

• The more you are empowered **by God** to show her love, the more she will love and respect you.

3. LOVE YOUR CHILDREN

Ephesians 6:4 Amplified “Fathers, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to resentment] [Colossians 3:21 adds: “or they will become discouraged”], but rear them [tenderly] in the training and discipline and the counsel and admonition of the Lord.”

• Fathers, you do matter! Your approval is very important to them all through their life.

4. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

James 2:8 (HCSB) “Indeed, if you keep the royal law prescribed in the Scripture, Love your neighbor as yourself, **you are doing well.**”

• Your kids know if you love their mom and them ... they also know if you love your neighbor.

• The increasing rates of violence, teen pregnancy, poverty, substance abuse, etc. can be directly correlated with the rising rates of fathers virtually checking out at home, and divorce.

• Men, even though we don't deserve it, our Creator God has endowed us with the ability to affect society, all by our willingness to engage in the world around us, and not just seeking to gratify ourselves.

• There are many young boys being raised by single moms who need life-coaching from a man.

• Dads, your spouse and your children, and even those you work with, are profoundly affected by your **choices**.

• God sovereignly gave you authority in your family

Romans 12:2 (NLT) “Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”

• Regain what society has robbed from your masculinity -- get a grip, stand up, and be a man by getting involved with some training.

Note: Men at the Cross Ministries have a great training/discipleship tool called “[One 2 Won Crosstraining](#)” that would be excellent to go through with another guy to help you become the man that God created you to be. Please contact the church office, Pastor Roger, Terry Gerdes or Dean Buse for more information.

- Digging Deeper – “Bottom Line”

For personal or small group study

Week of June 21, 2009

QUICK REVIEW: Which point or scripture passage most challenged you or caught your attention in this week's message? Why?

GROUP DISCUSSION or PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. How does a person's selfishness impact their marriage, parenting or friendship relationships? If we love God with all that is within us, how is that displayed in our various relationships? How does this impact our selfish side? [Mark 12:30; Deuteronomy 5:9; Ephesians 5:25, 6:4; Colossians 3:21]
2. How do our choices in life affect those around us (family, friends, workplace)? What do they reveal about our passion for God? [Romans 12:16; Philippians 2:3-4; Galatians 6:2; 2 Corinthians 2:7 Colossians 3:13]
3. The most influential thing a couple can do for their children is to show their love for each other. Why do you think this is true? If this is so, in what particular ways does it benefit the children? [Ephesians 5:25, 33; 1 Peter 3:1-4, 7; Colossians 3:12-14, 21]
4. How has our modern culture impacted the way men act or think they should act? In what ways does this skewed view affect men in their marriage, parenting or the workplace? What are some specific things we must do to get a proper Biblical view of manhood and masculinity? [Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:17, 23; 1 John 2:4; Philippians 2:5-8; Ephesians 5:22-24; 1 Corinthians 16:13-14; 1 Timothy 2:8]
5. Father's Day can stir up many emotions, both good and bad. Let's safely vent them by writing down three ways your father, or lack of a father, has affected you. Break into groups of two or three or with a spiritual mentor or friend and talk about it. What kind of feelings did your answers evoke? How can these things be used in helping you strengthen your journey with Christ?

Welcome to New Life !

We are very pleased you are here. It is an honor to have you worshipping with us today! This information is provided to help you feel welcome and "at home."

Worship in Singing & Giving

- We leave how to worship up to you as an individual. During **singing** worship some people remain seated, some stand, others kneel, many clap, and some lift their hands. The outward expression is not the issue - it is what is in your heart that counts. Just relax and enjoy the presence of God.
- If you would like to receive personal **prayer** during worship with singing, you may go to one of the Prayer Teams located at the back of the sanctuary.
- Invitation is given for **tithes and offerings**. If you are our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute when God's tithes and offerings are received.

Worship in Sharing God's Love

Expressions of greeting and God's love are extended to all, especially to our guests.

Worship in Meditating on God's Word

Teaching from the Bible for about 35 minutes.

We encourage you to use our **staffed Nursery** [which has a private nursing room] and **Children's Churches** during the service. Please ask an usher for assistance in locating the various rooms.

{turn page over}

Pastor Bob Wine

June 21, 2009

BOTTOM LINE

"Fathers ... take responsibility"
Isaiah 38:19b

Write down three ways your father (or lack of) has affected you.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- Dads, as your child grows, you increasingly influence their choices, attitude, and even how they talk.
- Fathers face a life-threatening adventure they didn't ask for.
- After Adam and Eve had sinned, God didn't come looking for Eve; He came looking for **Adam**. And that is now called the Adamic fall, not the fall of Eve.

Guys, the buck stops on your desk.

FUNDAMENTALS FOR DADS TO SUCCEED

1. LOVE GOD WITH **ALL** YOU ARE

Mark 12:30 "Love the Lord your God with **all** your heart and with **all** your soul and with **all** your mind and with **all** your strength."

• If you loved God that way, how much would you have left to be selfish with?

• It's impossible to love God with all you are without showing it.

Deuteronomy 5:9 "You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate [reject] me"

This isn't a game; it's spiritual survival.

2. LOVE YOUR **WIFE**

Ephesians 5:25 "Husbands, **love your wives**, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her."

• Guys, the most influential thing you can do for your children is to love their mother.

• The mystery of it is: The only way you're able to love your wife as Christ loved the Church is by authentically loving God with "all" you are.