

A photograph showing five firefighters in full gear working to contain a large fire on a hillside. The fire is intense, with bright orange and yellow flames and thick black smoke rising into the sky. The firefighters are wearing helmets, jackets, and pants, and are positioned in a line, working to create a firebreak. The background shows some trees and a clear sky.

Three Things Fathers Can Do For Their Children

Love, love, love

Three Things Fathers Can Do For Their Children

- **LOVE:**

- **Love Your God** ■



Three Things Fathers Can Do For Their Children

- **LOVE:**

- Love Your God 

- Love Your Wife 



Three Things Fathers Can Do For Their Children

- **LOVE:**

- Love Your God 

- Love Your Wife 

- Love Your Children 



Last week we saw how the American Family Is Under Attack

- **High rates of divorce**
- **Cohabitation**
- **Unwed child-bearing**
- **The push for so-called same-sex “marriage”**
- **& Civil Unions**
- **And all this leaves the children at greatly increased RISK**

We discovered that the safest place for the children...

- In the home with both biological parents**
- And the presence of the biological father provided the best defense, protection and provision for the children**

We should also remember the blessings or for those who enter into and remain married...

- **Married people live longer**
 - spend less time in the hospital
 - have higher incomes
 - enjoy greater emotional support
- **Children raised by their mother and father**
 - are less likely to live in poverty
 - or drop out of school
 - and are more likely to finish college
 - at lower risk for becoming sexually active in their teen years.



**Not Only Is The American Family Is Under Attack
But American Society Is Under Attack**

INTRODUCTION

United States Crime Rates 1960-2007

1960 Statistics

- USA Population 180,000,000

2007 Statistics

- 302,000,000 67%

United States Crime Rates 1960-2007

1960 Statistics

- USA Population 180,000,000
- **Total Crime** 3,000,000

2007 Statistics

- 302,000,000 67%
- **11,000,000** 266%

United States Crime Rates 1960-2007

1960 Statistics

2007 Statistics

United States Department of Justice, 2006

- **Males experienced higher victimization rates than females for all types of violent crime except rape/sexual assault.**

- http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict_v.htm

[United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Victim Characteristics](#)

United States Department of Justice, 2006

- **Robbery rates were**
 - 6 per 1,000 persons for never married
 - 1 per 1,000 for married

- http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict_v.htm

[United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Victim Characteristics](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict_v.htm)

United States Department of Justice, 2006

- **Simple assault rates were**
 - **divorced or separated was 32 per 1,000 persons.**
 - **persons never married, 25 per 1000**
 - **married 7 per 1000**
 - **widowed 1 per 1000**

- http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict_v.htm

“Crimes Against Children Research Center” Survey

a project of the **University of New Hampshire**, initial funding provided by the **US Department of Justice**,
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

- CCRC researchers conducted the Developmental Victimization Survey to gather data on a range of victimizations from birth until adulthood over the course of one year. Among the findings were:
- **Just more than half of youth (530 per 1000) experienced a physical assault. The highest rate of physical assault victimization occurred between ages six and 12.**
- One in 12 (82 of 1000) youth experienced sexual victimization, including sexual assault (32 per 1000) and attempted or completed rape (22 per 1000).
- Child maltreatment was experienced by a little less than 1/7 of youth (138 per 1000). The study divided maltreatment into five categories (physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, and family abduction) of which emotional abuse (name calling or denigration by an adult) was most frequent in occurrence.
- Source: *Finkelhor, D., Ormrod, R.K., Turner, H.A., & Hamby, S.L. (2005). [The victimization of children and youth: A comprehensive, national survey.](#) *Child Maltreatment*, 10(1), 5-25.*

Increased Laws

- **So what have we been doing about all this?**
 - **Legislate new laws**
 - **Legislated new “Hate Crime” Laws**
 - **Legislated new “Family” Laws**
 - **Legislated new “Business & Commerce” Laws**
 - **Legislated new “Education” Laws**

Increased Laws Increased Crime!

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 - **With the increase in law...**
 - **We have seen the increase in crime**
 - **As to its frequency**
 - **And as to its level of violence**

Increased Laws & Increased Crime!

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 - As to its frequency
 - And as to its level of violence
- **The more America pursues a Humanistic approach to society and law**
 - **The more violence we are seeing**
 - **The more civil unrest we are witnessing (and we have the statistics to show this)**

Fathers, In Order To Truly Love Our Children We
Must Return To Jesus' Words to Love God:

- The First Great Commandment:
- *"... 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul** and with all your **mind** and with all your **strength.**' "*
(Mark 12:29-30, NIV).

Fathers, In Order To Truly Love Our Children We
Must Return To Jesus' Words To Love Our Neighbor:

- The Second Great Commandment:
- “...31 *The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these.”
(**Mark 12: 31, NIV**).*

These Commandments of Love Bring With Them The Only Real Hope & Promise ...

- *“These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me **to teach** you **to observe** in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, 2 **so that** you, your children and their children after them may **fear the LORD your God as long as you live** by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and **so that you may enjoy long life**. 3 Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey **so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly** in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you.” (Deuteronomy 6:1-3, NIV)*

These Commandments of Love Bring With Them The Only Real Hope & Promise ...

