

# FATHERS' DAY 2018

## Psalm 68; Luke 15

06/17/2018  
Sunday a.m.

### SLIDE 1 – GOAL: DEVELOP A RULE OF LIFE – over the next 3 weeks a few ideas

- Intentional, conscious plan to keep God at the center of our lives
  - Make the gospel Good News a practical/daily reality
- Rule” – Greek word – for trellis – grapes/grapevine able to climb - healthy
  - Structure – more fruitful, better quality fruit
- This is who we are, this is our story → framework for freedom
- For our lives – **transformed vs. conformed**
  - Intentionality – time, effort, preparation, strategy
  - Health plan, meal plan, fitness plan, school plan... → LIFE plan
    - EHS & EHR – key part of Rule of Life

### SLIDE 2 – IDEAS: RULE OF LIFE

- **E.G.** Good morning – Re-Imagining prayer
- Morning coffee w/Jesus –
  - Sitting in silence; questions: what do I need today? I give You my day...
- Bible reading/meditation – Hillside App –
  - Daily Bible reading plan, 5 Psalms/1 Proverb
- Break-time – 1 minute of silence – re-engagement
  - Read 1 Bible verse from morning/ponder for 1 minute
- Goodnight

### SLIDE 3 – A GOOD FATHER: PSALM 68 & LUKE 15

#### SLIDE 4 – FATHERS DAY: A BRIEF HISTORY

- 1908 – Mothers Day – as a memorial to one woman's life – US holiday 1914
- 1909 – Sonora Smart Dodd – Spokane – Mothers Day sermon – wanted to honor her father (raised by single dad) –
- Petitioned city of Spokane to make 6/5/1909 – Father's birthday – holiday
  - City needed more time; chose 6/19/1909 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of June...

### SLIDES 5-7 – PSALM 68:1-6

#### SLIDE 8 – A GOOD FATHER

- Defender of His people; Scatterer of the enemy
- Bringer of JOY, bringer of CELEBRATION (EXULT☺)
- Father to the **fatherless & PROTECTOR of widows**– true religion – God's heart
  - What's the big deal? No social programs, no state assistance
  - Role of the father in OT – provider, protector, name-er, bless-er, legacy-giver, restorer, etc...
  - w/o fathers/husbands: what happens? The ruthless take, ravage, destroy
    - God's explicit instructions in Torah – set Him (& His people) apart

### SLIDE 9 – “WHAT GOD'S REALLY LIKE” or “THE LOST SONS” – LUKE 15

- A parable/story Jesus told to illustrate God's heart & character towards people
- Goal isn't judgment; its rescue, restoration, healing, receiving, etc...

### **SLIDE 10 – GOD’S HEART FOR PEOPLE**

- A Good Father – no judgment, no keeping score of wrongs
- No retribution, no rejection; Seek & save the lost;
- Has a vision for His kids – doesn’t wait for son to get to him/He runs to son
- Throws a party → lost/found, dead/alive
  - Son didn’t come back to reclaim spot in family; declaring love for Father
  - Father doesn’t care; He wants His son back
  - ...Just come home! – the Father is waiting to receive you w/open arms

### **SLIDE 11 – ABOUT FATHERS**

- Good dads, bad dads, no dads, AWOL dads
- Thinking about our own father – how affected us for good/bad
- What we came to believe about ourselves, others, God because of dad
- Receiving God as our Father – It’s how Jesus told us we can approach Him
- Taking the role of dad/father in the lives of others (spiritual fathers)
- Part of God’s call on our lives is to mirror His (the Father’s) heart for people

### **SLIDE 12 – THE EPIDEMIC OF FATHERLESSNESS**

- Stats courtesy of [www.Fathers.com](http://www.Fathers.com) – National Center for Fathers
- Preschool stats

### **SLIDE 13 – WHAT CAN I DO?**

- Start at home – engage
- Bridge the gap – restoration
- Give yourself away – H4Kids, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Coaching, volunteering
- Sponsor a kid –
- Do good for others, in Jesus’ Name

### **SLIDE 14– WHAT AM I DOING WITH THIS?**

### **SLIDE 15 – PRAYER IS AVAILABLE**