

# Standalone Sermon

LIFE GROUP NOTES



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## ***EPHESIANS 6:1-4 – FATHER’S DAY***

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### **GETTING STARTED...**

What is your best memory with your father? For some of us that is an easy question, for others that will be a very difficult question to answer. Father’s make a huge difference in our lives, sometimes for good and sometimes not. Statistics show in multiple ways that fathers have one of the biggest impacts on how their children turn out. Fatherhood is an incredibly high calling in a man’s life and one that the Bible calls us to take seriously. Fathers are called to take on the role of teaching their children the Word of God and helping their children to know God’s character. They are to instruct and demonstrate God’s grace for us with their children. That is an impossible task outside of the work of the Holy Spirit. Dads need God’s grace on their lives so that they can pour it into their children. Let us honour the fathers who lead us to see that done so well!

### **READ THE TEXT: EPHESIANS 6:1-4**

**6** Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. **2** “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), **3** “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” **4** Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORD**

1. What is the promise that Paul is referring to in verse 3? (See Deuteronomy 5:16) How does the context of Moses speaking to the people of Israel help us understand what is being promised here?
2. Paul gives one thing that fathers should not do, and two that they should do. What are they, and how do they help us understand the role of fatherhood?

### **REFLECTING ON THE SERMON**

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

### **APPLYING THE POINT**

## 5. How do we put this into practice?

- Agassiz & Lake Errock & Harrison* What are some practical ways that you can show honor to your father? Is there anything that you need to forgive your father for? What help, support, change or encouragement do you, as a father, need to fulfill the directives laid out in v.4? Look for ways to encouragement a father this week!
- Chilliwack* Discuss your own experience with Fatherhood; praise God for godly dads who teach and model what it means to follow Jesus; and pray for the dads of Central (and other dads in your lives).
- Harrison* If you have/had a Dad who was a follower of Christ, describe one way in which your Dad pointed you to Jesus. How might you seek to point those younger than you (whether they are your biological children or spiritual children) to Christ in humility, gentleness, patience and love?
- Promontory* Do you find it difficult or easy to honour your father? How do you think you can grow in this? What part of fatherhood do you find is most challenging for us today? How can we encourage dads? How can we pray for the dads at our church?

## PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer?  
An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



## How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Central Life Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Life Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Life Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word*, *Reflecting on the Sermon*, and *Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

While the meaning of a text doesn't change, the way that we are called to apply it may look different from campus to campus, and even person to person. To reflect this distinction, you will see application questions from each campus in this guide.

Start with the question(s) from your campus and then look at others to see if they are helpful for your group. You may be surprised how similar or different they end up being and how the diversity brings a fuller understanding to how we can apply the Word of God.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*“Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.” - Psalm 111:2*