

(2023) Father's - Bring Them Up | Ephesians 6:4 (Father's Day)

I. Intro/Review:

- Divine Institution series

II. Preview:

- What is a father?
 - Office - you have a child, offspring
 - Administration - carry out the responsibility of that office
- Bring Them Up
- The Nurture and Admonition of the Lord

III. Sermon:

- What is a father? - Eph. 6:4
 - Office - "fathers...your children"
 - Administration of office
 1. Negative - "provoke not your children to wrath" (Rom. 10:19)
 2. Positive - "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (parenting in view of DoG)
 - Focus on the positive - why?
 - Notice the word, "but"
 - The means to not "provoke your children to wrath" is by bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
 - Rom. 2:4, 9:22; Tit. 3:1-7
- Bring Them Up
 - **"bring"** - to nourish to maturity; to nurture
 - Eph. 5:29 - "For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:"
 1. Doing it to yourself
 2. Doing it to your wife
 3. Doing it to your children
 - **"them"** - your children
 - **"up"** - purpose, goal, objective
 - Bring them up to where?
 - Pro. 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

- High calling - impossible to do
- Which way should he or she go? - this or that - temporal situations and circumstances - we spend a lot of time and money for temporal pursuits (which isn't altogether wrong); however, at the compromise to the tending to their soul and nourishment of their mind and heart.
- Takes saying the thing that does not cater to their flesh
- Eph. 6:4 - "...in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."
- Teaching (grace) - Tit. 2:11-12ff
- **Nurture and Admonition of the Lord**
 1. "Fathers" - this bringing up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord is specifically directed to fathers.
 - Fathers oversee this bringing up by 1) directly bringing them up, and 2) as a husband nourishing his wife to be a guide of the house.
 2. For us fathers in the Lord and Christ is our Lord this isn't an option nor should it be and it is for our good and the good of our children.
 3. Fathers you are not without provision for not only are we charged by the Lord Jesus Christ, but it is the nurture and admonition which proceeds from Him that we bring our children up in.
 - **Nurture** - tempering of passions
 - 2 Tim. 3:16 - "instruction" in righteousness
 - Heb. 12:5, 7-8, 11 - "chastening", "chastisement"
 - Pro. 3:12 - "For whom the LORD loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."
 - **Admonition** - mild rebuking or warning; calling attention to
 - 1 Cor. 10:11 - "written for our admonition"
- Nurture and admonition in the gospel of Jesus Christ
 - Teach them about sin
 - Teach them about their flesh and the lusts thereof
 - Teach them about God and His righteousness
 - Teach them about their weakness
 - Teach them about Christ
 - Teach them about Christ's death, burial, and resurrection
 - Teach them about the forgiveness of sins
 - Teach them about that which is temporal and eternal
 - Don't sacrifice your children at the altar of convenience, but sacrifice convenience for their good
 - Guard their hearts and minds from the vexing evils that will corrupt your child
 - Teach them from your mistakes - let them learn you are nothing and Christ is

- everything - our children ultimately are His - He is Lord over them all - what an honorable stewardship
 - Let them see you cry, and let them know why you cry
 - Never feel like your teaching is too much for them - they are made to hear your instruction not to limit it to be filled with devices
 - Restrict devices or get rid of them all together - you will start to battle with your child not simply because of them, but because of what you allow to fill their soul
- Fatherhood has tested do I believe in the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of God.

IV. Conclusion:

- 2 Cor. 12:14-15 - show Christ by spending and being spent for them (doesn't mean you give them what ever they want, but what ever they need)
- 1 The. 2:10-12 - they will watch how you behave and start behaving like that
 - They will either mimic your behavior, or
 - They will behave in accord with what you allow and permit (just remember what you allow and permit they will take beyond what you allow and permit)
 - Hence the exhort, comfort, and charge
 - They will need you to be vulnerable with them, open, and honest
- Correct their unruliness
- Support their weakness
- Teach them good things
- Teach them to love good men
- Put things in perspective for them
- Php. 4:8-9
- Teach them contentment - Php. 4:11-13