

**A Good Dad**  
**Questions Jesus Asked Pt. 2**

**Small Group Questions:**

1. What was father's day like for you growing up?
  2. Do you have any connection regrets, in your relationship with your father or with your kids, if you have them?
  3. If you do have connection regrets, what might it look like to move forward differently because of them?
  4. Brainstorm this question as a group: how would you maximize the time you have left with your kids at home? Whether people have kids or not, everyone can speak to this question.
  5. How do you feel about fatherhood/parenthood? Is it something that's worth committing a significant portion of your life and energy to? If so, why?
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Relationships between fathers and their children are often **COMPLICATED**.

**Those Winter Sundays**

Sundays too my father got up early  
and put his clothes on in the blueblack cold,  
then with cracked hands that ached  
from labor in the weekday weather made  
banked fires blaze. No one ever thanked him.

I'd wake and hear the cold splintering, breaking.  
When the rooms were warm, he'd call,  
and slowly I would rise and dress,  
fearing the chronic angers of that house,

Speaking indifferently to him,  
who had driven out the cold  
and polished my good shoes as well.

What did I know, what did I know  
of love's austere and lonely offices?

-Robert Hayden

**QUESTION:** Are you a good father?

**Matthew 7:9-10** *Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?*

You have **LESS** time left than you think.

*"I always talk about being a parent: People talk about quality time. I like to talk about 'garbage time.' Bowl of cereal at 11:00 at night? That's garbage time," - Jerry Seinfeld*

**Proverbs 22:6** *Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*

**Our Goal:** We want our kids to grow into responsible, considerate adults who trust and enjoy Jesus and who want to spend time with us.

#### **The Four Core Regrets**

1. Foundation Regrets
2. Boldness Regrets
3. Moral Regrets
4. Connection Regrets

- Daniel Pink

**Ecclesiastes 7:2–4** *It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart. 3 Frustration is better than laughter, because a sad face is good for the heart. 4 The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of pleasure.*

**Reversal:** *"Hey Dad, I know it's been a while. I just wanted to say, I love you. I miss you. I really would love to have more of a relationship with you than what we've had in the past. And if that's something that you want too, maybe we could plan some time together."*

**Genesis 1:27–28** *So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."*

**THEOLOGICAL TRUTH:** When we raise children, we honor a significant piece of what God created us for.

Of all the options available to pursue in this life, **FATHERHOOD** is a beautiful one.

**BOTTOM LINE:** A **GOOD** father is a great **GIFT**.

**John 1:12–13** *Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.*

**GOSPEL TRUTH:** Jesus died and rose for us, so that we could have the perfect heavenly **FATHER**.