- *“4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today **are to be upon your hearts.** 7 Impress them on your **children.** Talk about them when you **sit at home** and when you **walk along the road**, when you **lie down** and when you **get up.**” (Deuteronomy 6:4-7, NIV)*

In other words, Fathers!

- **Teach** God's commands
- **Observe** God's commands
- **Fear** the Lord our God
- **Love** the Lord our God
- **Keep** his decrees
- **Obey** his decrees
- Allow God to **write** his commands upon our **hearts**
- **Impress** God's commands upon our children

Fathers, when do we do this?

- Talk about God's commands:
 - When we **sit** at home
 - When We **Walk** along the road
 - When We **Lie down**
 - When We **Get up**
 - As we go through LIFE!

Fathers, How do we do this?

- Jesus said the second great commandment, **"Love your neighbor as yourself."** *There is no commandment greater than these.* (Mark 12: 31, NIV).

Love Neighbor as Self!

- Interesting! God wants me to think about how I want to be loved!
- Then, God wants me to go love others like that!
- **How would I want to be loved?**

Love Neighbor as Self!

Loving The Orphan & The Widow

*“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after **orphans** and **widows** in their distress...” (James 1:27, NIV)*

What if I were the orphan or widow(er), how would I want to be loved?

Love Neighbor as Self!

Loving Those In Need

- Read: **Matthew 25:31-46, NIV**
- How would I want to be loved if I were **hungry**?
- How would I want to be loved if I were **thirsty**?
- How would I want to be loved if I were **a stranger**?
- How would I want to be loved if I were **in need of clothes**?
- How would I want to be loved if I were **sick**?
- How would I want to be loved if I were **in prison**?

Love Neighbor as Self!

Loving my enemy

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you: **Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,** 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 **If you love those who love you, what reward will you get?** Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 **And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others?** Do not even pagans do that? 48 **Be perfect,** therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Matthew 5:43-48, NIV).*

Meeting Needs With Love

- *Hungry, thirsty, a stranger, in the need of clothes, sick, in prison, widow, orphan, even enemies!*
- This is far more than simply meeting an apparent need...
- It is the meeting the need and a matter of the heart of a person that needs to experience LOVE...
- Namely, God's love through YOU!

In other words

- **Involve your children in the process of loving God and loving others!**
 - Nursing home visits
 - Ministering to family, friends, neighbors
 - Ministering to our widows
 - Taking food to the hungry
 - Purchasing good clothes for the needy
 - Even in ministering to enemies

In other words

- **Harmful decisions to families and society:**
 - Parents saying “my children won’t behave making such visits...”
 - Parents not taking the time of day to make such visits themselves to those in need...
- **Strengthening the character & fabric of our nation & children**
 - To make visits regularly...
 - To work together for a common cause as a family
 - To work together for a common cause as a church

Questions for Fathers who are showing what it means to love their children:

- **What things are you doing today to show your children how much you love them?**
 - Baseball
 - Sports
 - Music
 - social clubs
 - education?
- **That is great, but...**

Questions for Fathers who are showing what it means to love their children:

- Let me ask you two other questions...
 - What things are you doing today to show your children that you love God and your fellow-man?
 - **More importantly what things are you doing WITH your children to teach them to love your God and fellow-man?**

Questions for Fathers who are showing what it means to love their children:

- **Fathers, what are you DOING to LIVE A LIFE of LOVE in service to:**
 - The orphans
 - The widows
 - The hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, imprisoned, lonely souls in the world around you?

**Jesus said, if you have not loved your neighbor,
you won't get into heaven...**

- “I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.”
(Matthew 25:45, NIV).**

OR

**For those FATHERS who truly LOVED & taught
their CHILDREN to LOVE...**

**"The King will reply, 'I tell you
the truth, whatever you did for
one of the least of these
brothers of mine, you did for
me.'" (Matthew 25:40, NIV)**

FATHERS!

- If your children never hear you saying “no” to the things of the world...
- Tell me, HOW WILL THEY EVER HEAR YOU SAYING YES TO WHAT IT MEANS...
 - TO TRULY LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD?
 - TO TRULY LOVE OUR FELLOWMAN AS WE LOVE OURSELVES?

FATHERS!

- **If you really do love the Lord your God...**
- **You will LOVE your neighbor as yourself!**
 - You will love the orphan
 - You will love the widow
 - You will love the shut-ins
 - You will love the less fortunate
 - You will really love your enemies
 - Because you then you will really know what it has meant to be loved by God!

A close-up photograph of a firefighter wearing a helmet with a blue light and a dark jacket. He is holding a young child with curly hair who is crying. The firefighter has a concerned expression. The background is blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting.

**Three Things That Fathers Can Do
For Their Children**

**We May Save Not Only Our Children
We May Very Well Save Our Nation!**

Love your neighbor, Love your brother

“Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. 8 Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining. 9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. 10 Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. 11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him. 12 I write to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.” (1 John 2:7-12, NIV).

Love your neighbor, love your enemy

“You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matthew 5:43-48, NIV)



Loving Others

FATHER'S, LOVE YOUR FELLOWMAN



Loving Mom

FATHER'S, LOVE YOUR WIVES

Three Things That Fathers Can Do For Their Children

• Love Their Children

