

Remnant Life Church  
June 15, 2014

*“A Dad’s World Turned Upside Down - Twice”*

- History
  - July 19, 1910 the Governor of Washington state declared the first father’s day observance
  - Mother’s Day observances were much older beginning not long after the end of the Civil War in a small town in WV bringing together the mothers of both union and confederate soldiers
  - In 1908, the great Philadelphia department store John Wanamaker’s held a service in its auditorium to honor mother’s – the first of its kind
  - The city merchants, seeing the response quickly joined and expanded the celebration so much so that in the very next year 45 of the then 46 states held similar observances and in 1914 President Woodrow Wilson declared it a national holiday
  - Merchants were also behind the drive to honor fathers in the year and while it was not embraced by even the men it intended to honor it still became an institution
  - 1972 President Richard Nixon finally signed Father’s Day into law as a national holiday
  - God instructed us to do this from the very beginning – *“Honor your father and mother so that you may live long in the land the Lord you God is giving you.”* (Ex. 20:12)
  - Everyone has a father but, sadly, not everyone has a Dad
  - I have preached many times on both mother’s and father’s day and the focus is much more about the heart rather than the actions.
    - The heart is the first concern because it is out of the heart that the actions come (Luke 6:45)
    - The heart is the focus because there are those called to be fathers, to be mothers who will may never be involved in the physical birth of a child
    - And in the church, if we are family, then there must be many fathers
- **Jairus** was a “synagogue ruler” near Capernaum (Mk 5; Luke 8)
  - Hebrew meaning of his name is “God Enlightens”
  - Would have been known in the community, educated in the Law, and had perhaps even heard Jesus teach in person
  - He is a man of importance, a spiritual leader and he is a Dad
  - Jairus’ story – **READ**

- **What did this father do when His world was turned upside down?**
  - *He was not hesitant in seeking Jesus out*
    - He did not send his wife
      - Many men today do that – send the wife and kids to church while they relax or hit the links
      - Our country and especially our families would be much different places if more fathers sought Jesus than all the other things they pursue
    - He did not send a servant
      - We cannot have a relationship with Jesus through someone else
        - Our family or history do not apply to us
      - Seeking requires not just an intent but action
      - Parable of the lost sheep (**Luke 15**)
  - *He was not hesitant about bringing Jesus home with him*
    - Are we as desperate to have a close relationship with Jesus at all times of our lives as we are in times of the dire emergencies?
    - How often do we have Jesus in our homes?
    - Is he a resident through the attitude of your hearts or simply a time-to-time guest who you might need to clean up a little before He arrives?
  - *He was not hesitant to entrust his most important treasure to God*
    - How ready are we to give our most valued things to God?
      - Our possessions, our time, our money, our will
    - Could we surrender them to Him and trust Him even if it possibly meant that things may not end up or happen just the way we want them to?
    - The greatest treasure given back to us was in the person of Jesus Christ
      - Suffered the penalty of sin on our behalf  
(**2 Cor 5:21**)
      - So that we may have the gift of eternal life  
(**Rom 6:23**)
- When Joshua was near death and he had done all that God had told him to do he gathered the people together at Shechem to renew their covenant with God and he told them they had to make a choice of who they would serve.
  - “...but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”  
**Joshua 24:15**
- This must be the cry of every father, of every pastor, of every man no matter what they do or who they lead.
- Men - there will be times when your world will seem to have been turned upside down but if you continue to humbly SERVE THE LORD watch how He will, like He did for Jairus, put all the pieces back together according to His will and to His glory.