

Hebrews 5.1-4

Called to Bear

The task of the priest was to intercede, to stand in the gap for those who God had entrusted to him. This is the also the task of every father who has ever led a family. We are called to stand in the middle, to intercede, to carry the load that others cannot. And in the end, this role of intercessor is one of divine calling, of purpose beyond self. It is a calling to which no man is ever truly ready, but to which all men are inevitably drawn. As such, it is the very definition of Biblical manhood... the bearing of another's load according to the calling of God.

I. CALLED TO BE A FATHER –

a.the Lord opens the womb –

Psalm 127

Psalm 128

- i. The Lord builds the house
- ii. The Lord is the only guardian that truly matters
- iii. Worry, fear and doubt have no part in us

b. He gives children like arrows in the quiver.

i. Arrows are aimed and fired

- 1. Teach them the things of God while they are in your hand

Proverbs 1.1-7

- 2. Equip them carefully to walk in wisdom and avoid evil behavior –

Proverbs 2

- a. How to treat with God's word
- b. How to position yourself toward wisdom
- c. What the Lord promises to those who seek and keep wisdom

- d. What the Lord will protect you from by obeying
- 3. The most important part of the arrow's flight is the release –

Proverbs 3.5-6

- 4. Preparing your children for service to the Lord will provide safety for you later.
- ii. Do not neglect discipline and chastisement -
- iii. We learn to honor and obey God by obeying the authority He places in our lives. –

Proverbs 13.24

Proverbs 15.10

- iv. God Himself disciplines His children –

Hebrews 12.3-11

II. CALLED OF GOD

- not self-appointed

- a. God gave you the family you have -
- b. God ordained the people in your life
- c. God made you the man you are
- d. God gave you the gifts and the challenges that define your life
- e. God created you for this moment –

Esther 4.13-14

III. CALLED TO STAND IN THE GAP –

Job 1

IV. CALLED TO BEAR

- wounds and sinful behavior for those under their care

2TIm 2.24-26

- a. Called to bear the burdens others cannot bear
- b. Does not mean that we pile on rules that we ourselves are not willing/able to keep –

Luke 11.46 - 52

- i. Amassing rules and shifting expectations makes life difficult
- ii. Talk and walk should be the same thing - don't just talk about good things, do them
- iii. It is incredibly destructive to send that double message
- iv. Your life becomes a barrier before God to the people around you, instead of the gate and signpost that it is intended to be.

c. To wrestle with God for your family –

Genesis 32.22- 32

the blessing that Jacob sought was about his family. He feared for them, he wanted to see his children prosper, he wanted to see them safe and settled in the promise of God

d. To carry the burden for them –

Galatians 6.1-4

- i. Labor to restore them when they sin
- ii. Be gentle
 - 1. Understand that God is the only reason you have not fallen in the same manner
 - 2. Love with mindfulness, for in doing this you guard your own soul. Examine with honesty the work you do for the sake of those who are under your care.
 - 3. Rejoice in what God has allowed and what He has provided
- iii. Stand as man and bear your share of the burden. In doing this you teach your children to walk upright.
- iv. Fail to do this and you become a cursing –

1 Samuel 2.27-36

- v. You teach them to honor God and so bless them for thousands of generations. –

Exodus 20.4-6