



FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

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NEWSLETTER

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DEAR DAD . . .



AS MEN WE DELIGHT WHEN OUR CHILDREN OR WIVES ADDRESS US AS “DEAR.” OUR KIDS MAY SAY “DEAR DADDY” AND OUR WIVES MAY WHISPER “DEAREST DARLING.” IT ALL DELIVERS A SMILE TO OUR FACE AND SENDS SHIVERS DOWN OUR BACK.

I BEGAN A NEW SERIES OF MESSAGES YESTERDAY. I’M CALLING THE SERIES “DEAR DAD” AND WILL SEEK TO ENCOURAGE ALL MEN TO CONSIDER WHAT GOD’S WORD SAYS ABOUT OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

I INTRODUCED A SERIES OUTLINE LIKE THIS:

DEAR DAD . . .

- I. LIVE FOR GOD SUPREME
- WHAT ABOUT YOUR HOLINESS?
- II. LOVE YOUR WIFE SUPERBLY
- WHERE IS YOUR HEART?
- III. LEAD YOUR CHILDREN SUCCESSFULLY
- HOW IS YOUR HOME?

IT IS MY PRAYER THAT WE WILL BE MORE PIOUS, GREAT PARTNERS AND GOOD PARENTS. ALL THE “SUCCESS” IN THE WORLD IS MEANINGLESS IF WE DON’T FULFILL OUR GODLY RESPONSIBILITIES.

PSALM 112 COULD BE A THEME PASSAGE FOR OUR STUDY THOUGH, AT THIS TIME, I DON’T PLAN TO PREACH ON IT. I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO READ IT. BUT LET ME FOCUS FOR A MINUTE ON THE OPENING VERSE. “PRAISE THE LORD! HOW BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO FEARS THE LORD, WHO GREATLY DELIGHTS IN HIS COMMANDMENTS.”

THE BLESSED MAN IS NOTED FOR TWO EMOTIONS. THE FEAR OF THE LORD AND DELIGHT IN HIS WORD. TOO MANY MEN THINK THAT FEAR IS A NEGATIVE EMOTION. WE DON’T WANT TO FEAR ANYTHING. YET TO FEAR GOD IS TO GIVE HIM RESPECT AND HONOR. THE HEBREW WORD MEANS “TO TREMBLE” AND IN THE LXX GREEK TRANSLATION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT THE TRANSLATORS USED THE WORD “PHOBAMENOS” FROM WHICH WE GET OUR ENGLISH WORD “PHOBIA.” WE NEED TO HAVE A GOD-PHOBIA. TO FEAR HIM IS A PART OF OUR PIETY. THE SECOND ELEMENT OF A BLESSED MAN IS THAT HE DELIGHTS IN GOD’S COMMANDS. HE TAKES PLEASURE IN GOD’S WAYS. I THINK WE SOMETIMES STRUGGLE JUST TO DO GOD’S COMMANDS BUT WE CERTAINLY HAVE DIFFICULTY DELIGHTING IN THEM. ASK YOURSELF, HOW MUCH DO I TRULY DELIGHT IN GOD’S WORD, GOD’S WILL AND GOD’S WAYS.

NOTICE TOO THAT THIS VERSE BEGINS WITH THE EXCLAMATION “PRAISE THE LORD!” INDEED IT IS PRAISEWORTHY WHEN MEN FEAR GOD AND DELIGHT IN HIS WORD. IN FACT THE LORD IS PRAISED WHEN MEN PRACTICE THESE TWO EMOTIONS. IF WE REALLY WANT TO DRAW ATTENTION TO OUR GOD AND GLORIFY HIM WE MUST SEEK TO BE SINCERELY GODLY.

DEAR DAD WILL YOU DO AS GOD DIRECTS?

LOOKING UP,
PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE