

What Ever Happened to the Cosby Dad?

1 Chronicles 13

Main Goal: Since Fathers have such a powerful influence in the lives of their families, we believe that fathers, who engage in the lives of their families (especially their children) and put God first in their lives, will leave a legacy that endures.

Four Keys to Leaving a Legacy that Endures:

1. God is the leader of the home.

II Chronicles 13:10-12 “As for us, the Lord is our God, and we have not forsaken him. We are observing the requirements of the Lord our God. But you have forsaken him. God is with us; he is our leader.”

Is this true of Abijah? Yes No

Is this true of Asa? Yes No

Is this true of Jehoshaphat? Yes No

Principle: fathers, letting God lead is the back bone on which a legacy is built.

2. The father's heart is completely devoted to the Lord.

I Kings 15:3 “He committed all the sins his father had done before him; his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his forefather had been.”

Is this true of Abijah? Yes No

Is this true of Asa? Yes No

Is this true of Jehoshaphat? Yes No

Principle: fathers, your life can't hide where your devotion lies.

3. The father does what is right in the eyes of the Lord.

II Chronicles 20:32 “He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord.”

Is this true of Abijah? Yes No

Is this true of Asa? Yes No

Is this true of Jehoshaphat? Yes No

Principle: fathers, character is the greatest thing you can pass on to your children.

4. The father must be teachable and changeable.

II Chronicles 16:12 “Though his disease was severe, even in his illness he did not seek help from the Lord, but only from the physicians.”

Is this true of Abijah? Yes No

Is this true of Asa? Yes No

Is this true of Jehoshaphat? Yes No

Principle: fathers, you can't teach your children if you aren't teaching yourself.

Application—Evaluate Your Legacy:

- Is God the leader of our Home?
- Is every person in our family devoted to the Lord?
- Does our family talk about doing what is right, regularly?
- Are you teachable? Would others agree with your assessment?
- Do you want something to change bad enough to do something about it?