

# The Spiritual Impact of a Father

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The one who lives with integrity is righteous; his children who come after him will be happy. Prov. 20:7 (HCSB)

**Text:** Proverbs 20:7

South Orlando Baptist Church

**Topics:** Legacy, Integrity

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**Supplemental Texts:** See below

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If you are going to make the greatest spiritual impact on your children, you must...

1) Live a life of \_\_\_\_\_ (7a)

Integrity: To be sincere. It means a person is not to be double-tongued, two-faced, or insincere. It refers to the consistency of character that matches words and actions, values and behaviors. It is life lived with consistency. Colossians 3:23

2) Let the righteousness of \_\_\_\_\_ define you (7b)

“But one day, as I was passing in the field, and that too with some dashes on my conscience, fearing lest yet all was not right, suddenly this sentence fell upon my soul, “Thy righteousness is in heaven”; and ...I saw, with the eyes of my soul, Jesus Christ at God’s right hand; there, I say, as my righteousness; so that wherever I was, or whatever I was doing, God could not say of me, He wants my righteousness, for that was just before him. I also saw, moreover, that it was not my good frame of heart that made my righteousness better, nor yet my bad frame that made my righteousness worse; for my righteousness was Jesus Christ himself, the same yesterday, and today, and forever (Heb 13:8). Now did my chains fall off my legs indeed, I was loosed from my affliction and irons, my temptations also fled away; so that, from that time, those dreadful scriptures of God left off to trouble me; now went I also home rejoicing, for the grace and love of God.” - John Bunyan, vol. 1, *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners.* , 35-36.

See also Colossians 2:13-14; 2 Corinthians 5:21

3) Leave a legacy of \_\_\_\_\_ (7c)

All of us will leave a legacy; the question is what legacy will we leave? Example of Israel: Numbers 14:26-33

# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message.

Answers to some of the following questions will be found in Proverbs 20:7

1. How are you able to call yourself "righteous"?
2. Do you struggle with feelings of guilt and despair over your battles against sin?
3. How well are you trusting in the righteousness of Christ as a satisfaction of God's wrath against your sins?
4. In what ways can the work of Christ on the cross for our sins help us in parenting our children?
5. What small actions of questionable integrity are tempting for you?
6. What are some examples of integrity that you remember from your parents/grandparents?
7. What one thing can you do this week to improve your integrity?
8. How well did your parents leave you a spiritual legacy?
9. How well are you leaving a spiritual legacy to your children?
10. What goals do you have for the spiritual life of your children?
11. How well do you feel those goals are being met?
12. What are some practical actions you can do daily to establish a strong spiritual legacy for your family?
13. What spiritual lessons do you hope to pass on to your children and grandchildren as you follow Christ?