



REVISED AND UPDATED

POINT MAN

HOW A MAN CAN LEAD HIS FAMILY

POINT MAN



A 5-DAY READING PLAN
BY STEVE FARRAR

If you are a husband or father, then you are in a war—because war has been declared on the biblical family. Today, leading a family through the chaos of American culture is like leading a small patrol through enemy-occupied territory.

But Jesus is not asking you to die for your family;

He's asking you to live for them.

Steve Farrar: Point Man Devotional Day 1

“Satan’s Strategy: Divide and Conquer”

Scripture: Genesis 2:18-25; Proverbs 5:15-20; Matthew 7:24-27;
Ephesians 5:25-33

In Scripture, God gave us a blueprint for how the family is to function. The father is head of the family. Together with his wife, he raises his children in a home where Jesus Christ is the focus. The Bible is the most important book in the home. It is the responsibility of the parents, and ultimately that of the father, to make sure the children grow up in an environment that will enable them to one day become competent, responsible parents in their own right. This ensures the continuity of the biblical family for the next generation.

It is abundantly clear that the enemy wants to interrupt this link of biblical families from generation to generation. He does this by implementing a strategy: To effectively alienate and sever a husband’s relationship with his wife. He wants to divide the parents and conquer the family.

Sadly, it is working.

Families are dying all over America. They are dying on my street and on yours. But there’s a flip side to the story. When a husband and wife refuse to allow anything to divide them, they become an impregnable force in the war on the family. When emotional energy is not spent on fighting each other, it can then be used constructively...to build the family.

When a husband and wife are committed to each other and to the Lord Jesus Christ, they can then begin to build their family on the solid foundation of the Word of God. Or to put it another way, they will build their home by teaching their children—and daily living out—a biblical worldview. This enables them to have God’s perspective on right and wrong, which provides spiritual wisdom and discernment.

When men decide to build their family and their entire life on the Rock, the family becomes too strong for Satan to crack. Isn’t that what you want for your family?

Pray Psalm 61:2:

From the ends of the earth I call to you,
I call as my heart grows faint;
lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

What signs of division (physical or emotional) can you see between you and your wife? Between you and your children? How can you begin to heal these splits?



Steve Farrar: Point Man Devotional Day 2

“Turning the Tide of the War”

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:3-16; Ephesians 5:22-24; 1 Peter 5:8-10

As we saw yesterday, Satan has a strategy to divide a husband and wife and thus conquer the family. Today I want to point that, in particular, Satan tries to neutralize the leader in the home.

“The husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church” (Ephesians 5:23). So when Satan wants to destroy a family, he focuses on the man. If he can neutralize the man, he has neutralized the family. And the resulting damage is beyond calculation.

Men, that means we should expect to be attacked. We should expect extreme temptation to come our way. When you get serious about leading your family, you will be opposed.

If a man is passive and indifferent to the things of God and the spiritual leadership of his home, then attack isn't necessary. He's already neutralized. But the moment a man gets serious about following hard after Christ, he can expect the shelling to start.

The enemy wants you neutralized, and he is not pleased when you begin to give spiritual leadership to your wife and children.

What will turn the tide in the war on the family?

Let me put it this way: Whenever a presidential election comes around, evangelicals say things like “Wouldn’t it be great to have a committed Christian in the White House?” But something else, in my opinion, would have far greater impact. If hundreds of thousands of men seriously began to lead in their own homes, the impact on America would be far greater than one Christian man leading in the White House.

It is estimated that when Canada geese fly in formation, they can fly 70 percent farther than when they travel alone. If Christian men all over America would get into battle formation and begin to lead, we could turn this war around—and we could turn it quickly.

“Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

How are you taking up the responsibility of leadership for your family? How might you be shirking that responsibility? By the standards of Ephesians 6:10-20, how do you need to get ready for spiritual attack?



Steve Farrar: Point Man Devotional Day 3

“Start Your Own Nation”

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-28; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 2:19-20; 1 Peter 2:9-10

It was relatively easy to follow Christ in the United States for the first two-hundred-plus years. But those days are over.

It used to be that a man who loved the Lord and led his family was called a “God-fearing man” and that was a compliment. Today, if you’re called a God-fearing man, it’s likely you’re being mocked. That’s what happens when a nation dies spiritually and falls apart.

But that doesn’t mean we lose hope and dread the future. It just means we have our work cut out for us.

I know you want to be the point man for your family. So what do you do when the nation continues to pursue darkness instead of the Light?

If the nation is falling apart, then you start your own nation.

How can this be done?

You start your own nation by realizing that God has already put you into a new nation.

