

Father's Day 2025  
"Finish The Fight"

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled today's message: **"Finish The fight"**

~ INTRO. ~

AS WE COME TO FATHER'S DAY...

- It is often a sensitive day.
  - For some there are fond memories.
  - For others the day brings wounds to the surface.

POINT BEING...

- **Father's Day affects each of us differently.**

SO...

- I want God to help us no matter how we come into this morning.
  - **(Philp. 3:10-15a) NLT**

A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE...

- To focus on what's ahead...
  - And NOT being paralyzed by what we can't change.

~ STUDY ~

NOW... AS WE LOOK INTO THE BIBLE...

- We see different types of men God used.

MEN WHO FAILED...

- But were given second chances by God...
  - And became men of faith.
  - **Abraham = Father of faith** (worshipped the moon)
  - **Moses = Humble man** (but he killed a guy)
  - **Joshua = Conquering man** (but he was afraid to lead)
  - **David = An everyday man** (got lazy & committed adultery)

ALL THESE MEN... FAILED!

- But they believed that God was greater than their failures.

Father's Day 2025  
"Finish The Fight"

THIS IS THE TYPE OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION...

- That we aim for as Christians.
  - Placing faith in God to work out our weakness.

## #1 – LIVING IN THE PRESENT & DEALING WITH THE PAST

Back in the Hebrew Culture...

- DAD was obligated to do **5-things** for his son.
  - 1) Circumcise his son on the 8<sup>th</sup> day after birth.
  - 2) Redeem the first born – with 5-silver coins 30-day after birth.
  - 3) Teach him the Torah – Faith & the history of his identity.
  - 4) Teach him a trade – giving him a skill to survive.
  - 5) Find him a wife – by making arrangements that fit the family.

\* (Talmud – Kiddushin 29a)

HERE'S THE TRUTH TO UNDERSTAND...

- Dad's impact our faith / our families / & our future.
  - BUT... when Dad is missing...
    - I must learn to look to the Lord.

(Ps. 27:10)NLT

*"Even if my mother and father abandon me, the LORD will hold me close."*

MANY OF YOU NEED THIS WORD OF TRUTH TODAY!

- Because you're still paralyzed from your past.
  - (Philp. 3:13) NLT

*"Forgetting"* = No longer being influenced...

- OR controlled mentally or emotionally by the past.

(Ps. 4:4) NLT

## #2 – INFLUENCING ATTITUDES & ACTIONS

WHEN I WAS LITTLE...

- My Dad instilled in me **a will to fight**.

Father's Day 2025  
"Finish The Fight"

- He would tell me... *your tough boy get after it...*
  - And always protect your brother.
- That was his love bump.
  - And many of my responses in early life...
    - Mimicked his violence.

SO... I HAD TO LEARN A NEW WAY...

- Because my attitude impacted my actions...
  - And I got in a lot of trouble early in life.

BUT WHEN GOD SAVED ME...

- I learned that manhood is NOT a set of rigid physical traits.

RATHER...

- It's a character built on faith, hope, & love.
  - That manifests itself in strength, courage, & commitment...
    - As I assume responsibility.

(1 Cor. 13:11-13) NLT

REMEMBER...

- Dad's impact our faith / our families / & our future.
  - The bible tells the church (1 Cor. 16:13-14) NLT

OK ...

**#3 – GOD PROMISED POWER**

To "Finish The Fight"

(Philp. 4:1-9) NLT

The Survival Guide:

1. Stay true (v.1)
2. Settle disagreements (v.2)
3. Live in joy (v.4)
4. When trouble comes – pray (v.6)
5. Change your attitude by how you think (v.8)

Father's Day 2025  
"Finish The Fight"

6. Put into practice what you're learning (v.9)
7. Christ is your strength so don't complain (vv.12-13)

~ IN CLOSING ~

KING DAVID...WHEN HE WAS DYING...

- Told his son Solomon (1 Kings 2:2) NLT

*"I am going where everyone on earth must someday go.  
Take courage and be a man."*