NOTES:

RESOLUTION OPTIONS

- 1. I will print an examination of conscience and schedule 15 minutes of prayer to thoroughly examine how faithfully I keep the commandments.
- 2. I will repent of any harshness, legalism and exclusion that I have exhibited toward any younger siblings.
- 3. I will express repentance to any older siblings who I have wronged through abuse of my parent's generosity.
- 4. I will go to adoration and prayerfully examine what my oldest son needs from me and I will make a plan to provide that need to him.
- 5. I will reflect on anything I still need from my earthly father and will schedule a time to visit him and share these needs with him.

MY RESOLUTION

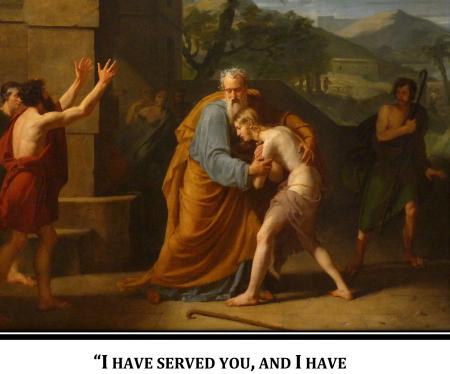
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PATRIARCH

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR FATHERLY LEADERSHIP



"I HAVE SERVED YOU, AND I HAVE NEVER DISOBEYED YOUR COMMAND" - LUKE 15:29

OPENING PRAYER

THE OLDER SON

PROVERBS 4:1-13

LUKE 15:11-32

RESOLUTIONS

PRAYER PARTNERS

PROVERBS 4:1-13

- ¹ Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight;
- ² for I give you good precepts: do not forsake my teaching.
- ³ When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother,
- ⁴ he taught me, and said to me,
 "Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live;
- ⁵ do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. Get wisdom; get insight.
- ⁶ Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you.
- ⁷ The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.
- ⁸ Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her.
- ⁹ She will place on your head a fair garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown."
- ¹⁰ Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many.
- ¹¹ I have taught you the way of wisdom;I have led you in the paths of uprightness.
- ¹² When you walk, your step will not be hampered; and if you run, you will not stumble.
- ¹³ Keep hold of instruction, do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.
- Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
- As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

THE OLDER SON Luke 15:11-32

1. Jesus says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" (John 15:1). What is the connection between love and obedience? What is the distinction? What are the risks of doing one without the other?

2. How do I also wrestle with the older son's harshness, legalism, and exclusion? How do I foster faithful obedience, without a heart of condemnation?

3. What did the older son want from his dad? What have I wanted from my earthly father & Heavenly Father?

4. How was the older son alienated from his dad? How am I alienated from my earthly father & Heavenly Father?

5. What did the older son still need at the end of the parable? What do I still need in relation to my earthly father and Heavenly Father?