

God's Pipeline To Tomorrow

Text : **Hebrews 12: 5-11 ; Deuteronomy 6: 4-9**

S#1.

A. Happy Father's Day ! (*One day a year dad gets honored and respected.*)

S#2.

1. The idea for Father's Day came to Sonora Smart Dodd's mind during Mother's Day in 1909.
 - a. Her father raised 6 children by himself after wife died in childbirth.
 - b. She thought men like him should be recognized like mothers.
2. President Nixon made Father's Day an official holiday in 1972.
 - a. First Father's Day observed on June 19 because it was William Smart's birthday.
 - b. Made the 3rd Sunday in June
3. The merchants celebrate Father's Day more than anyone else.
 - a. 4th most cards sent on Father's Day. (*33% less than Mother's Day*)
 - b. Most collect calls made on Father's Day, but average 4 min. longer than Mother's.

S#3.

B. Were it not for the merchants we would probably unite them into Parent's Day.

1. Honoring one's parents is a godly thing to do.
Eph. 6: 1-3 – Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), 3 so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.
2. Paul is restating the 5th commandment from the Law of Moses.
 - a. Right after loving and honoring God, we are commanded to honor our parents.
 - b. The respect of parents is related to our survival on the earth.
3. The health of the family structure is fundamental to all levels of society.
 - a. The product of unhealthy families is more unhealthy families.
 - b. The multiplying of unhealthy families produces an unhealthy nation. (*will fall*)

C. The strength of the church depends upon the strength of the families in it. **S#4.**

1. Religious or not, children develop their concept of God in the home.
2. Children learn their concept of authority in the home.
 - a. One's perception of the Heavenly Father is patterned after his earthly father.
 - b. If the father does not function as the head of his household, God is perceived as ..
 - c. If there are not clear boundaries and consequences for crossing them, ...
3. Children learn their concept of love at home.
 - a. Parents who are not loving parents will raise children who don't know how to love.
 - b. If the parents aren't devoted and faithful to each other, ... child to God.

S#5.

I. God's plan is for fathers to pass down His precepts through the generations.

S#6.

A. **Deut. 6: 6-7** – These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. **7** You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

1. God commands that we teach them diligently.
2. Definition of diligent :
 - a. Sitting around the house
 - b. Driving in the car
 - c. At bedtime
 - d. At breakfast *Make it a clear priority, second to nothing else.*

S#7.

B. God commands that we openly talk with the young about God.

1. Not just ask if they said their prayers.
2. God is not talking about a classroom setting.
 - a. Some formal training is essential.
 - b. Every child should memorize the 10 Commandments. (*multiplication tables*)
 - c. Basic facts : beatitudes, golden rule, most important command, **how to be saved**
3. The best way to teach is just like God commanded, in the course of living life.
 - a. I taught my grandkids in the boat while fishing.
 - b. Some talk about God while playing golf, hiking, camping, working in the yard.

C. Many Americans men have lost the ability to talk about God.

1. Industrialization has destroyed the concept of just setting and talking.
 - a. We are too busy to take time to just set and talk. (*rock on porch*)
 - b. Unlike the farm ... there is no time of the year when our work is less.
2. Shift work often causes sons to grow up only seeing dad on the weekend.
3. Fathers often live far and commute so by the time the chores are done day is over.

D. Children grow up with lives that are independent of their family. (*weeds*) S#8.

1. Life revolves around school outside the home. (*Often return to empty house.*)
2. Children spend the whole day under the tutelage of people with different values.
3. School hours are extended by various activities, sports, etc.

II. Teaching with diligence is challenging for us all.**S#9.****A. Teaching with diligence requires that it be made a priority.****S#10.**

1. Life is busy so there is always competition for the time.
 - a. Parents have many competing priorities in life. (*work, family, recreation, rest*)
 - b. Children have a variety of interests ... homework, video games, friends

* When talking with kids, they are often impatient or say, "Make it quick I got to"
2. No matter how important something on this earth may seem, it's only temporary.
 - a. We place great importance on preparing our children for this life.
 - b. We press them to do well in school, reward them when they do well or scold if not.
 - c. **Mark 8: 36** –**For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?**

S#11.

