

CLOUD OF WITNESSES

Big Idea

Pastor Curt – Part 2

Happy Father's Day! You deserve a day to be honored! Being a dad can be difficult and most likely is difficult. Whether you had a dad growing up, didn't have a dad growing up, had a bad dad, or hopefully had a good dad, today's message will give you three ways you can be a great dad. Pastor Curt uses a familiar parable that Jesus told called the Prodigal Son from Luke 15. He highlighted three ways the father did a great job with two very different and difficult sons.

Dads, our children are **NOT** looking for you to be perfect, they are looking for you to be present with them. To be a great Dad: **1) Provide Safety.** We give our kids security by being consistent and modeling stability. **2) Provide Direction.** Our kids need Godly input for their unique personalities. **3) Provide Forgiveness.** We must model the grace given to us from our Heavenly Father! You, dad, are the most important influence for how your son or daughter will relate to God the Father. Pastor Curt is praying that this Bible verse will be true for you: **He (God) will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers. Malachi 4:6 NIV** It starts with us, Dads!

Discussion Questions

- What is your best memory of your dad?
- If you have kids, share with the group a little bit about them.
- The father in Jesus' parable in Luke 15 had two very different and difficult situations with his two sons. Read Luke 15:11-32. How did the father react?
- Pastor Curt gave us three ways to be a great Dad. Which one is most challenging for you? Why?
- Deuteronomy 6:6-7 provides the basis for how dads are to train their children. What are they and how can we actually put these into practice?
- A father's love is crucial for our children's spiritual life and relationship with God. Your heavenly Father is crazy in love with you! It doesn't matter what you have or have not done! What does Isaiah 30:18 say about this?

Prayer Focus

Pray asking the Holy Spirit to reveal areas where you have fallen short in leading in your family and community. Ask God for direction on how to improve in those areas

Next Steps

Men, we need you. Ask the Lord for direction about ways you can step into roles of leadership at home, at work, and in your relationships. Write down what comes to mind and have a conversation about this with your Group Leader, Campus Pastor or Community Life Pastor.

Leader Tip

Share your journey of how you began leading Small Groups and the challenges you overcame.