

Sermon Outline for Sunday 06/21/2026
Pastor Daniel Lackey
“Leading Your Family in the Footsteps of Christ“
Joshua 24:15

Psalm 128 "Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table. Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord. The Lord shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel."

Joshua 24:15 – "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

I. A FATHER MUST LEAD HIS FAMILY SPIRITUALLY – vs. 15

Families are profoundly shaped by the convictions and leadership of fathers.

**A father may not control every decision his children make,
but he can establish the direction of his home.**

A father cannot take his family where he is unwilling to go.

**Children need to see Dad reading Scripture. They need to hear Dad pray.
They need to know church is not optional. They need to see that Christ is more
than a Sunday activity. Many fathers want godly children while living
spiritually indifferent lives themselves.**

II. A FATHER MUST MODEL CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER - Eph. 5:1-2

– "Be ye therefore followers of God... and walk in love."

Children learn far more from observation than instruction.

A. Put away the Idols

- In Joshua 24:14 – Joshua says:

"Put away the gods which your father served."

**It is astonishing that after all God had done, some Israelites still clung to
idols. Joshua understood something important: You cannot serve God
wholeheartedly while holding onto competing loyalties.**

B. Live for Jesus before them

**There are Questions Fathers should ask: Do my children see humility? Do they
see integrity? Do they see repentance when I fail? Do they see kindness toward
their mother? Do they see a genuine love for Christ?**

OVER →

III. A FATHER MUST LOVE HIS FAMILY SACRIFICIALLY

- Ephesians 5:25

**- "Husbands, love your wives,
even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her."**

Christ loved by serving. He gave himself as a sacrifice for our sins.

Biblical leadership is not dictatorship. It is sacrificial service.

The greatest fathers are not necessarily the wealthiest, strongest, or most successful. They are often the ones who quietly lay down their own comforts, ambitions, and desires for the good of their families.

IV. A FATHER MUST LEAVE A SPIRITUAL LEGACY – Psalm 78:4

**- "We will not hide them from their children,
shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord."**

Every father leaves something behind. The question is not whether you will leave a legacy. The question is what kind of legacy you will leave.

V. THE GREATEST GIFT A FATHER CAN SHARE WITH HIS CHILDREN IS CHRIST – 3 John 4

- "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

Many fathers spend their lives giving: giving possessions, giving opportunities, giving inheritances, giving education. Those things are valuable, and it is important that a father provide for the needs of his family.

**But if a father gives his children everything except Christ,
he has not given them what they need the most.**

"Follow Christ so closely that your family can safely follow you."

Like Paul in 1 Cor. 11:1: "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."