

Sermon Notes  
June 18, 2017  
Pastor Charles Anderson

A dad without Jesus cannot do the one thing that is the most important thing for any dad to do—LEAD HIS CHILDREN TO CHRIST!

A Proverbs Kind of Dad  
Proverbs 4:1

Hear, *my* children, the instruction of a father,  
And give attention to know understanding.

**New King James Version (NKJV)**

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I've heard some of the radio preachers on Bott Radio this week talking about their fathers. It always amazes me to hear them talk about their dads as though they were the greatest hero in their lives. They were generally strong, godly men of integrity and character--the perfect role model for every son. I wonder sometimes if all of that is really true or if there could possibly be a bit of fanaticizing in the memory department! I've known a lot of dads over the course of my life and I can honestly say that the vast majority of them struggled at best and really blew it at worst! Now, don't get me wrong-- there are some really great dads out there, but very few dads that I would call super heroes in the fathering department.

Okay, let's face it, all dads fall short in many ways. They are all endowed with a sin nature. That, in itself is pretty much a guarantee that everything is not going to be done exactly according to specks! That said, we do have some stuff going for us. We don't have to throw up our hands and say, "What's the use?" There is a way to get this fathering thing done the way God intended. The Bible, as in all matters of life and beyond, holds the keys! Proverbs has many of the principals for being a successful dad. In fact, Proverbs is the manual for successful living. You see, a man who reads and applies the principals for fathering found in Proverbs is what I like to refer to as "A Proverbs Kind of Dad"! What is a Proverbs kind of dad?

- I. He is a dad that loves Jesus. (vs. 1:7)  
"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."
  - a. Life begins with knowing Jesus.

- b. Wisdom begins with Knowing Jesus.
  
- c. A dad without Jesus cannot do the one that that is the most important thing for nay dad to do—LEAD HIS CHILDREN TO CHRIST!
  
  
- II. He is a dad that loves his wife. (5:18-19)  
“Be happy with the wife you married when you were young. She is beautiful and graceful, just like a deer; you should be attracted to her and stay deeply in love.”
  - a. Love is caught more that taught. You cannot tell your children to love and respect their mother if you don’t....
  
  
- b. Love is a fruit of the Spirit.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- III. He is a dad whose steps are ordered by the Lord. (Psalm 37:23)  
“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.”
  - a. He never takes a step in life that he has not sought the guidance of God.  
(Proverbs 3:5-6)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. He never starts a day without getting into the Word. (Acts 17:11)

- c. He never takes a step in life that is not prayed over.

**Conclusion:** Charles Spurgeon said, “If we never have headaches through rebuking our children, we shall have plenty of heartaches when they grow up.” A Proverbs kind of dad does not have to live with regret! If you ran your business like you father your children, how would your business be doing? I was talking with a man yesterday that you all would know if I told you his name. His father was very successful in business. Everybody knew and loved him. But this man said that others never got to see the side of his father that he did. He said the only thing that was important to his father was the business and he wanted his son to be just like him—and he was. He said, “I’ve been married three times! I paid more attention to my business than I did my family—just like my dad! Now, I’m alone! I’ve lost most of what I made in business through bad divorces.” Sounds like a lot of regret!!

What kind of legacy will you leave? Proverbs 13:22 “ A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children, But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.”