



REAL MOMENTUM

# ***A Man & His Home As Father***

by Buddy Hulsey

## ***I TRULY WONDER IF YOU AND I FULLY REALIZE THE CRITICAL NATURE OF OUR ROLE AS A FATHER.***

Being a dad is one of the single most wonderful, impossible jobs you will ever love.

### PRINCIPLES OF SUCCESS HERE TONIGHT

- 1) Willingness to change, unlike the Rich young ruler Mark 10, who received the information and chose to walk away unchanged.
- 2) Hear what God says to YOU and not what I say to you.

### WHY IS BEING A DAD SO IMPORTANT?

- 1) Psalm 127:3 "Children are a heritage from the Lord." You are responsible for God's gift. 1 Cor. 3:9 "We are laborers together with God."

FATHER (WEBSTER); One who has begotten a child, one who cares for, one to whom respect is due, an originator, a source.

But, there is a vast difference in the role of a caring father and one who simply father's a child.

KEY factors you cannot ignore if you are to be a dad that pleases God and blesses your children.

- 1) Everything we need to know about being a godly Father we can learn from our relationship with our heavenly Father.
- 2) It is of CRITICAL IMPORTANCE that we LEAD our families as opposed to MANAGING our families. They must have confidence in US by having confidence in who WE are following and who is OUR authority. John 12:26 "If anyone serves Me let him follow Me and where I am there My servant will be also."  
Ask) Is it safe for your kids to follow you?
- 3) In the divine plan of God for the family there is NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE DAD. And DAD, THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR GOD. John 15:5 "Without Me ye can do nothing. BUT; Phil. 4:13 "I can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens me."  
You are God's "PLAN A" for the family.
- 4) WE, AS DADS, HAVE NOT ARRIVED, nor do I have all the answers. I, like you, am on a journey. Being a dad is a calling for a LIFETIME. Only the age and circumstances of our kids/g.children change. I still have the same 2 kids God gave me, along with 4 grandkids. However, the incredible influence of a father extends to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations.
- 5) I am the "shepherd" of my children and I am accountable to God who gave them to my wife and me and to NO ONE ELSE!! As their "shepherd" I am their protector/defender. 1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil, walks about seeking whom he may devour." (And, he is NOT playing games)  
Psalm 23:1 (quote) Can your family make that statement? As their "shepherd" you must be able to recognize their enemies and be able to defeat them.

- a) One of your enemies is the CULTURE in which we live. Our culture, controlled by the evil one, who has total disregard for the plan of God. You must constantly push back against the error of the culture as it strives to redefine the definition and role of the FATHER, MARRIAGE, etc. Neither the weapons nor the war are conventional. Eph. 6:12 (read) One of the offensive weapons we need as fathers is WISDOM. James 1:5 (quote)  
You must be the “firewall/the anchor” for your entire family, especially the children.

## THE HOW TO; APPLICATION!!

As husbands/fathers God enabled us to be builders/fixer-uppers.

The most obvious question is;

- 1) What tools do I need?
- 2) Do I know how to use them properly?

AS BELIEVERS AND FATHERS OUR TOOLBOX IS THE WORD OF GOD!! (Brandon Rosko)

OUR TOOLBOX CONTAINS EVERYTHING WE NEED TO BE THE DAD GOD INTENDED US TO BE. Phil. 4:19  
“And my God shall supply ALL your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

But, what about your “relationship building/repairing tools?”

LET'S TAKE AN INVENTORY OF OUR TOOLBOX. (Just a few of the KEY tools for which there is NO SUBSTITUTE.)

(not in the order of their importance necessarily)

