

FAILED PARENTS CAN HAVE RIGHTEOUS CHILDREN

Outline:

Josiah's grandfather: Manasseh was evil.

Josiah's father: Amon was evil.

Josiah: Obeyed God's commandments. Thrived in God's love.

Ezekiel 18:20a The soul that sins, it is the one that shall die. The child will not be punished for the parent's sins.

Divine judgment only comes when the guilty sins of the father repeat in the guilty sins of the son. The son may repent, follow Jesus, and have his guilt taken away.

Exodus 20:5 I the Lord, judge the sins of the fathers upon the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. If the sons hate God and do not have their guilt taken away, they are judged for their sin.

The story of King Josiah:

2 Kings 21: 19-24

19 Amon was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem two years.

20 He did what was evil in the LORD's sight, just as his father, Manasseh, had done.

22b He refused to follow the LORD's ways.

24 Amon died and the people made his son Josiah the next king.

22:1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem 31 years.

22:2 Josiah did what was pleasing in the LORD's sight and followed the example of his ancestor David. He did not turn aside from doing what was right.

22:13 At 26 years of age after the book of the Law was found:

22:19 describes Josiah: Your heart was tender and penitent, and you humbled yourself before the Lord.

23:3 Josiah pledged to obey the LORD by keeping all His commands with all his heart and soul.

Josiah tore down the idols the people had been worshiping and restored true worship of God.

Sin must be seen and powerlessness over sin must be experienced before a person will turn to Jesus.

Living in a dysfunctional family can certainly produce an awareness of personal sin which is the first step in having Holy Spirit conviction.

Many preachers are like King Josiah. They come out of dysfunctional families with great conviction to stay away from sin and live for Jesus.

WE SHOULD WANT TO HELP A CHILD WHO COMES FROM A DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY.

BE PATIENT, ENCOURAGE RIGHT BEHAVIOR, PRAY FOR THEM, AND BE HELPFUL.

Parents may be so focused on their worries and needs that they rely too much on their child for supplying their needs. Physical illness of a parent may cause the parent to rely too much on the child.

Children who are neglected or abused may feel lonely and have low self-worth.

Drug abuse, gambling addiction, and financial problems may also contribute to child abuse.

Another form of a dysfunctional family is when the parent avoids disciplining and always allows the child to have his own way to avoid conflict. Living in a protective environment without any conflicts can result in the child not being made aware of personal sin.

What must a child do to thrive in God's love? _____ Obey Christ's commandments.

John 15:10a When you obey My commandment, you remain (thrive) in My love.

John 15:4 Remain (thrive) in Me and I will remain (thrive) in you. You cannot produce the fruits of the Spirit unless I remain (thrive) in you. (Be fruitful in righteous actions) Love is an action, not just an emotion.

John 15:11 I have told you this that My joy may be in you, and your joy may be full and complete.

You control the love of God that is thriving and being released in you.