Faithful Fathers

Dr. Jim Cooley, First Baptist Birmingham Today's Scripture: Titus 2:1-8

THE BIBLE SAYS THERE IS ONE QUALITY A FATHER DISPLAYS THAT IS AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT

- "In all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works." Titus 2:7
- God calls Fathers to provide the pattern
- Be the pattern your family can follow

BE A LIVING PATTERN

- Never forget that your children are paying attention to you as they discover how they should live their lives
- It is who we are that teaches them a hundred times more than what we say
- Titus strongly calls Dads and Moms to be examples to their children as to how to live and please God
- Never expect your children to be more than they are able to see in you

BE A GIVING PATTERN

- The true central question is, "Who is willing to give the most?"
- The Bible teaches something that is contrary to what most of the world believes that it is the givers, not the takers, who can change the world
- Somehow, when you choose to give, the sacrifice becomes a gift, and the gift becomes a pleasure

BE AN ENCOURAGING PATTERN

- When your children are young, they believe everything you tell them uncritically
- That is especially important in regard to what you tell them about themselves
- If you encourage them, and tell them how precious they are, they believe it.
- If you discourage them and tell them they will never measure up, they believe that too.

- As they grow, your children will either be nurtured by, or struggle with, what you told them about themselves when they were young.
- Be a pattern of encouragement for your family