- 1) HOLINESS: 1 Peter 1:16 “Be HOLY for I am HOLY.” This is the HIGHEST standard for the believer and the SINGLE MOST CRITICAL as a FATHER. If you fail here you will damage the immature, fragile faith you’ve been striving to build. What they see with their eyes will deny what you’ve led them to believe. It may take years, if ever, to recover that lost ground. (BUT YOU MUST TRY)
- 2) A Strong Faith; Young children MUST SEE with their eyes 24/7 what their mind cannot yet comprehend nor their heart conceive.  
It must be a faith that works and is strong enough to serve them in the good times and the bad times.
- 3) You better know what you believe and it better be fleshed out every 24/7.  
Heb. 11:6 (read)
- 4) Unconditional LOVE; At what point do you give up on a child? Remember, you are “LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD!” When He does you can. (Barry; “I will never give up on you.”) To give up on a child is to hand them over to the enemy and they will give up on themselves.
- 5) Disciplinarian; (NOT YOUR ONLY ROLE!!!!) Discipline motivated by love for the purpose of restoration of fellowship. (Just like Jesus) Eph. 6:4 “And you, FATHERS, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”
- 6) T.I.M.E. (Love is spelled T.I.M.E.) You most valuable asset. (The prayer I prayed when Barry was young concerning losing him) Standard word in real estate contracts “TIME is of the

essence." If you do not spend time with your children when are you going to be able to speak into their lives and build relationships with them. If you do not spend quality time with your children ON PURPOSE you are not INVESTING your time, you are SPENDING your time. Investing brings return, spending does not. They must be your PRIORITY, not just your responsibility.

Your job as head of your family is to INVEST, INVEST, INVEST and God promised He would give the increase. (guaranteed return, 1 Cor. 3:6) And, the return might not come according to your timetable. (Barry) That does NOT change your RESPONSIBILITY TO INVEST.

Ask) What is the most valuable possession you have? YOUR TIME!! It therefore becomes your most significant SACRIFICE for your kids.

Your kids DO NOT need your money or your answers as much as they need YOUR TIME (YOU). They cannot bring their lives to you. YOU MUST BRING YOURS TO THEM.

If satan cannot make you bad he will make you BUSY. (Keith Boggs)

Inventory/prioritize your time; Work/personal interest (sports) vs quality time with kids, talking about what THEY want to talk about/doing what THEY want to do.

Ask) As a DAD, where is your treasure? Matt. 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Ask) Where are our energies spent? Work/play/family

#### 7) PROVIDER; (NOT YOUR ONLY ROLE)

1 Tim. 5:8 (copy) Most men are excellent at this. BUT WAIT, PROVIDE WHAT???. What about their NON-PHYSICAL needs?

Physical needs are much easier to provide than any others and often less important.

Remember; You are a DAD, NOT A DEPARTMENT head.

Ask) BY YOUR LIFESTYLE 24/7 at home, what lessons are your children learning?

1) Their SPIRITUAL HERITAGE;

a) Walking by faith/trust God

b) How to PRAY

c) Their need/source for WISDOM

d) How to treat OTHERS

e) A sense of responsibility (which separates boys from men-Keith)

f) The vision for the future, what lies ahead. You, as their dad, were created to be their visionary. REMEMBER; You are ahead of them.

g) To be generous = VALUES

h) Kindness/forgiveness/courage

Ask) Will your contribution to your kids be a monument (stuff) or a legacy, a relationship they will treasure and mirror?

#### 8) PRAYER WARRIOR; What are your kids learning from your prayer habits?

SOME KEY PRINCIPLES TO REMEMBER;

(DVD First;) What's the lesson?

1) In the life of a child, life-lessons are more CAUGHT THAN TAUGHT.

2) Boy's become men by watching and standing close to men.

3) A child NEVER outgrows their need for a strong dad in their lives, even when they are grown.

- 4) The greatest needs of children are;
  - a) Love
  - b) Acceptance
  - c) Individuality
  - d) Security
  - e) Hope/direction/purpose
  - f) Self-esteem
  - g) Physical, mental and emotional stability.
- 5) We as dads have a God-given responsibility to future generations. Psalm 78:5-7 (read)
- 6) One of the greatest sins of dads is APATHY, the loss of PASSION for the job God gave you, being a DAD.
- 7) Do you see weak spots in the relationship you had with your dad and what are you doing to change that?

SO WHERE DO I START?????

ASK) HOW BAD DO I WANT TO BE THE FATHER GOD DESIRES/DESIGNED ME TO BE?

