Household of Faith

fidelity

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." - Galatians 6:10

Week of Sunday, 29th March 2026

10 Things God Asked Fathers to Do

Usually mothers do a great job in tgaking care of the family. Here are 10 things that God tells fathers to do.

1. Provide for their families - 1 Timothy 5:8 But if anyone doesn't provide for his own, and especially his own household, he has denied the faith, and is worse than an unbeliever.

2. Love their wives - Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the assembly, and gave himself up for it.

3. Teach their children about the Lord - Ephesians 6:4 You fathers, don't provoke your children to wrath, but nurture them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

4. Encourage their children - Colossians 3:21 Fathers, don't provoke your children, so that they won't be discouraged.

5. Talk about God's word, often- Deuteronomy 6:7-9 and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them for a sign on your hand, and they shall be for symbols between your eyes. You shall write them on the door-posts of your house, and on your gates.

6. Appreciate their children - Psalms 127:3-5 Behold, children are a heritage of Yahweh. The fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows in the hand of a mighty man, So are the children of youth. Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them. They won't be disappointed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

7. Guide their families in serving the Lord - Joshua 24:15 As for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh.

8. Set a good example - Proverbs 20:7 A righteous man walks in integrity. Blessed are his children after him.

9. Love their children enough to discipline them - Proverbs 13:24 One who spares the rod hates his son, But one who loves him is careful to discipline him.

10. Lead their families as Christ leads the church - Proverbs 13:24 One who spares the rod hates his son, But one who loves him is careful to discipline him.

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Fidelity is edited by Henry Kong and published weekly by the Household of Faith which meets at Block 67, #07-10 Ayer Rajah Crescent, Singapore 139950 every Sunday at 10:30am. Website: www.hofsg.com. For more details, contact the minister. Henry Kong - email: henry.kong@yahoo.com. Mobile: +65 9326 0669.

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BACK PAGE NEWS

Clockwise: Michael, Nathaniel at the youth Caretean; Jesse reading scriptures; Henry exhorting the congregation; Visitors Nathaniel and Emily enjoying sandwhiches provided by Annie, Elaine, Catherine and June with muffins from Catherine and fruits from Phai.

Joel

a minor prophet of the old kingdom

#1 ~ Judgement

A devastating locust plague destroys the land.

"What the locust swarm has left the great locusts have eaten; what the great locusts have left the young locusts have eaten; what the young locusts have left other locusts have eaten."

Joel 1:4

From the present disaster, Joel moves to a greater coming judgment called:

"The Day of the Lord"

God calls for His people to turn back to Him...

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning."

Joel 2:12

#2 ~ Call for Lamentation

#3 ~ Restoration

The Lord felt pity for His people. He gave them enough... that they will no longer be scorned.

“I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

Joel 2:19

#3 ~ Restoration

The Lord felt pity for His people. He gave them **enough**... that they will no longer be scorned.

"I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

Joel 2:19

Afterwards, the Lord poured His Spirit on all.

"And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions."

Joel 2:28

#3i) ~ Nations Judged

Concurrently, God went to the extent of judging the nations that did harm to His people.

> “Let the nations be roused; let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat,
> for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side.

<u>Joel 3:12</u>

Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Minor Prophets - 12 Books

Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

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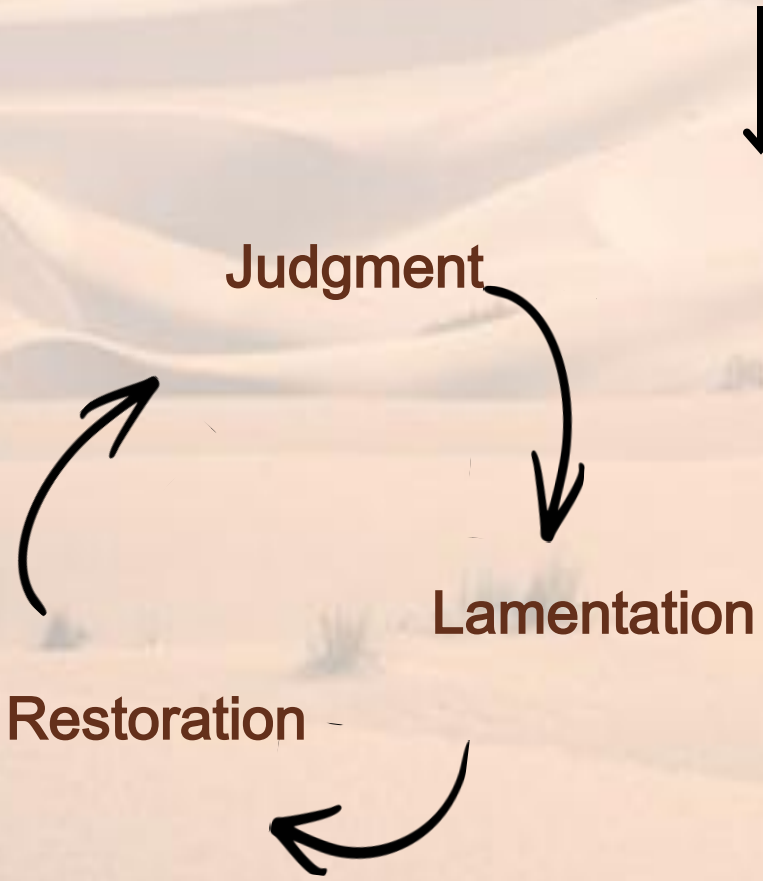


