



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 – Facing the Father Wound – Part II
 We need an understanding of mature masculinity—a vision and direction
 to help us become Godly men

June 08, 2023

Bible Verses: Genesis 31:25-55

Music: Luke Bryan - Build Me A Daddy – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAcKrKWcZlY>

Video: A River Runs Through It - Learning to Fish and Write <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vRhOdf-6co>

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 – A DIFFICULT CONFRONTATION – Genesis 31:1-55.

1. _____ → When Jacob left Beersheba and headed for Haran, he was embarking on a painful journey that was orchestrated by the Lord to bring him face-to-face with himself and his character weakness. But before he could see himself as he really was, he needed to come “face-to-face” with God. Like many of us who have character weaknesses of one sort or another when we embark on our own spiritual journey, Jacob didn't yet realize how serious his problem really was. Ironically, God used Jacob's Uncle Laban—a very dishonest and selfish man—to reflect Jacob's own character weakness.
2. Live in Reality =
 1. _____ → Overcoming character weakness is usually a process that takes both time and some painful experiences. God designs experiences and utilizes events and circumstances to uncover character weaknesses and to assist us in overcoming those weaknesses.
 2. _____ → God uses our personal journeys in overcoming character weaknesses to help others in overcoming their weaknesses—even those who may have used our weaknesses for their own selfish purposes.

The Power of a Father – FACING THE FATHER WOUND. – Psalm 68:5.

Resource: *The Sacred Romance—Drawing Closer to the Heart of God* by John Eldredge. Chapter 3 – The Message of the Arrows.

1. **FACING YOUR ARROWS** → To allow our hearts to heal, we must face our Arrows. You must stop and take time to answer these questions thoughtfully, honestly, and tenderly: How have you handled the affliction that has pierced your heart? How did the ARROWS come to you? Where did they land? Are they still there? What have you done as a result?
2. **ARROWS FROM YOUR YOUTH** → What hurt you? Most of the defining Arrows of our lives strike when we are young. For it is then that our hearts are most vulnerable, and we are least guarded, least able to deal with the pain. Write down a word or sentence that captures for you the significant Arrows from your youth. Psalm 51:6.
3. **THE MESSAGE** → What was the Message of each Arrow? It's not so much the pain you've experienced, but what you've learned from it. What did the Arrow say about you? About God? About others? About life in general? Can you hear those messages still playing in your life today?
4. **HOW WE RESPOND** → There are two basic ways we handle the Arrows. First, we just deaden our heart. Secondly, we divide life into two parts. On the outside, all is duty and survival. But in secret, we find something to give us a taste of intimacy and adventure we were made for. Where do you go for a taste of intimacy or a taste of adventure these days?
5. **THE VOW** → How do you respond or react? Commitments form never to be in that position again, never to know that sort of pain again. The result is an approach to life that we often call our personality. The commitments are something like vows—“*I will never try that again.*”
6. **A WAY TOWARD HEALING** → The way you handled the Arrows do not have to be the end of the story. You do not have to be ruled by it all. Jesus quoted Isaiah 61:1-3 when he stepped onto the stage.
7. **RENOUNCE THE VOW** → The only thing more tragic than the tragedy that happens to us is the way we handle it—the choices we make, the person we become, the life we live (or don't live). See Luke 17:31-33. The things we do to protect and preserve our hearts usually end up hurting us more. We must renounce our vows. Ephesians 4:26, 27. Unresolved emotional wounds create spiritual strongholds in our hearts.
8. **GRIEVE THE WOUND** → It is so important for us to grieve our loses. It is the only honest thing to do. For in grieving we admit the truth: We lost something very dear, and it hurt so much. Tears are healing. They help to open and cleanse the wound. Matthew 5:4.
9. **REJECT THE MESSAGE** → We must reject the lie that has so long defined us. Because of the wound, because the message was delivered by an Arrow, it sinks in deep and feels authoritative. But the fact is, nearly every message of every Arrow is untrue. You are loved. You are not alone. God does care.
10. **IMAGINE A GOOD FATHER** → Imaging what a “good father” would say and do, and then trying to live our life accordingly in all our relationships can help heal. Take the wound to our Heavenly Father by examining how we have projected our earthly father onto our Heavenly Father. We must be willing to forgive. Forgiveness isn't about forgetting about the pain your father has caused, but it's letting go of resentment or frustration that steals your freedom and peace.

