

## Son's & Daughter's Days | Preparing, Celebrating, Discipling

### I. Prepare

- We humans are naturally self-centered. Praise God, He gives us His Spirit which convicts us and draws our minds back to truth, but that doesn't mean we never approach life selfishly. In fact, we're predisposed to worship ourselves instead of God.
- Therefore, it's very wise for us to enter into times of focused-celebration with the intentional purpose of getting our hearts ready to dethrone self.
- Preparation should always include Bible study and prayer.
  - As you read through those passage in preparation for Daughter's Day and Son's Day, take time to meditate on the truths you're learning about God, but also take time to talk to God about it. Maybe you'll be drawn to praise Him for the gift of children or the wisdom He offers in order to lead them well. Perhaps you'll even be convicted about your attitude toward your children. In that case, take time to confess your sin and ask God to forgive.
- It's also very important that you help your children prepare their hearts as well. Children have foolishness knotted up in their minds, so it's incredibly easy for them to take a day like Son's Day or Daughter's Day and see it as an opportunity to have as much fun as possible with no thought given to God at all.
  - This is your chance to get them excited about their special day, but also to help them see it in light of their Creator.
  - Engage them in the Bible Reading and have some discussions about how you can observe their unique holiday in a way that will please the Lord.

### II. Celebrate

- If you have more than one son or daughter, explain to them that this day is about *all of them*. Both of the girls need to recognize it's not all about her. All five of the boys should strive to make the day just as enjoyable for the other brothers as they would like it to be for them. This will involve compromise and service, and what better way could there be to help our kids take this temptation to self-exaltation than to make it about serving the Lord?!
- You could have your kids choose a family activity or project for the day. If you have more than one child in either category, maybe one could choose the activity and the other chooses the meal.
- Whatever you do, though, it's very important that intentional time is set aside to focus on God. Whether you read some of the Bible Reading, thank the Lord for the kids, and/or discuss with them some of the implications of what the Scriptures say about children . . . we need to make God the focal point. It's really about His gift of our children more than it is about our kids. We can celebrate our kids only as it's a part of our celebration of God.

### III. Disciple

- Discipleship isn't a program or curriculum. Discipleship is an ongoing conversation about God's truth and our response to it.
- Discipleship is guiding our children through the High Days and Low Moments. It's speaking truth in that moment and inviting our disciplee to know, understand, and submit to that truth.
- As II Timothy 3:16 tells us, discipleship involves using God's Word to teach and reprove and correct and train. That can happen all day long as needed.
- Intentional, cumulative God-honoring discipleship will have a much greater impact on our children than the annual Easter sunrise service.

The  
Celebration  
of God  
podcast