

## “How Can a Father Raise Children Who Will Be Blessed?”

Prov 20:7

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The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children are blessed after him. – Prov 20:7 (NKJV)

**Unless you don't have a properly working frontal lobe...** As a father, you desire for your children to be \_\_\_\_\_.

- Jesus offers an \_\_\_\_\_ life for your children! (Jn 10:10) *Father, you play a fundamental role in this.*

**The Q is how?** And does the Bible provide the \_\_\_\_\_ answer to this Q? \_\_\_\_\_! (2 Tim 3:15-17; 2 Pet 1:21)

- Let's unpack this little verse in Proverbs chapter 20 to find out how.

**Prov 20:7 – The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children (and adult children) are blessed after him. (NKJV)**

- This verse inspired me to create a formula.

Righteousness = Godly Integrity → Blessed Children

**Let's break down the formula.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ means **to be right with God** (Rom 3:21-26; Phil 3:7-9; Rom 4:1-5; Psa 37:5-6-NIV/AMP)

- a. The word righteousness in the Hebrew is *Tsaddiyq* (“saw-DEEK”). This righteousness is demonstrated by speech and conduct that is \_\_\_\_\_ with the Bible.
- b. (Mt 5:6; 2 Co 3:18; 1 Th 5:23; He 12:10; 1 Jn 2:6; Ga 5:16-24; Ro 6:11-19; 2 Co 7:1; 2 Co 13:5; Co 3:5-10; He 12:1)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ integrity means **to do the right thing** (1 Pet 3:16; Pro 12:22; 2 Cor 8:16-21; Prov 4:25-27; Heb 13:18)

- a. Fathers (and father figures), your constant goal is to be a \_\_\_\_\_ person (1 Pet 2:9-KJV) because your godly integrity contrasts with the world's standard of integrity. (Eph 5:1 → 1 Jn 2:6; Mt 5:3-10)
- b. Godly integrity requires consistency, in public and private. Your life supports your claim to be a Christian.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ means **a spiritual state of well-being** (Psa 63:1-5; Jn 4:14; Rom 5:1-2)

- a. Due to God's \_\_\_\_\_, one experiences *an other-worldly joy-filled contentment that cannot be shaken.*

***Is this not what every father would desire for his children or adult children?***

**TURN OVER FOR APPLICATION AND GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS**

**“So, what you’re saying is that, as a father, if I learn to become righteous, then my children will be blessed.” Bingo.**

**Here’s how to become righteous:** God calls you to repent and accept Jesus into your heart. (Ro 3:23) *But how?*

- **A**\_\_\_\_\_ that you’re a sinner in need of forgiveness, (Ro 3:23; Jn 1:8)
- **B**\_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus died on the cross for your sins and rose from the grave, ask for forgiveness, and, (Jn 3:16)
- **C**\_\_\_\_\_ to obediently following His will and ways (Lk 9:23-24)

Now, He lives in your heart and will guide you in the path of righteousness (Psa 23:3) **IF YOU...**

Read your Bible, pray, go to church, and share your story.

**Final thoughts:**

1. Our main verse presents a principle, not a promise. (Prov 22:6)
2. You’re doing the best you can with what you have. ~ OR ~ You did the best you could with what you had. (Rom 8:1)
3. If your children are grown, you can still influence them through your righteousness. (Mt 5:13-16)
4. Taking responsibility goes a long way. This can even usher in a breakthrough. (Psa 37:5-6)

**In closing, a question.** What specifically will you do in response to this message? \_\_\_\_\_

**GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS FOR “HOW CAN A FATHER RAISE CHILDREN WHO WILL BE BLESSED?” – 06/16/24**

Go through this note sheet and discuss with your growth group and/or your family at the dinner table. Seek opportunities to also share this with your friends, relatives, coworkers, neighbors, and/or school mates. Bring this note sheet to your work and discuss it with your workmate over lunch. Bring it to school and discuss it with your schoolmate over lunch. Read the main passage and look up all of the supporting verses on the other side of this note sheet. Pray with one another.

1. Regarding the topic of righteousness, the Bible teaches that we all deal with a “sin that so easily entangles.” (Heb 12:1) What is that sin that you are most susceptible to falling into? The one that if you had total victory over, you would be more righteous as a result?
2. Regarding godly integrity, it is important for Christians to do the right thing consistently, even when it hurts. Some examples include 1) turning down a higher paying job because it would take too much time away from family during a time of great need, 2) not participating in a conversation displeasing to God with a group of people, 3) confessing to a spouse or a trusted friend when making a costly mistake.
  - a. What are your thoughts regarding this? Do you have a personal story to share?
3. Regarding being blessed, how well did your faith hold up through the last storm of your life?
4. Which of the four above final thoughts made the greatest impression on you and why?
5. Discuss the 12 roles, realities, and responsibilities of parents in the article, “What Does the Bible say About Parenting?” As a parent, which one are you excelling the most at? Which one do you need to work on the most?