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

<p>Genesis 31:25-55 - 25 When Laban reached him, Jacob's tents were pitched in the Gilead mountains; Laban pitched his tents there too.26 "What do you mean," said Laban, "by keeping me in the dark and sneaking off, hauling my daughters off like prisoners of war?27 Why did you run off like a thief in the night? Why didn't you tell me? Why, I would have sent you off with a great celebration - music, timbrels, flutes!28 But you wouldn't permit me so much as a kiss for my daughters and grandchildren. It was a stupid thing for you to do.29 If I had a mind to, I could destroy you right now, but the God of your father spoke to me last night, 'Be careful what you do to Jacob, whether good or bad.'30 I understand. You left because you were homesick. But why did you steal my household gods?"31 Jacob answered Laban, "I was afraid. I thought you would take your daughters away from me by brute force.32 But as far as your gods are concerned, if you find that anybody here has them, that person dies. With all of us watching, look around. If you find anything here that belongs to you, take it." Jacob didn't know that Rachel had stolen the gods.33 Laban went through Jacob's tent, Leah's tent, and the tents of the two maids but didn't find them. He went from Leah's tent to Rachel's.34 But Rachel had taken the household gods, put them inside a camel cushion, and was sitting on them. When Laban had gone through the tent, searching high and low without finding a thing,35 Rachel said to her father, "Don't think I'm being disrespectful, my master, that I can't stand before you, but I'm having my period." So even though he turned the place upside down in his search, he didn't find the household gods.36 Now it was Jacob's turn to get angry. He lit into Laban: "So what's my crime, what wrong have I done you that you badger me like this?37 You've ransacked the place. Have you turned up a single thing that's yours? Let's see it - display the evidence. Our two families can be the jury and decide between us.38 "In the twenty years I've worked for you, ewes and she-goats never miscarried. I never feasted on the rams from your flock.39 I never brought you a torn carcass killed by wild animals but that I paid for it out of my own pocket - actually, you made</p>	<p>me pay whether it was my fault or not.40 I was out in all kinds of weather, from torrid heat to freezing cold, putting in many a sleepless night.41 For twenty years I've done this: I slaved away fourteen years for your two daughters and another six years for your flock and you changed my wages ten times.42 If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had not stuck with me, you would have sent me off penniless. But God saw the fix I was in and how hard I had worked and last night rendered his verdict."43 Laban defended himself: "The daughters are my daughters, the children are my children, the flock is my flock - everything you see is mine. But what can I do about my daughters or for the children they've had?44 So let's settle things between us, make a covenant - God will be the witness between us."45 Jacob took a stone and set it upright as a pillar.46 Jacob called his family around, "Get stones!" They gathered stones and heaped them up and then ate there beside the pile of stones.47 Laban named it in Aramaic, Yegar-sahadutha (Witness Monument); Jacob echoed the naming in Hebrew, Galeed (Witness Monument).48 Laban said, "This monument of stones will be a witness, beginning now, between you and me." (That's why it is called Galeed - Witness Monument.)49 It is also called Mizpah (Watchtower) because Laban said, "God keep watch between you and me when we are out of each other's sight."50 If you mistreat my daughters or take other wives when there's no one around to see you, God will see you and stand witness between us."51 Laban continued to Jacob, "This monument of stones and this stone pillar that I have set up is a witness,52 a witness that I won't cross this line to hurt you and you won't cross this line to hurt me."53 The God of Abraham and the God of Nahor (the God of their ancestor) will keep things straight between us."54 Then Jacob offered a sacrifice on the mountain and worshiped, calling in all his family members to the meal. They ate and slept that night on the mountain.55 Laban got up early the next morning, kissed his grandchildren and his daughters, blessed them, and then set off for home.</p>
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"Build Me A Daddy" By Luke Bryan

<p>A boy walks past a window of a glowing, open sign Full of wooden toys and trucks and painted trains Rings a bell up on the counter, hands a picture to the man Of a kid beside a soldier smiling away Said, "Sir, I've heard you can build anything"</p> <p>Could you build me a daddy? Strong as Superman Make him 10 feet tall with a southern drawl and a crooked smile if you can 'Cause I sure miss him Maybe you could bring him back? If I walked in with him, it'd sure make Momma happy,</p>	<p>if you could build me a daddy There's an old Winchester rifle, back home hanging on the wall He promised me, he'd teach me how to aim And he said, when I got older, we could work on that curveball I know he'd never wanna miss a game So, here's a little money that I've saved</p> <p>Could you build me a daddy? Strong as Superman Make him 10 feet tall with a southern drawl and a crooked smile if you can I sure miss him Maybe you could bring him back If I walked in with him, it'd sure make Momma happy,</p>	<p>if you could build me a daddy Give him a big heart, make his arms wide open I know he misses me, so Mister, I was hoping</p> <p>You could build me a daddy Strong as Superman Make him 10 feet tall with a southern drawl and a fishing pole in his hand 'Cause I sure miss him Maybe you could bring him back If I walked in with him, it'd sure make my momma happy, if you could you build me a daddy</p> <p>Could you build me a daddy?</p>
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