

THANK YOU
FOR JOINING US TODAY!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

AREAS TO SERVE

Help us make Sundays the best they can be!

We have our new "Opportunities to Serve" wall where you can see our immediate needs! Check it out, and help by giving your time!

Odd-Job Call List

We also are in need of a team of people to be "on call" for some grunt work around Element. It could be stacking/resetting chairs, cleaning up after an event, painting, or helping move some bark around the property (plus other things).

We are working on compiling a list to call/email as projects come up. If you would like to be on that list, let us know... it doesn't mean you have to say, "yes" every time.

Sign up at the Welcome Center
or through this QR Code:



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ELEMENT
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**COUNTER CULTURAL
FATHERHOOD**

Today's Verses:

Proverbs 4:1-7
Proverbs 11:2
Romans 12:3

Proverbs 7:22-23
1 Kings 11:6
Romans 5:8

Colossians 2:13-14
Romans 5:10

COUNTER CULTURAL FATHERHOOD

We are taking this summer to move through the book of Proverbs in an effort to understand God's call to live out practical wisdom in a way that honors Him. Proverbs inherently presents a Counter Culture view of fatherhood: It is expected that fathers will instruct their children and lead them toward a wise life.

King Solomon teaches wisdom to his sons in a series of speeches in Proverbs 1-9. He teaches them to:

1. **Be Wise.** We teach our children to be wise by:
 - Showing them the value of pursuing wisdom
 - Showing them that they will learn best when they learn to apply the wisdom of others to their own life.
 - Showing them that God is the true source of Wisdom. We grow in godly wisdom when we have the right reverence and awe for God.
2. **Be Humble.** We teach our children to be humble by:
 - Showing them that God is the true source of their gifts and talents.
 - Teaching them to love Godly wisdom and stay hungry to learn.
3. **Be Faithful.** We teach our children to be faithful by:
 - Teaching them that sex is a gift from God and designed to be enjoyed within marriage and only within marriage.
 - Teaching them that feeding our God-given desires outside of God's design leads to terrible outcomes.

Solomon taught these great lessons but did not effectively pass them on because he failed to live by them in his own life. Solomon had a divided heart which caused him to live counter to his own wisdom. We need God's help to live according to Godly wisdom and to maintain an undivided heart that is devoted to Him. Thankfully God sent Jesus to rescue us and to transform our hearts so that they might be undivided as we follow Him.

Three simple action items:

1. Share how you are growing personally with your children.
2. Pick a book to read in order to keep growing in grace.
3. Catch someone doing something right as a parent and encourage them.

Introduction

King Solomon taught his sons to Be Wise, Be Humble, and Be Faithful. Yet, Solomon's life contradicted his teaching because his heart was divided. We need an undivided heart to truly live as God intended, a heart that only God can cultivate in us. Only then can we live in wisdom and lead our children to live wisely.

Discussion

What are some things our culture teaches us about fatherhood? Are they true? Why or why not?

What is the greatest thing you learned from your own father (or a father-figure)?

Explanation

What wisdom do you hope to pass on to your children? Why is this important to you?

Application – Read Proverbs 4:1-7 & 1 Kings 11:6

What are some ways that you could gain godly wisdom? What would it cost you to pursue that wisdom?

How have you learned from the mistakes of others and grown in wisdom? Give an example.

How much are you allowing God to change you? Are you modeling a heart that is willing and eager to grow?

How can you cultivate a heart that is undivided toward God?

Mission

Give an example of an area where you need to grow in wisdom, humility, or faithfulness. How can your GC be praying for you in these areas?

What steps could you take to grow in understanding God's grace and the Gospel better?

What is one practical way you could demonstrate how you are continuing to grow in wisdom, humility, and faithfulness to the next generation?

Homework - Read Proverbs 24:27

If you could go back and give yourself some pre-marital advice, what would it be?