



The Week of June 19, 2022

Father's Day

Conversation Guide

This Week's Takeaways

- **Identity:** (John 1:12) I have worth and value because I am made in God's image and am His child. As His child, I live my life to bring glory to God and to serve His purposes.
- **About the Bible:** (2 Timothy 3:16-17) I believe the Bible is God's Word. It is true and authoritative and I am committed to living according to its principles and commands.

Intro Questions

- What is your favorite "Dad Joke?"
- Name some great things about your Dad.
- What are some life lessons or wise advice did you learn from your Dad, Step-Dad, Grandfather or a male role model?
- What measures of success do Dads (and Moms) seek for their kids?

A Dad's Strategy

1 Corinthians 11:1

Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ.

- How significant are these seven words for a Christian Dad, Stepdad, Grandfather or male role model?

Imitating Christ begins with a Reclaimed Heart

Romans 3:22-25 CSB

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, attested by the Law and the Prophets. The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe, since there is no distinction. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God presented him as the mercy seat by his blood, through faith, to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his restraint God passed over the sins previously committed. God presented him to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so that he would be just and justify the one who has faith in Jesus.

- What does this passage tell us about everyone's heart?
- What does the passage tell us is the solution to Dad's (or Mom's) and their child's sinful nature?
- How influential is it for the Dad to have his heart reclaimed by God?
- How can a man as a Dad or role model shepherd a child's heart?

Imitating Christ requires a Renewed Mind

Romans 12:1-3 CSB

Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God. For by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he should think. Instead, think sensibly, as God has distributed a measure of faith to each one.

- Why is surrendering our lives to God an essential part of daily walking in Christlikeness?
- How do we renew our mind?
- What is the result of renewing our mind?

Galatians 5:16-25 CSB

I say, then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I am warning you about these things—as I warned you before—that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

- What does it mean to “walk in the Spirit” and not “in the flesh?”
- How can you tell which one you are doing?
- What daily objective is given “to those who belong to Christ Jesus?”

Imitating Christ requires a Reliable Hope

Philippians 3:20–21 CSB

Our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly wait for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of his glorious body, by the power that enables him to subject everything to himself.

- What is the hope of the believer?
- How does keeping a heavenly perspective change how a person lives and relates to others?

1 Corinthians 15:51–56 CSB

Listen, I am telling you a mystery: We will not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed. For this corruptible body must be clothed with incorruptibility, and this mortal body must be clothed with immortality. When this corruptible body is clothed with incorruptibility, and this mortal body is clothed with immortality, then the saying that is written will take place:

*Death has been swallowed up in victory.
Where, death, is your victory?
Where, death, is your sting?*

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

- How does knowing that Jesus will return at any time, keep this life in perspective?
- What hope does knowing that this old corruptible body will one day be “clothed in immortality?”
- What does it mean that Death has lost its victory for the believer?
- What would change in the behaviors and attitudes of a Dad (and every believer) who grasped the reality of these verses?

Next Steps

- Celebrate Father’s Day and give thanks to God for them.
- Dads: Daily this week Memorize and Meditate on 1 Cor. 11:1 - “Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ.”
- Families: Dads are under attack and derision in our country. Commit to pray each day this week for those that fill that role in your life.