- 1) REPENT if need be and apologize to your kid(s). Phil. 3:13 "Forgetting those things which are behind."
- 2) Christian counseling if need be. W.I.T.
- 3) Ask your wife/kids how you can be a better husband/dad. (if you're brave enough)
- 4) Practice LISTENING and not talking. Cultivate A GENUINE INTEREST IN THEIR INTEREST.
- 5) Carve out time to do ONLY WHAT THEY WANT TO DO. W.I.T. (Barry- from 12-18, I gave up my wants (hunting etc) for his needs.
- 6) Focus on the personal, individual needs of ALL your kids. (BEFORE your own) (Each one will be different in many ways.
- 7) Make a list of your current priorities. (Be honest) and change what needs to be changed immediately.
- 8) On a regular basis, do something unexpected for your kids, something simple and non-expensive.
- 9) Get a copy of "God's Promises"
- 10) I recommend the book "Tender Warrior" by Stu Weber  
Both available from Amazon.com

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS;

- 1) Dr. James Dobson; "Our very survival as a people will depend on the presence or absence of masculine leadership in millions of homes."
- 2) How long has it been since you told each individual child that you loved them and were proud of them?
- 3) What if you knew today that you were the single greatest influence on your child regarding their future?
  - a) What if your son would be to his family JUST LIKE YOU are to yours"
  - b) What if the young man your daughter chose as a husband is JUST LIKE YOU?

- c) We must NEVER FORGET the PRIORITY of those who walk beside us (wife) and those who walk behind us (our children.)
  - d) There is an EARTHLY LIMIT to the input we can have on our children.  
John 9:4 "I must work the work of Him who sent me (to be a day) while it is day, the night is coming when no man can work."
- 4) President Geo. W. Bush 43, post 911 made this promise;  
WE WILL NOT TIRE, WE WILL NOT FALTER, AND WE WILL NOT FAIL.

CAN YOU MAKE THAT PROMISE TO YOUR CHILDREN?

## A MAN OF GOD'S TOOLBOX

### 1. RESPONSIBILITIES WE CARRY

1. 1 Peter 1:16 Be HOLY; \_\_\_\_\_
2. 1 Corinthians 3:6 NEVER stop investing in your kids, regardless of their age. \_\_\_\_\_
3. 1 Timothy 2:8 Always pray and NEVER QUIT. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Col. 3:23 In ALL that you do, live daily as unto the Lord and not man, especially as a dad. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Matthew 16:24 Deny SELF. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Matthew 6:33 God's will first. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Philippians 3:13 Forget those things which are behind. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Philippians 2:4 Focus on needs of others \_\_\_\_\_
9. 1 Timothy 5:8 Provide for the needs of your own household. \_\_\_\_\_
10. 1 Corinthians 13:8 Love unconditionally. \_\_\_\_\_
11. 1 Corinthians 4:2 As a SERVANT, BE FAITHFUL. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Proverbs 29:18 Be a faithful family visionary. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Proverbs 3:5 TRUST in the LORD with ALL your heart, especially when you do not understand. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Romans 12:2 Renew your mind, NOT LIKE THE WORLD. \_\_\_\_\_
15. James 1:4 Be PATIENT \_\_\_\_\_
16. 2 Timothy 4:5 Endure hardships \_\_\_\_\_
17. Ephesians 4:32 Forgive as I have forgiven you. \_\_\_\_\_
18. Gen. 2:24 Sacrifice your TIME for your family. \_\_\_\_\_
19. Romans 12:10 Provide physical affection for all the family, especially for the children. \_\_\_\_\_
20. Galatians 5:22 Be longsuffering. \_\_\_\_\_
21. Proverbs 29:17 Discipline your children. \_\_\_\_\_
22. Deuteronomy 11:18-19 Train and teach your children. \_\_\_\_\_
23. Psalms 1:1-3 Be honorable, spiritual and dependable. \_\_\_\_\_
24. Psalm 25:12 Fear the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_
25. James 1:5 Be wise. \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. RESOURCES GOD PROVIDES

1. Hebrews 13:5 His presence.
2. Philippians 4:19 ALL my needs.
3. James 1:5 Needed WISDOM.
4. Psalm 119:11 His WORD.

5. James 4:6 Grace to the HUMBLE.
6. Proverbs 3:6 Direction.
7. 1 Peter 5:7 A burden bearer.
8. Jeremiah 33:3 Emergency service.
9. Isaiah 26:3 Perfect PEACE.

### **3. REWARDS GOD PROVIDES**

1. Matthew 25:21 "Well done"
2. 3 John 1:4 "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."