

A Father's Calling WEEK 4 DISCUSSION GUIDE

Overview

In this message of the *SpiritualEYES* series, we will discover the true meaning of a father's calling.

Discussion Questions

Jude 1:1 says: ... To those who have been <u>called</u>, who are <u>loved</u> in God the Father and <u>kept</u> by Jesus Christ.

A Father's Calling

1. To help your children understand their <u>calling</u>.

Colossians 1:16 says that all things were created by God and for God. We live in a culture struggling with an identity crisis. It's important to remember who we are in Christ and what our purpose is on earth.

Ephesians 4:1 says: ... lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.

When we understand our <u>calling</u>, then we live with <u>purpose</u>. When we live with <u>purpose</u>, we <u>live by the principles of God</u> and not by the <u>pressure of the world</u>.

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in our heart... Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. (Proverbs 3:1,4)

- Why is it important to understand our calling?
- Do you know your calling? Are you currently living it out?
- In what ways can you help your children and those close to you understand their calling?

• Give an example of how we can model living by God's principles instead of the world's.

2. To help your children embrace God's love.

Embracing God's love is key to living out the life God designed us to live. When we understand His love for us, we will want to grow in our relationship with Him and choose to obey Him out of delight instead of duty. Our lives will be filled and purposeful when we embrace His unconditional love. Ephesians 3:17-19 says: ...I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

... "This is my Son, who I love; with him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)

- Have you ever felt unworthy of God's love? What changed the way you felt?
- Why is it important to understand and accept God's love?
- How can we help our children and those close to us embrace His love?

3. To help your children know they are <u>kept</u> by Christ.

In **Romans 8:31**, we learn that God is for us. He is always with us and promises to never leave us. **Hebrews 13:5** says: ..."Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." Because Christ dwells within us, we can live the life God's called us to live without fear.

For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-control. (2 Timothy 1:7)

• How can you remind others that they are kept by Christ?

Life Challenge

This week, make it a priority to help your children and those close to you understand their calling, embrace God's love, and know they are kept by Christ. Pray these things are revealed to them, and pray they begin to walk in the purpose God has given them.

Prayer

Thank You, God, for being our heavenly Father and loving us unconditionally. Thank You for modeling to us how a good father should live. Give us wisdom as we share Your truth with our children and those around us. Open their hearts to be accepting of Your truth and help them live the life You are calling them to live. Amen. Pray for the specific needs of the group.