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A Real Man Betters  
God's World



BETTERMAN





# SESSION 4

*A Real Man Better's God's World:  
His Children*



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# What You Do with Your Children Matters

## 1

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- A. What you teach your children will govern your impact on God's world as much as anything else.
- The Bible teaches that children are like arrows in the hands of a skilled archer. As dad, we fire these arrows. The metaphor gets at the missional aspect of raising a child.



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- The Bible teaches that children are like arrows in the hands of a skilled archer. As dad, we fire these arrows. The metaphor gets at the missional aspect of raising a child.
- B. God's plan for your children is generational obedience and prosperity.



**2**

**Your Children Need an Example—Dad,  
You're It!**



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- Parenting begins with modeling. Modeling has priority over telling. We must live out certain things before our children.

**B.** Moses tells the men of Israel to be examples of two things. We are to be the visible, bodily example of two loves. Let's make that more personal. Men, you and I are to be an example of two things – two loves:

- Love the Lord...

# 2

## Your Children Need an Example—Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

- This means you love God with:
  - Your heart. This is your desires, affections, and choices.



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- And love His Word...



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  - Your strength. This is all your activity, what you put your hand to.
- And love His Word...
  - Do you meditate on His Word? Do you read it? **Memorize** it? Study it and share it?

**3**

**Your Children Need a Teacher—Dad,  
You're It!**



# 3

## Your Children Need a Teacher—Dad, You're It!

- A. What does the author mean by “*teach them diligently?*” The word “teach” means to “impress.” It was often used of an artist or engraver, with hammer and chisel, etching a text or image into the face of a granite slab. Fathers, we are to similarly chisel the principles of God's Word onto the hearts and minds of our children.
- This “impressing” is both systematic and spontaneous.

# 3

## Your Children Need a Teacher—Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

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**B.** This systematic and spontaneous impressing, or teaching, largely takes place in the home.

- Notice that the spiritual formation of our children is a constant activity.

You talk to them:

1. When you sit.
2. When you walk.



**3**

# Your Children Need a Teacher—Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

3. When you lie down.
4. When you rise.

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## Your Children Need a Teacher—Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

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- Moses is assuming close proximity to our children. He assumes we are with our children throughout the day.

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**C.** There is greater distance in the home today in the American culture than there ever has been anywhere.

- We must remember that error increases with distance.
- You cannot parent effectively from a distance. If I am going to be a good father, I must be with my children early and often.

## 3

# Your Children Need a Teacher—Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

- As men, we must figure out how to minimize that distance. No one else in this world will fight that distance for your family. You must do it.

4

**Your Children Need a Guide—Dad,  
You're It!**

## 4

# Your Children Need a Guide—Dad, You're It!

A. Moses ends where he began—modeling the truth we are to teach to our children. Your life is the most important part of the spiritual formation of your children. Your modeling must be consistent.

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- Notice the consistency Moses calls for...
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  2. Your private and public life must be consistent with God's truth.

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**B.** Our word “*integrity*” stems from the Latin word ‘*integer*’ which means whole and complete (an integer is a whole number—no fraction). Integrity requires a ‘wholeness’ or consistency of character.

- A fragmented or broken character is a lack of integrity.

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- Inconsistency in these is hypocrisy, and it sends a twisted message to your children.



## 4

# Your Children Need a Guide—Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

- What does hypocrisy in the Christian life look like? Do as I say, not as I do...
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  4. Preaching holiness but practicing worldliness.
  5. Preaching forgiveness but harboring resentment.



## 4

# Your Children Need a Guide—Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

C. God's plan is for generational prosperity. He intends our children to learn from us to obey His Word and experience the prosperity of covenant blessing.

- Men, that begins and ends with you. Your example. Your **instruction**. Your proximity. And your integrity. You're just the man for the job.

**5**

# Your Children Need Your Blessing— Dad, You're It!

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A. Fathers can and should bless their children.

- What is a father's **blessing**? A father's blessing is giving authorization and empowering your children to grow in Christlikeness.

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- What is a father's blessing? A father's blessing is giving authorization and empowering your children to grow in Christlikeness.
- The father's blessing is not only words of affirmation but intentional instruction that will set a child on the right path.
- **IMPORTANT:** True blessings are not tied to performance or a life event!



**5**

# Your Children Need Your Blessing— Dad, You're It! *Continued...*

**B.** You see these types of blessings throughout Scripture:

- These blessings were always intended to pass primarily through the father! Nothing compares to a Father's Blessing!





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