**"HONORING FATHERS"**

**I. A Challenge to Dads**

***1 Thessalonians 2:11-12, "For you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory."***

***A.*** Clear Instruction

"***What essential information do I want my children to leave home with at the end?"***

***B.*** Consolation and Comfort

C. Compelling Character

***Proverbs 13:22, “A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children.”***

**II. A Choice to Sons and Daughters: Pain or Honor**

**Pain**:

***Proverbs 17:21, “To have a fool for a son brings grief; there is no joy for the father of a fool.”***

***Proverbs 17:22, "A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."***

***Proverbs 20:20, “If one curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in utter darkness.***

***Proverbs 30:17, “The eye that mocks a father and scorns to obey a mother will be picked out by the ravens of the valley and eaten by the vultures.”***

**Honor your Dad:**

1. Listen to your father's instructions

***Proverbs 1:8-9, “Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck."***

***Proverbs 4:1, “Listen, my sons, to a father’s instruction; pay attention and gain understanding.”***

2. Act wisely...live righteously

***Proverbs 23:22-25***

***22 Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.***

***23 Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.***

***24 The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him.***

***25 Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice."***

3. Thank your dad: genuine and specific

4. Imitate your dad's integrity

***Proverbs 20:7, “A righteous man who walks in his integrity – how blessed are his children after him."***