

# **PARENTING WITH THE END IN VIEW**

## **FATHERS BREAKOUT:**

### ***AN URGENT MANDATE FOR GODLY MANHOOD IN THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY***

#### **INTRODUCTION**

“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

#### **I. BE WATCHFUL**

“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Matthew 26:41

#### **II. STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH**

“What we suffer from today is humility in the wrong place. Modesty has moved from the organ of ambition and settled upon the organ of conviction, where it was never meant to be. A man was meant to be doubtful about himself, but undoubting about the truth; this has been exactly reversed. We are on the road to producing a race of men too mentally modest to believe in the multiplication table.”

G. K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy*

#### **III. ACT LIKE MEN**

“[And he said to them,] ‘Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.’ Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, ‘Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it.’”

Deuteronomy 31:6-7

“The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe.”

Proverbs 29:25

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"[Fear of man] is an excessive, sinful concern with what others think about us. An inordinate desire for human approval or intense fear of being rejected."

C. J. Mahaney

"His father [David] had never at any time displeased him [Adonijah] by asking, 'Why have you done thus and so?' He was also a very handsome man, and he was born next after Absalom."

1 Kings 1:6

"For this is what it means to be a king: to be first in every desperate attack and last in every desperate retreat, and when there's hunger in the land (as must be now and then in bad years) to wear fine clothes and laugh louder over a scanty meal than any man in your land."

King Lune, in C. S. Lewis' *The Horse and His Boy*

### IV. BE STRONG

John: "And the child grew and became **strong** in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel." (Luke 1:80).

Jesus: "And the child grew and became **strong**, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him." (Luke 2:40).

"At the heart of mature masculinity is a sense of benevolent responsibility to lead, provide for, and protect women in ways appropriate to a man's differing relationships."

John Piper, *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood*, 35

"Obedience is the only reality. It is faith visible, faith acting, and faith incarnate. It is the test of real discipleship among the Lord's people."

J. C. Ryle, *The Duties of Parents*, 19

"If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."

Mark 9:35

**V. LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE**

“And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, ‘Which commandment is the most important of all?’ Jesus answered, ‘The most important is, “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 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.” The second is this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’”

Mark 12:28-31

“One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee’s house and reclined at table. And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, ‘If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner.’ And Jesus answering said to him, ‘Simon, I have something to say to you.’ And he answered, ‘Say it, Teacher.’ ‘A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?’ Simon answered, ‘The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt.’ And he said to him, ‘You have judged rightly.’ Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, ‘Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.’”

Luke 7:36-47

“Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

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"The great fact of the Christian faith is, not that it makes a man free to sin, but that it makes a man free not to sin."

William Barclay, *1 Corinthians*, 56-57

"An ever increasing craving for an ever diminishing pleasure is the formula."

C.S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*, 49

"A godly man will not go as far as he may, lest he go further than he should."

Thomas Watson, *A Godly Man's Picture*

## **CONCLUSION**

"So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him."

2 Corinthians 5:9

"But what is the use of regret unless we can rise by it to a better future? Sighs, which do not raise us higher, are an ill use of vital breath. Chasten yourselves, but be not discouraged. Gather up the arrows which aforesaid fell wide of the mark, not to break them in passionate despair, but to send them to the target with direct aim, and a more concentrated force. Weave victories out of defeats. Learn success from failure, wisdom from blundering. Through grace, if we have done well, we will do better."

Charles Spurgeon

"Such growth is always close to Paul's heart, and his instructions to the Corinthians in verses 13-14 summarize the responsibility incumbent upon every Christian: Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, courageous, strong. Let all that you do be done in love. In the course of this letter he has pinpointed many areas of discipleship where they have either fallen asleep, or started to totter, lost nerve. He has challenged them to take firm action to put right what has gone wrong. Above all, he has stressed the absolute priority of love for everything they do as a church. These words stand, therefore, as the nub of Paul's instructions... They articulate accurately what lay close to Paul's heart."

David Prior, *1 Corinthians*, 284