

2015 09 06 Small Group Questions (Father's Day)

Share what you did on Fathers' day.

Which EPIC Fathers' day gift that Rod suggested did you like the best?

How do you feel about Fathers' day? Here you might like to encourage your group to chat about their relationship with the fathers.

Together read *PSALM 128 The Family Blessed by the LORD...*

What is the Spirit saying to you out of this passage?

Discuss these 3 principles and how they intersect your world...

Obviously not everyone in your group will be a father. Please consider the age, stage and roles in your group and adjust the questions to suit. *eg: mothers, wives, daughters and sons - how can you help your father or the father of your children to be better fathers or to have a closer walk with God?*

PRINCIPLE 1: A blessed Father blesses his family when he makes them a priority

V3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

Discuss the 2 metaphors

What do you notice about the LOCATION of the blessings?

Is your family your priority? Men, what would your spouse say if I asked her the question?

Are you present for your family when you arrive home from work?

(This one is for me!) When was the last time you connected with your family around the dinner table? I can't help but think there is something deeply spiritual in the discipline of eating together around your table!

-A blessed father blesses his family when he makes them a priority.

PRINCIPLE 2: A blessed Father is a blessing when he walks with God

V1; What does "walking with God" mean or look like for you?

Are you walking with God? Does God mean more to you than anything else? Are you serious about your Kingdom Life? What do your children see?

-A blessed father is a blessing when he walks with God

PRINCIPLE 3: A blessed Father is a blessing when he fears God

V1 "Blessed are all who fear the LORD. V4 Yes, this will be the blessing for the man who fears the LORD.

What does it mean to FEAR GOD?

A W TOZER said "***The most important thing about a person is what they think about God!***"

Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Our thoughts about God will not only determine who we are but also how we will live! What we think about God will determine the relationship that we have with him.

Describe an UNHEALTHY FEAR of GOD?

Describe what a HEALTHY FEAR OF GOD looks like?

A healthy fear of God knows that God is all of those things and it creates in us the response of awe, respect, obedience, reverence, wonder and worship.

Packer who wrote "Knowing God" says this, *"Believers are not to be scared of God. We have no reason to be scared of Him. We have His promise that nothing can separate us from His love (Romans 8:38-39). We have His promise that He will never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). Fearing God means having such a reverence for Him that it has a great impact on the way we live our lives. The fear of God is respecting Him, obeying Him, submitting to His discipline, and worshipping Him in awe"*.

Fathers/group members, do you fear God? Do you revere Him, obey Him, are you disciplined by Him and do you worship Him in AWE?

-BECAUSE A blessed Father is a blessing when he Fear's God

Prayer for each other, pray for your fathers and pray for the fathers, grandfathers and father figures in our church