- An endless, repeating cycle of punishment and reward...
- The cycle of sin and destruction, followed by the blessings of God.

BUT WHY DO HUMANS REPEAT THIS CYCLE?

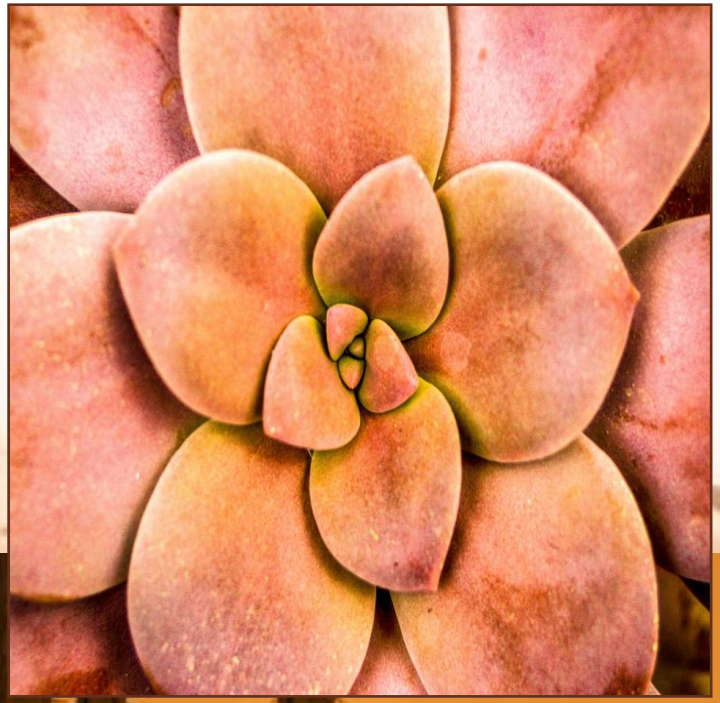
- Because we never learn from our mistakes.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
...
a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."

Ecclesiastes 3:1,8

- Not that we don't want to...
- But we are doing it the wrong way.

But before that...



MEN - GOD'S CREATION

- Originally created for stewardship, to serve God.

Ever since the Fall... these are the characteristics of worldly men/women:

