

God Bless Our Family

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All of us long for the blessings of God to abound in our lives and upon our children.

The greatest gift we can give our children is the “eternal life.”

The second greatest gift we can give them is to learn to let that “eternal life” within them dominate their everyday life.

Our children will have enemies to keep them out of this life.

I don't want my adult children to have weaknesses, battles, failures, disappointments, heartaches or to make wrong choices, but they will just like we did.

If I live in this deception, I will seek to remove them from the battlefield.

They ultimately have to fight and win in our absence.

II Corinthians 10:3-5 – ³ The world is unprincipled. It's dog-eat-dog out there! The world doesn't fight fair. But we don't live or fight our battles that way—never have and never will. ⁴ The tools of our trade or weapons of our warfare aren't for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. ⁵ We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of the Word of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. *The Message/KJV*

- We are called to DEMOLISH, SMASH & TEAR DOWN every lie of culture and fight against it with the TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD.
- This is why God trusted Abraham with an everlasting covenant.

Genesis 18:19 – For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. *KJV*

The Discomfort of Obedience vs. The Pain of Regret

If your children are still young you have a choice, and you can choose the “discomfort of obedience.”

For many of us we must deal with the stinging pain of regret.

Take advantage of “the discomfort of obedience” and miss “the pain of regret.”

Judas

Judas' regret turned inward and he took his life.

Matthew 27:3-5 – ³ When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned; he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. ⁴ "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility." ⁵ So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself. *NIV*

We all have REGRETS and can easily be overcome by the sheer volume of the assaults on our lives.

Peter

Luke 22:62 – And he went outside and wept bitterly or *violently*. *NIV*

The Tail of Two Roads

David

Dysfunction of David's family... And you think your family has issues!

"A dysfunctional family is a family in which conflict, misbehavior, and often abuses on the part of individual members occur continually and regularly, leading other members to accommodate such actions. Children grow up in such families with the understanding that such an arrangement is normal."

David had 8 wives and multiple concubines.

- 19 sons and 1 daughter are named.
- He had many sons and daughters with his concubines.

David's lust – sex with Bathsheba

- Bathsheba gets pregnant.
- The baby dies.

Amnon's lust, couched in love, is acted out toward his half-sister and he rapes her.

- He learned it from his father.

After he rapes her, he hates her and discards her.

- This is what his father (David) did to Uriah.

She lives her life in disgrace and her older brother Absalom takes care of her.

David finds out and does nothing about it.

The injustice causes Absalom to hate Amnon and he waits 2 years to carry out his plan and he murders Amnon.

Absalom deeply resents his father and it culminates in him trying to overthrow his father's throne.

Absalom is killed during the attempted overthrow.

David's **choices** caused:

- Adultery with Bathsheba and her becoming pregnant.
- Destruction of Uriah and Bathsheba's marriage.
 - Murder of Uriah
- Amnon raping Tamar.
- The lifetime desolation of Tamar.
- Absalom murdering Amnon.
- Absalom trying to overthrow his father's kingdom.
- The death of Absalom.
- Three of his children died and his daughter lived in shame.

Noah

Hebrews 11:7 – By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.
NKJV

Noah:

- By faith
- Warned of God
- Moved with the fear of God
- Prepared an ark
- Saved his family

“Such as I have, I give to you!”