A. You are the shepherd of your family! Heb. 13:17

"...they watch for your souls, as they that must give account..."

B. What should we be aware of?

1) Their strengths & struggles! Jn 10:14-15 *"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep..."*

2) The dangers to our families! 1 Pt. 5:8 *"Be sober, be vigilant because your adversary the devil, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. Whom steadfastly resist in the faith..."*

Jesus models this for us as well! Jn 10:14-15 *"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine....and I lay down my life for the sheep."*

If necessary, would you sacrifice your life in order to save your family?

If so, then is it unreasonable to occasionally sacrifice your time & attention for them?

2. Appreciate "Recognize the full worth of"

A. Their "value" or full worth.

1) Paul often affirmed others who blessed him.

a) For their "corporate" value. (1 Cor 16:15-18) *"ye know the house of Stephanas, ... that they have addicted themselves (Tassō: arranged, prioritized) to the ministry of the saints..."*

b) And their personal value. Vs 18 *"For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: therefore acknowledge ye them that are such."*

Has anyone ever "refreshed your spirit?" See Phil. 4:15-19 *How did you respond?

B. Their perspective.

- 1) While the point man may be the Leader, He's still limited!
 - a) He can't see (or do) everything!
 - b) We need each other! 1 Cor. 12:12-27

Together Everyone Accomplishes More! (Eccl. 4:9-12)

3. Affirm “To Assert strongly and publicly; Offer emotional support/encouragement”

A. Affirmation is appreciation expressed! Ro. 12:10 “*Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another;*”

Ro 13:7 “*Render therefore to all their dues: ...honor to whom honor.*” (See also 1 Cor. 12:23,24)

B. The lack of affirmation can produce Emotional Deprivation Disorder:

- 1) An arrested (stunted) emotional development
- 2) Insecurity
- 3) Inferiority/inadequacy

Conclusion:

It doesn't matter how “able” you are, if you're not Avail-able!

(Avail: “to be helpful, beneficial”) Aware, Appreciative, Affirming

Of those God has called us to partner with.

Gal 6:9-10 “*And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*”

Application:

Eph 5:15-17 “*See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.*”

- 1) We never know how much time we have left. Jms 4:14
- 2) We must maximize the time God has given us. Ps 90:12 *“So teach us to number our days,”*
- 3) Quality time can't really be scheduled. It comes spontaneously out of Quantity time.
- 4) The Greek root word for honor is τιμή (TIME) “to value or pay a price.”

Are you willing to pay the price necessary in order to become available

(aware, appreciative, affirming)

➤ To and for your family?

➤ To and for your God? Ezek. 22:30

“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.”

(Since no one would become available)

31 *“Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads”*

Think of the Generational Impact if this trend doesn't change! Malachi 4:5-6

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.”

Will you step up and step in the gap?