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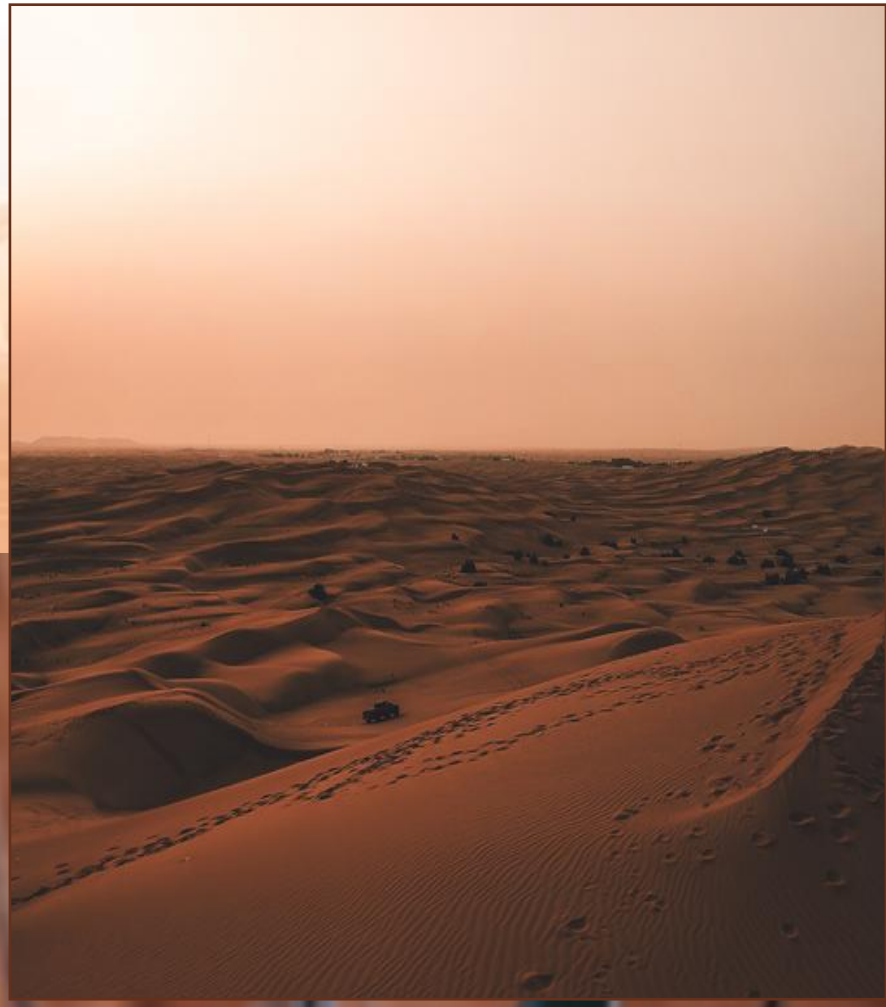
1. **Fallen Heart:**
   - "The heart is deceitful above all things…" — Jeremiah 17:9
   - Wrong becomes "Right", when we say so...



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- Wrong becomes "Right", when we say so...

Sinful Nature:

- "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," — Romans 3:23
- Repeated Mistakes
- Doing what feels familiar instead, no discipline...

Hardness of the Heart:

- "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before the fall" — Proverbs 16:18
- Defensiveness
- Excuses
- Limit

- "Pride comes before a fall"
- Lucifer fell when he placed himself above God.

- Humans sin when they place anything above God:
  a. Fleshly Desires
  b. Food
  c. Work
  d. Money

<u>Reminder, we are all guilty of this. Even now...</u>

Our Disposition

Our Advantage as Christians~

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

<u>2 Corinthians 5:17</u>

- By the death of Christ AND our baptism in His name, we are now reborn...
- Therefore, we should not bound ourselves by the nature of this world.
- Understand this gift, this grace, that is God within us.

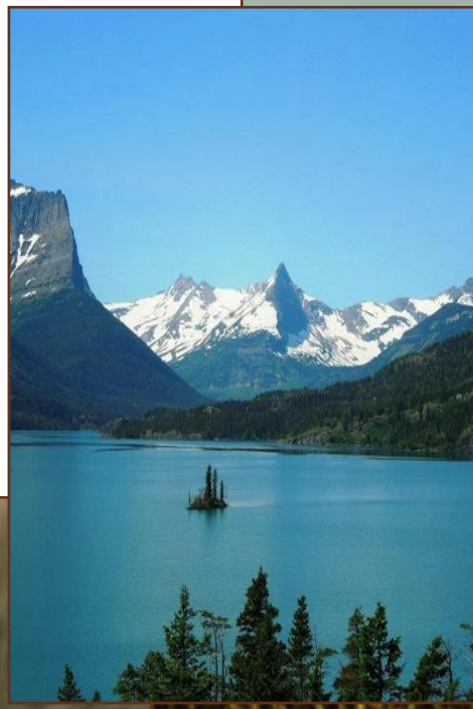
INTERNAL REPENTANCE

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." **Rend your heart and not your garments**. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

Joel 2:12-13

- In ancient Israel, tearing garments = mourning
- God said otherwise, to not only repent outwardly... but inwardly.

Change starts from denying the old – and embracing the new



The Struggles of Man

Why do I still sin even after being saved?

- *We may be saved, but we are not **perfect**...*

- *New Nature ~ (Spirit)*
- *Old Nature ~ (Flesh)*

We are both at the same time...

For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me.

Romans 7:22-23

CONSISTENCY

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.

John 15:9-10

- Stay with Christ daily
- That's why daily Bible readings + prayer are important
- Fall down? Nevermind... Change is progressive, so long you choose God.

~ Put yourself in positions where you can get closer to God. (i.e. Fasting)

The Real Change

The Next Step

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:33

1. Time with God – (Morning and or Night)
2. A Structured Routine – (Same Start, Same End, Different Middle)
3. "When I fall, I need to reach a point where I realise I need to return..."