

### III. ADULTHOOD

#### a. inter-dependence

-We need each other to fulfill God's destiny.

#### b. heir

-The adolescent moves into maturity and becomes the inheritor, the heir.

-He has passed the test of faithfulness and loyalty.

-The mantle/anointing/baton can be passed on.

-A father must not hold back the anointing when it is time to pass it on.

-A father must release the son with his blessing.

-A father must not try to control the direction of the adult who now holds the mantle.

-An adult-child must not take for granted the anointing of the father, the favour he has received, the price that the father has paid.

#### c. security

-The adult-child has come to a place of maturity recognizing that all his security is in the Heavenly Father.

-He recognizes that whatever a father gives or does not give is enough. The rest comes from Heavenly Father.

#### d. hero honoured

-The adult-child sees the father as a true hero and honours him appropriately.

-The relationship has moved into a place of mutual respect and responsibility.

-The father becomes more of confidante and friend than a teacher or master.

-The adult-child appreciates the strengths of the father and his love covers over the weaknesses.

-The adult-child honours the father recognizing that what he gives and what he does not give is enough.

## RECLAIMING KINGDOM RELATIONSHIPS 2006 Overcoming Pitfalls in the Phases of Sonship

April 4, 2006 – Debby Baril

### I. CHILDHOOD

#### a. dependence

-Dependency for nurturing, provision, protection, etc.

-A father must avoid keeping a child dependent on him because it brings a sense of fulfillment. The father feels needed/wanted/important.

-A child must learn that their dependence is in their Heavenly Father.

#### b. observer

-Watch and learn sitting under the anointing of the father.

#### c. imitator

-Child will imitate the ways and methods of the father.

#### d. identity

-A father calls forth identity in their children.

-A father is to reproduce himself not clone himself.

-A child must not so identify with their father that they lose a sense of who they are, or they suppress their uniqueness.

#### e. security

-Security/safety is found in the presence of the father – in sight and reachable.

-A father must help a child cultivate their security in the Heavenly Father and not just in him.

-As a child I must accept the fact that there will be times when my spiritual parents cannot be there.

*I will not in any way fail you nor give you up, nor leave you without support. I will not in any degree leave you helpless nor forsake nor let you down, relax My hold on you (Hebrews 13:5b AMP).*

#### **f. hero (spiritual)**

- Every child needs a hero. The father is the hero.
- As the hero he can do no wrong!
- An exciting time where the child sees the anointing, the power and the spiritual side of the father.
- The father sees the potential, the calling and the gifts in the child. And in the eyes of the father the child can do no wrong!
- Child must guard against hero-worship.
- A child must guard against expecting the spiritual parents to be everything their natural parents weren't.
- A father has to guard against the hero worship because it can bring so much affirmation.

## **II. ADOLESCENCE**

#### **a. independence**

- The adolescent must guard against an independent spirit that says I don't need you, or he will become an orphan.
- The father must not allow them to spread their wings too far and fly too high even though the adolescent thinks he is ready.

#### **b. servant**

- Ideally the adolescent now begins to serve the family through chores and giving back to the family.
- The adolescent has to guard against wanting to do his own ministry, fulfill his own vision, and take over from the father.
- Like Jesus, the attitude must be, I came to serve, not to be served. I have come to do the work of the Father.

#### **c. identity**

- The adolescent moves from being an imitator into a place of expressing his identity, ideas and opinions.
- The child will either become a challenger or a rebel.

Challenger: the adolescent wants to express his identity by sharing his ideas, and opinions. Wants to know that he is not just a clone but can think for himself. He's expressing identity.

Rebellion: If the adolescent questions the father and his methods with the intent to overthrow, to control, or to destroy then it becomes rebellion.

- The adolescent must be careful not to cross the line of expressing his identity into rebellion.
- The father must give the son room to express who he is and allow him space to share his opinions and ideas.
- Fathers must not mistake the expression of identity for rebellion.
- The son must guard against demanding his father to be made into their own image. The son is made in the image of the father.

#### **d. security**

- The adolescent is secure in the father's absence.
- A father must not remove all the boundaries treating the adolescent like an adult.

#### **e. man (natural)**

- The adolescent sees the father as a "man"; sees the natural side of him.
- The adolescent is confronted with the weaknesses of the father; the father is confronted with the weaknesses of the adolescent.
- Being confronted by their weakness will also expose misplaced expectations.
- He can't fix everything, he can't be everything and he can't do everything!

*Psalm 62:5 AMP – My hope and expectation are from Him (God).*

- The adolescent must guard his heart against magnifying the weaknesses of the parent and becoming a fault-finder.
- They must guard against thoughts of: If I were in charge, I could do better...
- The father must look past the weaknesses of the adolescent and keep in view their calling and gifts and potential.