

THE POINT MAN (Ephesians 5:23-24)

I.A father must discern the culture.

A. The definition of discern that is most pertinent to our sermon is: "distinguish (someone or something) with difficulty by sight or with the other senses."

B. Culture, for our purposes, is defined as: "the way of life, especially the general customs and beliefs, of a particular group of people at a particular time."

C. A father, as the point man for his family, must know what is going on in society as it relates to his home and the effects it can have on those in his home.

1. He has to know about laws that are on the books, potential policy changes in the local school system, laws that are being changed.

2. He has to now know what social media is and be able to navigate his way through it to know what his children are doing and facing.

3. He has to be on the lookout for those that would harm his family or those parts of our culture that are harmful.

D. There is a tremendous listing of men in 1 Chronicles 11 & 12.

1. Chapter 11 contains a list of 33 men who were bad men.

2. Chapter 12 contains a listing of men who came to David's side while Saul was still reigning over Israel.

3. We don't have time to talk about all of them but notice what is said of the men of Issachar who came to David (1 Chronicles 12:32).

4. It is said of these men that they understood what was going on around them and the best course for Israel to follow.

E. Fathers, we need to be men like these.

1. We can't bury our head in the sand and hope our wife knows what's going on around us.

2. We have to be out front, leading our homes by knowing what is going on in society.

3. The reason for this is that society, or our culture, is influencing our children.

F. Fathers need to know what is in the movies that are being shown because most movies are pedaling some type of cultural movement away from God, not towards Him.

G. A point man in the military has to know the signs of the enemy and the types of traps the enemy has used and is using so that his unit can pass through an area as safely as possible.

H. Our families are passing through enemy territory in this world and we have to know the signs of our enemy and the traps that he is using and this takes an ability to discern our culture.

II.A father must defend his convictions.

A. A point man has to be one of the better fighters in the unit.

1. He generally makes first contact with the enemy.

2. He has to be able to defend himself when contact is made.

3. He has to be able to disarm or at least mark the traps that are set for his unit and maneuver around them.

B. Fathers must be able to defend that which he believes and holds to be true.

C. This is biblical for all Christians (1 Peter 3:15).

1. We tend to use this passage for defense of the gospel when it comes to the church or matters of salvation.
2. The gospel message also teaches of the sin of homosexuality.
3. The women's role in the home.
4. The reasons why Islam is sinful.

D. A father has to know why these things are wrong and have the scriptural basis for his beliefs.

E. Not only that, he has to be willing to stand up and defend his family when those beliefs are attacked.

F. I don't believe any of us would back down if someone entered our home to bring harm to our families.

1. The Bible openly affirms that there are such things as moral absolutes.
2. Those that are teaching that moral relativism, there are no such things as absolute moral truths, are intent on bringing harm to our families.
3. We should oppose them as readily as we would an intruder set to harm our families.

G. The point man in a military unit is a fighter and fathers must defend the convictions that are biblical and right.

III.A father must disciple his children.

A. The point man in a military movement is not a raw recruit.

1. The point man is trained on what to look for.
2. He is trained on how to pass that information back to those in his unit.

B. A father needs to disciple his children so they can be prepared for what lies ahead.

1. He has gone on before the family to check out the terrain culturally speaking.
2. He has seen the traps and can describe them to his children.

C. Not only that, he is training his sons how to be point men for their families and his daughter in what to look for in choosing the right man to be the point man for her family.

D. God understood this and told us to bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4).

1. We mentioned that the word "fathers" is also translated "parents".
2. It is the job of both mother and father but the father is the head of the house so he has to see that the job is done.

E. God understood this when He had Moses tell the Israelites...(Deuteronomy 6:7).

F. Throughout the book of Proverbs, the writer is seen trying to get his son to pay attention to what he was teaching him.

G. To disciple someone is simply to teach them.

1. We are to be making disciples of the lost.
2. We do that by teaching them the gospel.

H. We must be teaching our children so that they will be able to go out and defend themselves against the enemy.

I. A point man in a unit is one who has been trained and is able to tell others about what he sees and learns.

J. A father must disciple his children so that they can know what to look for and avoid or embrace.

Not an original outline but can't find the source.