

5-Day Devotional: Stewarding Your Influence as a Man of God

Day 1: Recognizing Your God-Given Influence

Reading: 1 Peter 2:9-12

Devotional: You are a chosen priest in God's kingdom. This isn't merely a title—it's your primary vocation. Before you're an electrician, accountant, or teacher, you're called to be salt and light. Take time today to visualize the landscape of people God has placed in your life. Who needs your influence? Your spouse, children, coworkers, and friends are watching. The question isn't whether you have influence, but how you're stewarding it. Some people you think are watching may not be looking at all, while others you've overlooked desperately need your godly example. Ask God to reveal your true sphere of influence, and commit to reaching out to one person today who comes to mind.

Reflection Question: When was the last time you contemplated your influence and asked God to show you how you're using it?

Day 2: The Ministry of Presence and Time

Reading: Ephesians 5:15-17

Devotional: Time is the currency of a relationship. Your children won't remember every gift you bought, but they'll remember building Legos together past bedtime. They'll remember the pool time after a long workday when you were tired. Make the time—don't just find it. Redeeming the time means recognizing that these moments are appointments with eternity. The memories you create today become the foundation of faith tomorrow. Your presence communicates value more powerfully than any words. Put down your phone. Close the laptop. Get on the floor and play. These seemingly small investments yield eternal dividends. Your attention is the gift that keeps giving long after the moment has passed.

Reflection Question: What specific time can you carve out this week to give someone your undivided attention?

Day 3: Leading Your House in Worship

Reading: Joshua 24:14-15

Devotional: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Notice it starts with "me." You cannot lead your family where you haven't gone yourself. Keeping the Sabbath holy, maintaining regular time with God, tithing faithfully—these aren't suggestions but foundations for spiritual leadership. Your family needs to see you ahead of them, not behind. When you prioritize church attendance even when you don't feel like it, you model obedience over emotion. When you open your Bible consistently, you demonstrate that God's Word is living and active. Your children are watching to see if faith is real or just a religious routine. Lead from the front by making serving the Lord the non-negotiable priority in your home.

Reflection Question: In what practical ways can you model spiritual leadership more intentionally this week?

Day 4: The Gift of Godly Discipline

Reading: Hebrews 12:5-11

Devotional: Love and discipline are not opposites—they're inseparable. God disciplines those He loves, and we must do the same. When children clean up their messes, they learn responsibility. When they apologize for wrongs, they learn humility. When they face consequences, they learn wisdom. But discipline must flow from love, not anger. Model what you expect: apologize when you're wrong, keep your word, and maintain consistency. The world is raising entitled children who've never been told no. Don't hate your children by sparing necessary corrections. Years from now, they'll thank you for caring enough to shape their character. Discipline produces righteousness and peace in those trained by it. This is the long game of faithful parenting.

Reflection Question: Is there an area where you need to apologize to your children or establish clearer boundaries?

Day 5: Praying Over Your Legacy

Reading: Psalm 127:1-5

Devotional: Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Your greatest work isn't in your career—it's in your home. Pray over your children by name. Lay hands on them. Speak blessing over their lives. Listen for what God wants to say through you to them. Prayer isn't just talking; it's listening to the Father's heart for your family. You're doing a good job, father. The fact that you're here, seeking God, learning to lead—this matters. Don't believe the cultural lie that fathers are bumbling fools. You're a warrior, a priest, a king under the King. Your influence ripples into eternity. So pray boldly, lead courageously, and trust that the seeds you plant today will bear fruit in seasons you may never see.

Reflection Question: What specific prayer will you commit to praying daily over each member of your family?

Closing Challenge: Share what's on your heart. If you only had seven minutes to share what matters most, what would you say? Don't wait—tell someone you love them today.

Reflection Questions:

Jonathan Hammond shared an exercise called the 'king's chair' where he visualized his influence over people in his life. If you were to do this exercise right now, who would you place closest to you and why?

How might our perception of our influence differ from the reality of what God sees, and what steps can we take to align our understanding with His perspective?

John Waddell emphasized that fathers are doing a good job simply by being present and seeking God. How does this counter-cultural message challenge the negative portrayals of fatherhood we often see in the media?

What does it practically look like to make serving the Lord the priority in your home, as Joshua 24:15 declares, and what obstacles might prevent this from happening?

Matt Rodante mentioned that he thanks his father for disciplining him. How does biblical discipline differ from punishment, and why is it an expression of love rather than harshness?

All three speakers emphasized spending intentional time with children and with God. What is the connection between these two practices, and how does one strengthen the other?

The message highlighted that our main vocation is to be priests, not our professional jobs. How does viewing yourself as a priest first change the way you approach your daily work and relationships?

How can those who are not biological fathers still exercise godly influence and spiritual fatherhood in their communities and church family?

What role does apologizing and modeling humility play in effective spiritual leadership within the family, and why is this often difficult for fathers to practice?

Peter, who is not a father, mentioned looking to these three men as father figures who represent Christ. How can the church better create these intergenerational relationships that reflect our perfect Heavenly Father?