

*Father's Day 2010*  
**The Difference a Father Makes**

**I. Introduction**

- A. "Dad, are you proud of me?"
- B. "Dad, do you love who I am?"
- C. "Dad, are you happy to have me in the family?"
- D. "Dad, am I important to you?"
- E. Eph. 6:4 (NAS) *And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

**II. Qualities of Fathering**

- A. Don't provoke your children to anger.
  - 1. We can provoke our children to anger through absence, abuse of authority, or neglect.
- B. Bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

**III. Two Ingredients for Bringing Children Up in the Discipline and Instruction of the Lord:**

- A. Live an authentic Christian life.
  - 1. We can teach what we know, but we reproduce what we are.
- B. Discipline and instruct your children in the ways of God.
  - 1. Deut. 6:6-8 (NAS) *"<sup>6</sup>And these words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart;<sup>7</sup>and you shall teach them diligently to your sons 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. <sup>8</sup>And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead."*
  - 2. A follower of Jesus is someone who makes, and lives out 3 major commitments in his or her life:
    - a. A commitment to Christ.
    - b. A commitment to His church.
    - c. A commitment to His cause.

3. Joshua 24:15 (NAS) *“And if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve... But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”*

#### **IV. Conclusion**

**Next weekend's message:**

**6/26-27/2010 “Where Do I Stand Spiritually?” (Out of Control Series)**