

SERMON NOTES January 10, 2010

“Where Is Dad? A Call for Fathers to Return” Malachi 4:5-6

Introduction: Possible reasons for “Dads” disappearance:

- Men left _____ for the factory = net result of _____
- Men left _____ for the tavern = net result of _____
- Men left _____ for independence = net result of _____ & _____
- Men left _____ for recreation = net result of _____ - _____

“The _____ of missing fathers is creating an American male who is _____ about his identity.”

Fathers play a crucial role in the _____ of girls’ _____ of their femininity. Dad’s _____ is essential.

Message: “It is only when the men today reconnect _____ with the heavenly _____ that we will find out how we are _____ to _____.”

If American men are going to return to responsible fatherhood, we must look at what the Father does. (John 5:19)

We must reconnect earthly fatherhood with the heavenly model – we will find out what is supposed to be true about ourselves. How we are supposed to function. How we can heal the hurts of America’s forgotten children. If American men are going to return to responsible fatherhood, **we must look at what the Father does.** Even Jesus said, *“Truly, truly I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner”* (Jn.5:19).

When we look at the Father, we do not see a _____, _____ father who refuses to be involved. We see One who _____ – publicly. *“You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”* (Mk.1:11).

When we look at the Father, we do not see someone who is _____ with His _____. We see One who initiates love toward His creation. *“God so loved the world that he gave . . .”* (Jn.3:16). *“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!”* (1 Jn.3:1). *“We love Him because He first loved us”* (1 Jn.4:19).

When we look at the Father, we do not see someone who runs and hides and _____ His family. We see One who _____ (even when we are faithless). *“bears all things”* (1 Co.13:7); (1 Ti. 2:13).

When we look at the Father, we do not see someone content to have His family in _____, _____ by social chaos and anarchy. We see One who unifies. One whose love is called *“the bond of perfection”* (Co.3:14). We see a Father from whose headship peace and order flow.

When we look at the Father, we do not see someone who is _____ and unwilling to forsake personal pleasure for the good of others. We see a Father who _____. He was willing to sacrifice His only-begotten Son for the well-being of the human family.

When we look at the Father, we do not see someone with a _____, lukewarm, _____ attitude toward His family. We see One who is _____! (intense and passionate concern) *“I am zealous for Zion with great zeal”* and *“with great fervor I am zealous for her”* (Ze.8:2).

When we look at the Father, we do not see someone who His Son could not _____. We see One who _____. (Christ is the image of the Father.) *“He who has seen me has seen the Father”* (Jn.14:9).

Because our view of God will _____ our view of _____, the essence of all fatherhood and family life can be found within the Holy Trinity. All the _____ of our day regarding roles, functions, and equality can be solved by a _____ of the relationship between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We need the spirit of Elijah in our _____.
We need the spirit of Elijah in our _____.

We need Christian men who are courageous leaders not just nice guys!

Real men don’t just _____ - they take _____ for the physical and spiritual care of children!

Responsibility lies at the heart of _____.

Conclusion: The dads of America need to have such an extraordinary passion for God and be so consumed with the vision of responsible fatherhood that we will allow no obstacle to stand in the way of healing the American family.

CORE CHRISTIAN VALUES - WEEK 2

BELIEF – “What We Need to Know”

Belief #2 - Salvation by Grace: the belief that a person comes into a right relationship with God and is saved by His grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9)

PRACTICE – “What We Endeavor to Do”

Practice #2 - Prayer: praying to God to know Him, to lay our requests before Him, and to find direction for our daily life (Psalm 66:16-20)

VIRTUE – “What We Expect to Be”

Virtue #2 - Peaceful: being free from anxiety because things are right between God and me, and between me and others (Philippians 4:6-7)

CALVARY COTTAGE COMMUNITY

Additional References/ Questions:

What doctrine(s):

Prayer Requests:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Praises:

Verse to memorize:

HOW TO SURVIVE YOUR PASTOR'S SERMONS:

1. Listen to the sermon as if your life depended on it.
2. Look for God's remedies for sin and His instructions for living in a sinful world.
3. Expect to be taught by the Holy Spirit as you hear God's Word proclaimed.
4. Be determined to listen...regardless of the speaker's oratory skills.
5. A profitable Bible message is one that delivers **one** life-transforming truth.
6. Pre-commit to apply and obey God's Word as it is set forth in the sermon.

APPLICATION:

Application is Hard Work:

1. ...because it requires serious thinking.
2. ...because Satan fights it viciously.
3. ...because we naturally resist change.

Four Steps to Practical Application:

- I. **Pray** for insight on how to apply the passage.
- II. **Meditate** on verses you have chosen to study.
 - a. Put yourself in the biblical scene.
 - b. Emphasize words in the passage you are studying.
 - c. Paraphrase the passage.
 - d. Personalize the passage you are studying.
 - e. Use the S-P-A-C-E-P-E-T-S acrostic. *
- III. **Write** out an application – (Personal, Practical, Possible, Provable)
- IV. **Memorize** a key verse from your study.

Questions to Ask When Studying the Bible:

1. What attitude do I need to change (surrender)?
2. What do I need to start doing? Stop doing?
3. What things do I need to believe? Stop believing?
4. What relationships do I need to work on?
5. What ministry should I be having with others?

- *S – Sin to confess?
- P – Promise to claim?
- A – Attitude to change?
- C – Command to obey?
- E – Example to follow?
- P – Prayer to pray?
- E – Error to avoid?
- T – Truth to believe?
- S – Something to praise God for?