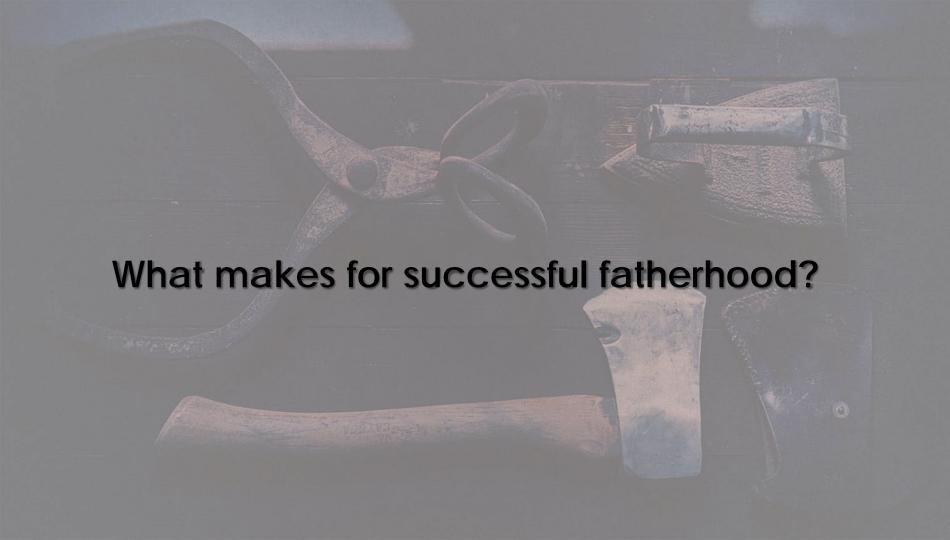


The Highest Goal of Fatherhood

Question: But when it comes to fatherhood, what is the goal? What makes for success?



What goes in the trashcan ends up being incinerated in the end...

Mark 12:30-31

³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

The Problem: We Have Our Own Ideas of Success

Mark 8:31-33

31 And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

3 Ways to Help Direct

Mark 8:34-38

³⁴ And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man (son or daughter) to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

Mark 8:34-38

³⁷ For what can a man give in return for his soul? 38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Mark 4:19

¹⁹ but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

Question: How do we prepare our kids to pursue God's definition of success?

1) Help them Say "No" to Self ("let him deny himself")

Matthew 20:26-28

²⁶ But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, 28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

2) Help them Say "Yes" Jesus ("take up his

cross")

Colossians 1:19-20

19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

3) Help them Walk with Jesus ("and follow me")

Mark 10:21

²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

