

“Go Ask Dad” - Luke 11:9-13
Pastor Burt Garwood – June 18, 2017

I used to ask my dad lots of questions about house projects before YouTube. I would find myself needing to replace the internals of a toilet tank or hear a noise in the car. I would go ask dad. When I was a boy, I was always asking dad. My kids are doing it now.

Dad was my hero, my answer man, the source of ancient wisdom and truth. That’s one of the things parents do...they pass what they learn on to you.

- God didn’t create you to grow up on your own. Some things simply need a real, live person to breathe into your life...like your dad.
- Part of legacy is asking dad to pass on to you the things he knows.
- YouTube, as awesome as it is, can take this baton pass from dad away, because it’s so easy to just ask YouTube. So sometimes, instead of YouTube, I ask dad.
- There is something powerful about a father passing information on to his kids.

When dad gave me my first pocket knife, he showed me how to cut with it and sharpen it. YouTube didn’t teach me how to drive or shave...dad did...up close and personal. He critiqued my work...something YouTube could never do. And, Dad told me these things: I’m proud of you. You have what it takes. You’re good at...

YouTube could never give me that.

As a child grows into adulthood, there are rites of passage that should best come from dad...or mom. Especially your child’s faith in Jesus.

- I love it when Elias asks questions about God...and Eliana will be soon too.
- Elias is asking me all types of questions about life and God, and I’m downloading information into his head and heart. I’m his hero right now.
- We talk around here about how each parent only has 936 weeks with their child from the day they are born until they are 18 and graduate high school.
- We represent this with a bag of marbles around here...that causes us to be intentional about kids asking dad and mom...and about dad and intentionally imparting a legacy of faith in Jesus and a solid biblical moral compass for our kids to live.
- I only have so many marbles left before Elias and Eliana move on, or they begin to seek advice from other places, or are negatively influenced by the world around them.
- My dad taught me a lot of things. But most importantly, he gave me his faith. And I’m honored to be introducing Elias and Eliana to Jesus.

I still ask my dad all the time.

- I’m blessed to have a friendship with my dad that invites me to pick up the phone and let him weigh in on things. Or pray with me over the phone...or just listen.
- But I find myself watching YouTube more often to get the answers I need.
- Sadly, I think YouTube has replaced dad to some extent.

I think we’re this way with our Father-God in heaven.

- Jesus tells us that our Father-God is just waiting for us to ask him...so that he can give to us, care for us, lead, provide and protect us...and most importantly forgive us with the grace and mercy that only God himself can give.
- Instead of asking our Father-God, we’re asking the world around us...and we’re going with those answers.
- Most of the time if we’re honest with ourselves, we’re looking for advice that justifies what we want to do...or how we’re feeling.

Jeremiah 6:16 "*This is what the Lord says: 'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will rest for your souls.'*"

- To follow God’s ancient paths, you need someone who loves Jesus, to teach it to you. This is one of the biggest reasons God gave us parents in the first place. READ: Deuteronomy 6:4-7, Luke 11:11-13 and Matthew 7:7-11
- There is something powerful about asking dad. And even more powerful about asking your Father-God in heaven.
- Our Father-God is the source of all truth...the ancient of days...the one who was, and is and is to come...the beginning and the end. He is our Creator and Redeemer.
- He knows our deepest thoughts, desires and needs even before we ask him. And he is waiting to hear from you. All you have to do is ask him.

Earlier in Luke 11, the disciples asked Jesus, “Teach us to pray.” Jesus responded with, “This is how you should pray...”

- Luke 11:2 “*Father, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come.*” The Lord’s Prayer...asking dad.

Dads, live your life in such a way that your children know exactly where your heart is with Jesus. That you are a man after God’s own heart and that you are walking in step with him.

- When they ask you questions, give them more than just a scientific explanation. Weave our Creator-God’s ancient and true story into your answers.
- You’re giving them Godly rites of passage into manhood and womanhood.
- You’re teaching history...but not just a secular history lesson...you’re showing them how God has worked through history.
- You’re preparing them spiritually for the future...to handle the temptations and moral decline of our culture that they are facing already when they get up tomorrow morning.
- You’re giving them a spiritual legacy of faith in Jesus.

Kids, no matter whether you are 2 or 102, I’m talking to every person in the room, there is something powerful about asking your Father-God in heaven. He is waiting to hear from you. He’s ready to give you forgiveness of sins, first and foremost. And to take care of you through your life’s journey. And to make sure you know that you are loved, and redeemed and destined for heaven.