



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
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THE POWER OF A FATHER – A CODE OF CONDUCT!

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

April 20, 2023

Bible Verses: Genesis 27:30-46; Genesis 28:1-5 ; Proverbs 11:3; I Corinthians 1:11, 12; I Corinthians 3:9-15 ; Hebrews 12:4-11; Romans 8:26-28; Ecclesiastes 12:1,2; 11-14; John 8: 31-38

Music: Conway Twitty's "That's My Job" - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7XK_zNq930

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 – THE GREAT DECEPTION – Genesis 27:1-28:5.

1. _____ → Everyone played a part in the dysfunction of Jacob's family. No one was exempt. Alan Ross – "God has always provided direction and enablement for His people to carry out their responsibilities in His covenantal program. Unfortunately, many simply persist in handling them in their own earthly way, often complicating matters greatly." Genesis 27 gives us a detailed look at an entire family living in this way."
2. Live in REALITY:
 1. _____ → As the years go by, we must be on guard that we do not forget what God has done and is doing, both in us and through us, as well as what others have done for us. See I Cor. 1:12; 3:10, 11).
 2. _____ → Covering up your shame, leads to more sin. Once a man steps out of the will of God, particularly in terms of being deceptive, it is easy to take the next step to cover his sins. To use God to justify our sins (and in this case, for Jacob to cover his sin) is the ultimate in being trapped. It is also the ultimate in dishonoring the One who cleansed us and redeemed us.
 3. _____ → God is gracious and longsuffering and allows us time to repent and make corrections before He disciplines us. See Hebrews 12:7-10.
 4. _____ → No matter what our failures, God can take the results of our sins and even work those results together for good. See Romans 8:28

The Power of a Father – A Code of Conduct – Proverbs 11:3.

1. _____ → Every son—from an early age—must be schooled in the will to obey—to follow, to learn, to grow, and to be teachable. TO OBEY can be defined as "to hear Gods word and act accordingly". This is because the original word used for "obey" in the Bible, *šāma*, also means "to hear". Even in the New Testament, the original Greek term for the word "obey" can also be translated as "to trust". If a son is lacking in being taught to obey, he will wrestle with feelings of inadequacy, incompetence, and restlessness. But armed with this essential skill that is taught through intimate relationship, a son becomes equipped to succeed in his relationship with God, in his community and church, and in his marriage.
2. _____ → True satisfaction in life is directly proportionate to one's obedience to God. King Solomon lived his life as if the past were irrelevant and the future uncertain. He drank, collected women, gathered possessions, and cultivated knowledge, only to discover in the end that these pursuits were futile. See Ecclesiastes 12:1, 13-14 and John 8:31-34.

The Power of a Father – The Links in the Code of Conduct.

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| 1. INTIMACY (Hosea 6:6) | 6. HONESTY (Ephesians 4:25) |
| 2. SERVANT-LEADERSHIP (Matthew 20:26,27) | 7. SELF-DISCIPLINE (I Timothy 4:7, 8) |
| 3. KINDNESS (Proverbs 19:22) | 8. EXCELLENCE (I Corinthians 9:24) |
| 4. HUMILITY (Philippians 2:3) | 9. INTEGRITY (Proverbs 10:9) |
| 5. PURITY (I Timothy 4:12) | 10. PERSEVERANCE (Galatians 6:9) |

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?

Bible Verses – The Message

Genesis 27:30-46 - 30 And then right after Isaac had blessed Jacob and Jacob had left, Esau showed up from the hunt.**31** He also had prepared a hearty meal. He came to his father and said, "Let my father get up and eat of his son's game, that he may give me his personal blessing."**32** His father Isaac said, "And who are you?" "I am your son, your firstborn, Esau."**33** Isaac started to tremble, shaking violently. He said, "Then who hunted game and brought it to me? I finished the meal just now, before you walked in. And I blessed him - he's blessed for good!"**34** Esau, hearing his father's words, sobbed violently and most bitterly, and cried to his father, "My father! Can't you also bless me?"**35** "Your brother," he said, "came here falsely and took your blessing."**36** Esau said, "Not for nothing was he named Jacob, the Heel. Twice now he's tricked me: first he took my birthright and now he's taken my blessing." He begged, "Haven't you kept back any blessing for me?"**37** Isaac answered Esau, "I've made him your master, and all his brothers his servants, and lavished grain and wine on him. I've given it all away. What's left for you, my son?"**38** "But don't you have just one blessing for me, Father? Oh, bless me my father! Bless me!" Esau sobbed inconsolably.**39** Isaac said to him, "You'll live far from Earth's bounty, remote from Heaven's dew."**40** "You'll live by your sword, hand-to-mouth, and you'll serve your brother. But when you can't take it any more you'll break loose and run free."**41** Esau seethed in anger against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him; he brooded, "The time for mourning my father's death is close. And then I'll kill my brother Jacob."**42** When these words of her older son Esau were reported to Rebekah, she called her younger son Jacob and said, "Your brother Esau is plotting vengeance against you. He's going to kill you."**43** Son, listen to me. Get out of here. Run for your life to Haran, to my brother Laban.**44** Live with him for a while until your brother cools down,**45** until his anger subsides and he forgets what you did to him. I'll then send for you and bring you back. Why should I lose both of you the same day?"**46** Rebekah spoke to Isaac, "I'm sick to death of these Hittite women. If Jacob also marries a native Hittite woman, why live?"

