

HEART OF A SPIRITUAL FATHER

DAVE BUEHRING | FATHER'S DAY

This Father's Day, we all have a heavenly father who loves us.

God calls men to be:

1. Faithful Follower
2. Loving Leader
3. Humble Warrior

The calling is made up of **character** (faithful, loving, humble) and **role** (follower, leader, warrior).

FAITHFUL FOLLOWER

Genesis 12:1-4

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him..."

→ Abram was 75 years old.

Genesis 17:1-6

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram,

but your name shall be Abraham for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you...”

The way we live our lives speaks louder than what we say. To be a faithful follower, we must selflessly walk in obedience.

Hebrews 11:8-10

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations whose designer and builder is God.

James 2:23

...and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God.

- Are you walking in obedience?
- Are you living selflessly?
- Are you walking in big faith?

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all of your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.

LOVING LEADER

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

No matter where we lead, we must do so out of love just as Jesus did.

Genesis 12:10-13

Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land. When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife “I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance, and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, “this is his wife.” Then they will kill me but they will let you live. Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake.”

Twenty years later, Abraham uses his wife to protect himself again.

Passivity: when a man does not step up and into the responsibilities that God has asked him to take, personally, in our homes, and in society.

Passivity can be marked by:

- Procrastination
- Lingering boyhood (abdicating responsibilities to play)

→ Whatever area you don't step into, the enemy will use to destroy you and those around you.

Passivity began in the Garden of Eden when Adam stood by and watched Eve fall prey to Satan's lies.

HUMBLE WARRIOR

Men have been made to war (challenges, obstacles to overcome, things to tear down or build up).

→ God builds character through tests, preparing us.

Genesis 22:1-2

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

God wants to know if He is first in Abraham's heart or if the promise (Isaac) is first.

Genesis 22:9-12

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

When hard things happen do you complain, or do you ask God what He's trying to do in you?

→ Nothing can come to you except approved by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Fear of the Lord means **reverencing God** (you're God, I'm not) and **referencing God** (what do you want me to do) **in everything**.

HAPPY  **FATHER'S DAY!**