

## **11—Ministry of Parenting**

3/27/22

### **INTRO:**

#### **I. → Ezekiel 18:1-21**

*18 The word of the Lord came to me: 2 “What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: “The parents eat sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?*

*→ 3 “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. 4 For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.”*

#### **A. Deuteronomy 5:9**

*“Visiting the iniquity of the fathers (ancesters) upon the children (descendants) unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.” (KJV)*

1) ‘avot—forefathers, ancestors

2) baniym—descendants

*→ 19 “Yet you ask, ‘Why does the son not share the guilt of his father?’ Since the son has done what is just and right and has been careful to keep all my decrees, he will surely live. 20 The one who sins is the one who will die. The child will not share the guilt of the parent, nor will the parent share the guilt of the child.”*

*→ “The righteousness of the righteous will be credited to them, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against them. 21 But if a wicked person turns away from all the sins they have committed and keeps all my decrees and does what is just and right, that person will surely live; they will not die.”*

#### **II. FIRST JOB—RAISING 6 CHILDREN, PASTOR ON THE SIDE**

## BODY:

### I. The Burden of Guilt

*20 The child will not share the guilt of the parent, nor will the parent share the guilt of the child*

A. Sound biblical principles do not remove freedom of will.

1) **Proverbs 22:6**

*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. (KJV)*

2) The inverse corollary: if your child makes bad life choices, you must have done something wrong.

3) **JOAN SANFORD PARENTING CONFERENCE**

4) God put two people in the garden and went 0 for 2

B. We are only responsible for the things we can control.

1) **Ephesians 6:4**

*Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

2) **LIKE WATER ON A ROCK**

### II. The Illusion of Control

*4 For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me*

A. Not everything can be fixed by being a better parent.

1) **Romans 12:17-19**

*Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*

2) **KIDS WHO WON'T TALK TO THEIR PARENTS**

B. At some point we have to put them in the hands of the Lord.

1) **Psalms 127:4-5**

*Children are a heritage from the Lord,  
offspring a reward from him.  
Like arrows in the hands of a warrior*

*are children born in one's youth.*

*Blessed is the man*

*whose quiver is full of them.*

2) **RUSSIANS RUNNING OUT OF SMART BOMBS**

a) The last decision you are going to control is whether or not to have them

b) **SOMETIMES YOUR ANGRY BIRDS HIT THE MARK**

### **III. The Power of Prayer**

A. God is a perfect Father, but He has a lot of lost children.

1) **Job 1:5**

*When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would make arrangements for them to be purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, "Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular custom.*

2) **FATHER IN BREMERTON**

B. God contends with us for every one of our children.

1) **2 Kings 20:5**

*"Go back and tell Hezekiah, the ruler of my people, 'This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears.'"*

2) **GOD ANSWERING DAD'S PRAYERS**