



The Power of a Father!

As men, in a culture under attack, we need an understanding of mature masculinity—a vision and direction we can pursue with our sons! We need tools, methods, and ideas to help us become Godly men and from which to equip our sons. We need to grow up!

Jacob – the patriarch of Israel – the father of a nation—is a troubling character in the Old Testament. He is so much like us -- with very human strengths and weaknesses, but a man with a striving for spiritual things. From this imperfect man we learn important lessons of faith. Especially, we learn about God's grace. Time to engage—enjoy the Adventure!

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable
www.MensTable.com

THE POWER OF A FATHER – The Invisible Dad!

We need an understanding of mature masculinity—a vision and direction to help us become Godly men

March 30, 2023

Bible Verses: Genesis 25:19-34; John 3:1-3, Titus 3:1-8

Music: *The Greatest Man I Never Knew* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frJpFSIg7uk>

Video: *Show me the Father* – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnlo4KpNe_8

Resources: *JACOB – Following God Without Looking Back* by Gene A. Getz.

Raising A Modern-Day Knight – A Father's Role in Guiding His Son to Authentic Manhood by Robert Lewis.

The Power of a Father – CONSEQUENCES OF SIN. – Genesis 25:19-34.

1. _____ → Though God had promised and revealed that Jacob would be the heir that He had chosen to reveal the Messiah, it was not proper for Jacob to do what he did. His motives were selfish, and in some respects, just as carnal and sinful as Esau's. He had no right to take advantage of Esau's weaknesses in order to "feather his own nest." And even if he felt he was "helping God out," it was just as wrong as when Sarah tried to "help God out" by providing Abraham with her handmaiden in order to provide a son for her husband. And like Abraham and Sarah, Jacob and the woman he would eventually marry would also suffer the consequences of his sinful actions.
2. Live in REALITY:
 1. _____ → All of us must be self aware enough of our human tendencies to allow our fleshly desires to dominate and control our minds and hearts. And yet, we can be set free (John 3:3; Titus 3:4-6).
 2. _____ → No matter what the circumstances, it is never right or appropriate to take advantage of another person's weakness. We are to show humility to all men (Titus 3:1-5).
 3. _____ → If we take advantage of another person's weaknesses, we will suffer the consequences. It may even take years, but when it happens, it will be very painful and often disastrous.

The Power of a Father – The Invisible Dad.

1. _____ → Like the movie *The Invisible Man*, many Dads will shed their responsibilities when they arrive home. They spend the day be responsible in their profession and work, only to disappear into a passivity coma. Invisible Dads are toxic to their sons and daughters. Sons and daughters never hear:
 1. Let's go play.
 2. I love you.
 3. I'm proud of you.
2. _____ → Every son or daughter deserves a dad who fills their life with love, affirmation, and blessing. Every son and daughter needs from their father vision, direction, and solid answers to lives most important questions.

ACTION: Journal This!

Every son deserves a dad who fills his life with love, affirmation, and blessing. Every son needs from his father vision, direction, and solid answers to questions such as:

1. What is a man?
2. What are a man's greatest responsibilities?
3. What does a man believe?
4. How does a man behave?
5. What should a man try to achieve?

"The Greatest Man I Never Knew" By Reba McEntire

<p>The greatest man I never knew Lived just down the hall And everyday we said hello But never touched at all He was in his paper I was in my room How was I to know he thought I hung the moon The greatest man I never knew Came home late every night</p>	<p>He never had too much to say Too much was on his mind I never really knew him And now it seems so sad Everything he gave to us took all he had Then the days turned into years And the memories to black and white He grew cold like an old winter wind</p>	<p>Blowing across my life The greatest words I never heard I guess I'll never hear The man I thought could never die Has been dead almost a year He was good at business But there was business left to do He never said he loved me Guess he thought I knew</p>
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Bible Verses – The Message

<p>Genesis 25:19-34 – 19 This is the family tree of Isaac son of Abraham: Abraham had Isaac. 20 Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan Aram. She was the sister of Laban the Aramean. 21 Isaac prayed hard to God for his wife because she was barren. God answered his prayer and Rebekah became pregnant. 22 But the children tumbled and kicked inside her so much that she said, "If this is the way it's going to be, why go on living?" She went to God to find out what was going on. 23 God told her, Two nations are in your womb, two peoples butting heads while still in your body. One people will overpower the other, and the older will serve the younger. 24 When her time to give birth came, sure enough, there were twins in her womb. 25 The first came out reddish, as if snugly wrapped in a hairy blanket; they named him Esau (Hairy). 26 His brother followed, his fist clutched tight to Esau's heel; they named him Jacob (Heel). Isaac was sixty years old when they were born. 27 The boys grew up. Esau became an expert hunter, an outdoorsman. Jacob was a quiet man preferring life indoors among the tents. 28 Isaac loved Esau because he loved his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob. 29 One day Jacob was cooking a stew. Esau came in from the field, starved. 30 Esau said to Jacob, "Give me some of that red stew - I'm starved!" That's how he came to be called Edom (Red). 31 Jacob said, "Make me a trade: my stew for your rights as the firstborn." 32 Esau said, "I'm starving! What good is a birthright if I'm dead?" 33 Jacob said, "First, swear to me." And he did it. On oath Esau traded away his rights as the firstborn. 34 Jacob gave him bread and the stew of lentils. He ate and drank, got up and left. That's how Esau shrugged off his rights as the firstborn.</p>	<p>John 3:1-3 - 1 There was a man of the Pharisee sect, Nicodemus, a prominent leader among the Jews. 2 Late one night he visited Jesus and said, "Rabbi, we all know you're a teacher straight from God. No one could do all the God-pointing, God-revealing acts you do if God weren't in on it." 3 Jesus said, "You're absolutely right. Take it from me: Unless a person is born from above, it's not possible to see what I'm pointing to - to God's kingdom."</p> <p>Titus 3:1-8 - 1 Remind the people to respect the government and be law-abiding, always ready to lend a helping hand 2 No insults, no fights. God's people should be bighearted and courteous. 3 It wasn't so long ago that we ourselves were stupid and stubborn, dupes of sin, ordered every which way by our glands, going around with a chip on our shoulder, hated and hating back. 4 But when God, our kind and loving Savior God, stepped in, 5 he saved us from all that. It was all his doing; we had nothing to do with it. He gave us a good bath, and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit. 6 Our Savior Jesus poured out new life so generously. 7 God's gift has restored our relationship with him and given us back our lives. And there's more life to come - an eternity of life! 8 You can count on this.</p>
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