Genesis 28:1-5 - 1 So Isaac called in Jacob and blessed him. Then he ordered him, "Don't take a Caananite wife."**2** Leave at once. Go to Paddan Aram to the family of your mother's father, Bethuel. Get a wife for yourself from the daughters of your uncle Laban.**3** "And may The Strong God bless you and give you many, many children, a congregation of peoples;**4** and pass on the blessing of Abraham to you and your descendants so that you will get this land in which you live, this land God gave Abraham."**5** So Isaac sent Jacob off. He went to Paddan Aram, to Laban son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah who was the mother of Jacob and Esau.

Proverbs 11:3 - 3 The bottom's dropped out of the country; good people don't have a chance?"

I Corinthians 1:11, 12 - 11 I bring this up because some from Chloe's family brought a most disturbing report to my attention - that you're fighting among yourselves! **12** I'll tell you exactly what I was told: You're all picking sides, going around saying, "I'm on Paul's side," or "I'm for Apollos," or "Peter is my man," or "I'm in the Messiah group."

I Corinthians 3:9-15 - 9 What makes them worth doing is the God we are serving. You happen to be God's field in which we are working.**10** Using the gift God gave me as a good architect, I designed blueprints; Apollos is putting up the walls. Let each carpenter who comes on the job take care to build on the foundation!**11** Remember, there is only one foundation, the one already laid: Jesus Christ.**12** Take particular care in picking out

your building materials.**13** Eventually there is going to be an inspection. If you use cheap or inferior materials, you'll be found out. The inspection will be thorough and rigorous. You won't get by with a thing.**14** If your work passes inspection, fine;**15** if it doesn't, your part of the building will be torn out and started over. But you won't be torn out; you'll survive - but just barely.

Hebrews 12:4-11 - 4 In this all-out match against sin, others have suffered far worse than you, to say nothing of what Jesus went through - all that bloodshed!**5** So don't feel sorry for yourselves. Or have you forgotten how good parents treat children, and that God regards you as his children? My dear child, don't shrug off God's discipline, but don't be crushed by it either.**6** It's the child he loves that he disciplines; the child he embraces, he also corrects.**7** God is educating you; that's why you must never drop out. He's treating you as dear children. This trouble you're in isn't punishment; it's training,**8** the normal experience of children. Only irresponsible parents leave children to fend for themselves. Would you prefer an irresponsible God?**9** We respect our own parents for training and not spoiling us, so why not embrace God's training so we can truly live?**10** While we were children, our parents did what seemed best to them. But God is doing what is best for us, training us to live God's holy best.**11** At the time, discipline isn't much fun. It always feels like it's going against the grain. Later, of course, it pays off handsomely, for it's the well-trained who find themselves mature in their relationship with God.

Romans 8:26-28 - 26 Meanwhile, the moment we get tired in the waiting, God's Spirit is right alongside helping us along. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans.**27** He knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our pregnant condition, and keeps us present before God.**28** That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

Ecclesiastes 12:1,2; 11-14 - 1 Honor and enjoy your Creator while you're still young, before the years take their toll and your vigor wanes.**2** Before your vision dims and the world blurs and the winter years keep you close to the fire.**11** The words of the wise prod us to live well. They're like nails hammered home, holding life together. They are given by God, the one Shepherd.**12** But regarding anything beyond this, dear friend, go easy. There's no end to the publishing of books, and constant study wears you out so you're no good for anything else.**13** The last and final word is this: Fear God. Do what he tells you.**14** And that's it. Eventually God will bring everything that we do out into the open and judge it according to its hidden intent, whether it's good or evil.

John 8: 31-38 - 31 Then Jesus turned to the Jews who had claimed to believe in him. "If you stick with this, living out what I tell you, you are my disciples for sure."**32** Then you will experience for yourselves the truth, and the truth will free you."**33** Surprised, they said, "But we're descendants of Abraham. We've never been slaves to anyone. How can you say, 'The truth will free you?'"**34** Jesus said, "I tell you most solemnly that anyone who chooses a life of sin is trapped in a dead-end life and is, in fact, a slave."**35** A slave is a transient, who can't come and go at will. The Son, though, has an established position, the run of the house.**36** So if the Son sets you free, you are free through and through.**37** I know you are Abraham's descendants. But I also know that you are trying to kill me because my message hasn't yet penetrated your thick skulls.**38** I'm talking about things I have seen while keeping company with the Father, and you just go on doing what you have heard from your father."



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