"Parental Pressure"

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."

(3

. John 4)

My Little Sunshine

Judges 13:7, 24 – (7) "...he (the angel) said to me, 'Behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death.' (24) And the woman bore a son and called his name Samson (sunlight). And the young man grew, and the LORD blessed him."

Allure & Audacity

Judges 14:1-3 – (1) "Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. (2) Then he came up and told his father and mother, 'I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife.' (3) But his father and mother said to him, 'Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?' But Samson said to his father, 'Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes.'"

Child-Centered Corrosion

Genesis 26:34-35, 27:46 – (34) "When Esau was forty years old, he took Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite to be his wife, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite, (35) and they made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah. (46) Then Rebekah said to Isaac, 'I loathe my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women like these, one of the women of the land, what good will my life be to me?""

Parental Pressure Relief Valve

<u>Exodus 28:29</u> – "So Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of judgment on his heart, when he goes into the Holy Place, to bring them to regular remembrance before the LORD."

Key Point: Go to the Lord with Your Parental Concerns

Cling to a Parental Promise

"Thus says the LORD: 'A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.' Thus says the LORD: 'Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares the LORD, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope for your future, declares the LORD, and your children shall come back to their own country." (Jeremiah 31:15-17)

Pray for God to Saturate Your Seed

"For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants." (Isaiah 44:3)

"Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains." (James 5:7)

Admonition to Parents:

"...walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)

Admonition to Children:

"Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice. My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways." (Proverbs 23:25-26)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message? Can God sympathize with frustrated parents? (Is. 1:2) Have I surrendered my children to God? Do I have to re-surrender them to God from time to time? How am I treating my parents? (Eph. 6:1-3)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)