The moment that you turn from your sin and call upon the Lord Jesus to save you from it, your citizenship is immediately transferred from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of God (Ephesians 2:19-20; 1 Peter 2:9-10).

Make no mistake; we are still citizens of our countries. That is what it says on our driver's licenses and passports and tax forms. But we are also aliens. We are citizens of our countries either by birth or by naturalization, but we can never forget that our true and lasting citizenship is in heaven.

You're to be in the world but not of the world. You're to be in the United States but not of the idolatry of the United States. So as the nation and culture around you continue to erode and fall apart, you can start your own nation, letting that new identity shape your life and your days.

The most important thing a Christian man can do in his lifetime is strive to raise a godly family. That's what it means to start your own nation.

In your new nation, Jesus is the King and the Bible is the constitution. This new nation comes into being when a man utters from his heart the same words as Joshua: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

How does it change things to begin thinking of your family as "one nation under God"?



Steve Farrar: Point Man Devotional Day 4

“Your Sphere of Influence”

Scripture: Matthew 5:13-16; Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Corinthians 10:13-16

In today’s Scripture from 2 Corinthians, the apostle Paul tells us that every man has a sphere of influence.

You have a sphere, an orbit, of geographical boundaries where you live your life. You live in a zip code, and in the morning—if you’re not working from home—you may drive to work in another zip code. You may go to church in even another zip code. For work or a vacation, sometimes you may travel outside your sphere to another state or another country. But you always come home to your sphere.

Inside that sphere are people. People you know and care about. People you love and who love you. Your wife, kids, friends, grandparents, cousins, boss, coworkers, and others.

That’s your sphere of influence.

That sphere begins with your family. That’s your central work and your primary place of nation building. It may be just you and your wife and your kids, but how big will your nation be in a hundred years, when you’re with the Lord? Because you are following the Lord Jesus and are a citizen of His kingdom, your most important work is to fulfill the Great

Commission (see Matthew 28:18-20). The heart of the Great Commission is to “make disciples” (verse 19). A disciple is a Christ follower.

That starts with your nation, your sphere, and your influence.

And where does it end? Only God knows.

Jesus once told His disciples, “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden” (Matthew 5:14, NLT). If you have really launched a new nation with Jesus as King and God’s Word as your constitution, and if you have raised the banner of heaven up your family flagpole, you won’t be able to hide. You’re an alien. Your neighbors and coworkers will see it. People moving by you in the dark, people you don’t know and may never even meet, will see the lights of your city-state and wonder at it.

There is no way to measure the impact of a strong, happy Christian family on our dark and disillusioned contemporary culture.

And it all begins with one man.

You.

What changes might you need to make in order for your family—and not secondary interests— to be at the center of your influence?



Steve Farrar: Point Man Devotional Day 5

“Surrounded but Not Subdued”

Scripture: Psalm 27:1-3; Matthew 24:3-14

At times, God’s people find themselves governed and surrounded by the godless. Any government or nation, when it leaves the principles that God has set down in Scripture, can become a prison. Babylon became a prison for Daniel and the exiles. The nations that fell to the Nazis in World War II became prisons. The United States is becoming more and more a nation of bureaucracy and endless regulations set by unelected officials and judges, along with tyrannical governors and mayors who want to close down churches that preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Such a culture that ignores the law and constitution is smothering and claustrophobic. And when the law is ignored, we look around and find that—just as the Lord Jesus indicated in Matthew 24:12—lawlessness is increasing. As a result, we have outbreaks of rioting, looting, and anarchy from sea to shining sea.

So what do we do?

The Lord Jesus Christ has not sounded the retreat; He has instructed us to occupy until He comes (see Luke 19:11-13). We are to serve Him in our work; love our wives; teach, nurture, discipline, and love our children; and be a rock for Christ in our homes and churches.

As Martyn Lloyd-Jones put it, “Faith is a refusal to panic.” God has a plan and He intends to use you in its achievement. It is no accident that you were born in these days or that you are raising children in such a time as this. God has promised to give you the tools and the skill to wage this new kind of battle, and He will fight for you because He is on your side.

God is looking for men who will follow Jesus Christ and burn their ships behind them. When He finds those men, He will take extraordinary measures to buttress, bolster, and carry them along in His limitless strength: “The eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His” (2 Chronicles 16:9).

May we be those men! And may He give us the strength to withstand the onslaught of His blessing.

In what ways do you feel that your nation or culture is closing in around you? In light of these circumstances, what does it mean for you, today, to hold fast to Jesus?



Copyright 2022, Steve Farrar | SteveFarrar.com
Men's Leadership Ministries, Inc. 401 N. Carroll Avenue #125
Southlake, TX 76092