

Study Guide: A Father's Legacy: Strength, Obedience, and Faithfulness Study Guide

Sunday AM-June 21, 2026

This study guide explores the biblical foundations of fatherhood and the lasting impact of a godly legacy. Based on King David's final words to his son Solomon, the following sections examine what it means to be a man of character, the importance of obeying God's Word, and the true meaning of prosperity. Whether you have a strong earthly father or have experienced the pain of a broken home, these truths point toward the unchanging love and strength of our Heavenly Father.

Quiz: Reviewing the Legacy

1. When did Father's Day first become a permanent national holiday in the United States, and which president signed that legislation?
2. How does the Bible, specifically in Psalm 68:5, describe God's relationship with those who are fatherless or hurting?
3. In David's charge to Solomon, how does the biblical definition of "showing yourself a man" differ from how our culture often defines masculinity?
4. What are some of the specific areas where the text suggests modern fathers need to show spiritual courage within their families?
5. When the young shepherd David faced the giant Goliath, what was the primary source of his courage according to 1 Samuel 17:45?
6. According to the lesson, why are God's commands and boundaries given to His people, and how do they benefit a believer?
7. Why is a father's personal example of worship and prayer considered a "greater gift" than money or physical possessions?
8. How does the Bible's view of "prosperity" differ from the common worldly idea that it only refers to wealth or financial success?
9. Using the example of Joseph from the Old Testament, how can God work through difficult or "evil" circumstances for a person's good?
10. According to the conclusion of the sermon, what is the proper response for a father who feels he has failed or made many mistakes in the past?

Answer Key

1. While the first statewide celebration was in 1910, President Richard Nixon signed the legislation making Father's Day a permanent national holiday in 1972. President Lyndon Johnson had previously designated the third Sunday in June for the celebration in 1966.
2. The Bible states that God is "A father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in His holy habitation" (Psalm 68:5). This means that regardless of earthly experiences, God sees, comforts, and invites everyone into His family through Jesus Christ.
3. Culture often defines masculinity through physical strength, money, or dominance over others. In contrast, biblical manhood is measured by character traits like keeping one's word, leading with humility, and fearing God more than people.
4. Fathers need courage to lead their families in prayer and to stand firmly for biblical values even when they are unpopular. It also takes courage to admit mistakes and remain faithful in a culture that often encourages compromise.
5. David's courage was not rooted in self-confidence or his own abilities, but in "God-confidence." He declared that while Goliath came with weapons, David came "in the name of the Lord of hosts."
6. God's commands are not meant to rob people of joy, but to protect and guide them. Much like a loving earthly father sets boundaries for a child's safety, the Heavenly Father provides His Word as a lamp and a light for our path.
7. Children may forget the specific words their parents say, but they rarely forget the way their parents live. When a father demonstrates a life of obedience to Jesus Christ, he leaves a spiritual legacy that impacts future generations.
8. Biblical prosperity is the blessing and peace that comes from walking closely with God and having a clear conscience. It is the confidence of knowing you are exactly where God wants you to be, regardless of your financial status.
9. Joseph was betrayed and imprisoned, yet God was "prospering" him by working through those hardships. As Romans 8:28 explains, God works all things together for good for those who love Him, even when the circumstances themselves are painful.
10. The answer is not to strive for perfection, as every father in the Bible except Jesus Christ was flawed. Instead, a father should turn to God in repentance and faith, surrendering his life to the Heavenly Father who offers forgiveness and hope.

Essay Questions for Deeper Reflection

1. **Defining Strength:** Compare the "giants" David faced (like Goliath) with the "giants" that fathers and families face today. How does trusting in God's strength change the way a person handles anxiety, pressure, or temptation?
2. **The Power of Example:** The text states, "We cannot pass on what we do not possess." Discuss why a parent's personal relationship with Jesus Christ must come before they can effectively teach their children about faith.
3. **Biblical Prosperity vs. Worldly Success:** Using the lives of David or Joseph as examples, write about a time when a difficult situation might actually be a form of "biblical prosperity." How does God use trials to make His people more Christlike?
4. **The Character of the Heavenly Father:** For those who have painful memories of their earthly fathers, how does the promise of God as a "father of the fatherless" provide healing and a new sense of identity?
5. **Generational Impact:** Proverbs 20:7 mentions that the children of a righteous man are blessed after him. Explain how a life of integrity serves as a better inheritance than land, money, or achievements.

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Atonement:** The act of Jesus Christ dying on the cross to pay for the sins of humanity, making it possible for people to be right with God.
- **Charge:** A formal instruction or task given to someone, such as David's final "charge" to Solomon to remain faithful.
- **Gospel:** Literally meaning "good news," it refers to the message of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- **Habitation:** A place of residence or dwelling; in the text, it refers to God's holy dwelling place.
- **Integrity:** The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles that do not change based on the situation.
- **Legacy:** Something handed down from a predecessor or the past, such as a family's reputation, values, or spiritual faith.
- **Masculinity:** The qualities or attributes traditionally associated with being a man.
- **Prosperity:** In a biblical sense, this refers to thriving spiritually and enjoying God's favor and presence, rather than just having money.
- **Repentance:** A sincere turning away from sin and turning toward God with a desire to change.

- **Statutes:** Written laws or decrees, specifically referring to the laws of God found in Scripture.

Greek Terminology Reference

Greek Word	Phonetic Pronunciation	Definition
Christos ^[^1]	<i>kris-tos'</i>	The "Anointed One" or "Messiah"; the title given to Jesus as the Savior of the world.

[^1]: This is the Greek origin of the word **Christ** used throughout the study guide to refer to **Jesus Christ**.