The Role of A Godly Father – Part 2

1. In our prior lesson a question was raised pertaining to who was at fault for eating from the tree in the midst of the garden? (Tree of the knowledge of good and evil) Was it Adam or Eve or both of them? Let’s read that scripture again and answer the question.

**Genesis 3:1-6**  Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?” 2 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’ ”

**4**Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. **5**For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” **6**So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+3&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-62a)]pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. **7**

Some of the responses I heard last time included both Adam and Eve were responsible, some mentioned Eve and others stated it was Adam. According to scripture it was Adam who first was commanded by God not to eat of this tree. Let’s read again from **Genesis 2:15-17**.

**”** Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

This command to Adam occurred “before” Eve ate of the fruit and gave some to him. Adam should have stepped in and informed Eve what she was about to do was not in alignment with God’s instructions. Unfortunately, Adam took a passive role and did not speak to the serpent nor his wife warning of their disobedience but also ate some of the fruit himself.

1. As men, God desires us to be servant leaders in our respective homes and spheres of influence. A father is a male parent or a man who exercises paternal care over other persons. The position and authority of the father as the head of the family are expressly assumed and sanctioned in Scripture.
2. All of us have had a father or a fatherly-type figure in our life. What are some of the roles a father plays in the life of children? Priest, Protector, Provider, Nurturer, Emotional Encourager, Advocate, Counselor, Disciplinarian, Teacher, Caretaker, Male Role Model, and Servant-Leader.
3. In The Grace Based Blueprint, Dr. Tim Kimmel outlined four freedoms we should allow our children to have:

A) Freedom to Be Different - Allowing our kids to be weird, quirky, strange, and unique. It’s often those things that our kids do that most annoy and inconvenience us that are the primary ingredients in their God-given uniqueness.

B) Freedom to be Vulnerable - Our kids need to know that they can come to us as parents with their fears, concerns, hurts and insecurities and that we will never assess those things against our love and favor for them.

C) Freedom to be Candid and Honest - Our kids need to know that they can be honest with us without negatively impacting our relationship with them. Sometimes they will need to be candid with us about things that we have done that have hurt, angered or annoyed them. They also need to be able to share struggles that they are going through or areas in which they have failed.

D) Freedom to Make Mistakes - It’s not a question of if our kids will make mistakes, it’s when and how big. They need to know that nothing can separate them from God’s love or ours, and that home is a proving ground where mistakes, even big ones, never mean the end of a relationship.

The role of a father is a huge responsibility and oft times we feel inadequate and ill-equipped. It’s good and comforting to know that we can depend on a loving and gracious God to provide the insight and wisdom we need to serve and lead our families.

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