

THE SELFLESS FATHER

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*Luke 15:11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:
Luke 15:12 And the younger of them said to his father,
Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me.
And he divided unto them his living.*

*Luke 15:13 And not many days after the younger son
gathered all together, and took his journey into a far
country, and there wasted his substance with riotous
living.*

*Luke 15:17 And when he came to himself, he said, How
many hired servants of my father's have bread enough
and to spare, and I perish with hunger!*

*Luke 15:18 I will arise and go to my father, and will
say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven,
and before thee,*

*Luke 15:19 And am no more worthy to be called thy
son: make me as one of thy hired servants.*

*Luke 15:22 But the father said to his servants, Bring
forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring
on his hand, and shoes on his feet:*

*Luke 15:23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it;
and let us eat, and be merry:*

*Luke 15:24 For this my son was dead, and is alive
again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be
merry.*

Losing yourself

- The objective of a father should be to give. To give everything he is to his family. ***Luke 11:11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?*** God blesses those that give, especially when it comes to giving up your own life for others.
- The enemy desires to make the father self focused so he will miss his opportunity to be blessed. You cannot be blessed if you do not give and so many fathers miss the mark in this life because they won't give up their own will for God's creation role.
- Man was created to give himself to God. This is done by giving up our will for his. Our plans, desires, and aspirations should all be centered around God and in line with his ultimate plan for man. ***Matt. 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.***



God's Plan

- When he created us, God gave man everything he needed to survive. He provided, protected, and was priest to man so man was lacking nothing. By this example, man's earthly family should not lack anything but we should supply our family with all they need in this life.
- Our children are our image and likeness and should be our main focus. We should desire to give our all to them and our spouse. Men that do not do this have issues with selfishness. When we do not provide all that our family needs, then we are not operating in the will God has established for us. ***1Tim. 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.***
- God blesses us for giving emotionally and spiritually just like he does when we give financially. No matter what it is we are giving, it's still more blessed to give than receive. ***Acts 20:35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.***
- This principle works for every gift we give. Whether it is time, money, or love, we are blessed when we give it. And if we lack any of these, giving them will bring it back to us based on the law of reaping and sowing. ***Gal. 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.***



Giving is receiving!

- When men are selfish it simply means that they desire more for themselves. Well, this can be solved by giving.
- When you give your family your all, they return it and so does God. The blessing in caring for your loved ones and taking care of your family brings a great reward from God. You won't have to be selfish because everything you give will come back to you. So the very things you needed will be supplied by you giving of yourself. ***Prov. 23:24 The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.***

Summary

A selfless father does not focus on himself, but rather denies his own wants and needs for his family's needs and wants. David prayed and said that the Lord was his shepherd and he didn't have to want for anything. He was telling us that a good father provides everything that is needed to survive. This is what a father is suppose to do. True fulfillment in this life comes from operating in our creation roles as fathers and when we do this, we are blessed. God didn't bless man until He made them male and female. *Gen. 5:2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.* When the family came, the blessing came. So, if we desire to walk in the greater blessing of God, we should operate in the manner God intended. That is to be like him and not be selfish, but selfless. Giving everything we have to our family and trusting that our needs will be met because of it.

Psalm 23:1-6 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;