- * 3. Our priority determines how we spend our money, spend our time, and think about.

B. Teaching our children God's word diligently takes persistence.**S#12.**

1. How many times did you tell your children :
 - a. To pick up their toys.
 - b. To make their bed and clean their room.
 - c. To be in by their curfew time.
2. How many times do children have to repeat their times tables before are memorized.
 - a. New math or not, I required my children to memorize their times tables 1-12.
 - b. My youngest son decided he was not going to memorize them.
I required him to bring his flashcards before going out to play.
After doing this for a few weeks, he would become impatient to go faster because they were so simple to him.
3. The military trains our troops using hundreds of repetitions.
 - a. Our soldiers don't have to think in battle; they react instinctively. (*muscle memory*)
 - b. **Prov. 22: 6** – **Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.**
 - c. Even after training is finished, the military has war games.
 - d. **Eph. 6: 10-12** – **Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.**

S#13.

III. Teaching with diligence requires consistency.**S#14.****A. As we noted, athletes / the military never stops training and practicing.****S#15.**

1. Skills atrophy very quickly.
 - a. Each spring golfers learn a whole new list of excuses for poor performance.
 - b. Professional athletes practice even during the off season.
(*After 2 wks, NBA players work out every day – make 10 shot from every spot*)
2. People who become proficient at anything maintain a consistent regiment.
3. We can never assume we have completed their training of our children.
It can be lost in a moment.

B. The scriptures teach us the importance of continual reminders.**S#16.**

1. The communion is a continual reminder of facts we know well.

I Cor. 11: 24-25 – when He (*Jesus*) had given thanks, He broke it and said, **S#17.**
 "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵ In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

2. The Apostle Peter realized the need to repeat things he had previously taught.

II Pet. 3: 1-2 – This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in **S#18.**
 which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, ² that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.

3. By inspiration of God, the Apostle Paul wrote the same things repeatedly.

Rom. 15: 15-16 – But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to **S#19.**
 remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God, ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, ...

4. You and I are not greater teachers than the Apostles so we need to repeatedly teach.

C. The training of a child should start at a very early age.**S#20.**

1. The greatest potential for training a child starts before birth ...
 - a. from 5th month of gestation to 5 years of age
 - b. By 3 years of age a baby has 90 % of his adult brain size
2. Babies have the ability to learn as many as 5 languages simultaneously.
3. *Cradle role classes have taught babies to say Jesus before they say mama.*
4. Fundamental values **MUST** be taught before children enter the public school system.

IV. The training of a child involves bending the child's will to conform.

S#21

S#22.

A. The scriptures command that parents train their children, NOT just teach them.

1. **Prov. 22: 6** – Train up a child in the way he should go,
Even when he is old he will not depart from it.
2. Training differs from teaching in that it requires conformity to a standard.
3. **ILL.** – My father required that we attend church EVERY time the door was open.
 - a. This included evening services, gospel meetings and special occasion. (*work days*)
 - b. I had to jog 3 miles to be home in time for Wednesday night after football practice.
 - c. *When I got off work at 4:00 a.m., I still had to be up at 7 to prepare for church.*
4. I resented it at the time, but I learned the priority of our family ... **God comes first.**

B. Training up a child involves disciple which bears positive fruit for God.

S#23.

1. **Heb. 12: 5-11** – ... you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the lord, Nor faint when you are reprov'd by him; 6 for those whom the lord loves he disciplines, And he scourges every son whom he receives."
⁷ It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; ⁸ But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. ¹¹ All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.
2. The disciplining of a child must flow from love for God and for the child.
 - a. **Prov. 13: 24** – He who withholds his correction hates his son,
But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.
 - b. Too many parents withhold discipline because it's unpleasant to administer.
3. Discipline must be administered in a way that the child ultimately perceives as just.
Eph. 6: 4 – Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger,
but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

S#24.

S#25.

S#26.

S#27.

S#28.

S#29.

CONCLUSION :

Clearly the church of tomorrow is in the hands of fathers today.
Are we being responsible stewards of the kingdom ?

S#30. ... Communion slide

Lesson Text :**Hebrews 12: 5-11**

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Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

4 Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! **5** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. **6** These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. **7** You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. **8** You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. **9** You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.