



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

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**Sunday – August 13, 2023**

## **Heart to Heart...**

The saddest part of life is realizing not all fathers are created equal. Here's what I mean. Some fathers relish the role and delight in their children while others not so much. However, blessed is the child who has a loving, caring father.

John the baptizer had the right kind of father. His father, Zacharias, was a priest before God. (Luke 1) Some fathers today are concerned about wealth, sports and pleasures. God has little place in their lives. Consequently, no thought is given to the training of their children in the paths of righteousness. (The same thing can be said of mothers too. Timothy was blessed in that as a child his mother and grandmother instructed him in sincerity of faith toward the Lord. II Timothy 1:5-6)

The right kind of father establishes a God-fearing home. Luke tells us inspired testimony about this godly couple. ***"They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord."*** (Luke 1:6) Just note their devout example they set before their child. They weren't pretenders but sincere in their faith to be pleasing to the Lord. It couldn't be hidden.

Zacharias was a prayerful father. One of the headaches of this family was the fact they had no children, and both were advanced in years. But in serving the Lord God took notice. ***"But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son and you will give him the name John.'"*** (Luke 1:13)

Jesus gives us the ultimate assessment of John, the son of Zacharias and Elizabeth with these words: ***"I say to you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."*** (Luke 7:28) Thank you Lord for godly fathers/mothers. It's still not too late for any of us! Think about it!!!

*Brent*