

## LOOKING FOR SUPERDAD (Fathers' Day)

Believe it or not, Dad, your child wants you to be their "superhero"!

### KEY POINTS

- ❖ As teenagers, Jerry Siegel (writer) and Joe Schuster (artist) would muse over the persecution and hatred Jewish communities faced in Europe (and even in North America where they had fled for refuge).
- ❖ They imagined a hero to represent and deliver their people from the wrongs they faced. Jerry came up with the hero's name: "SUPERMAN."
- ❖ Superman's back-story is that he was born on the planet Krypton and given the name "Kal-El" – which means "vessel of God."
- ❖ It seems these teens knew that to be delivered, their deliverance would have to come from a 'vessel of God'!
- ❖ There are so many things a good father wants and needs to be for his children. And it is quite clear to most that this requires "superpowers" that they do not possess. So, what's a father to do?
- ❖ Moses figured it out very quickly – as soon as God called him to deliver the Israelites from Egypt, he acknowledged his own insignificance and inadequacy.
- ❖ In Exodus 3:11, Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"
- ❖ That's where we all need to begin – acknowledging there is no "Superman". Or more to this lesson's focus, that there is no such a person as "Super Dad."
- ❖ At one time, Moses actually thought he was 'all that' -- able to bring justice to his people through his personal position and power. After all, hadn't he been raised as the son of Pharaoh's daughter?
- ❖ However, in the space of a few short days he went from being a rich, privileged, powerful prince in Egypt to being an unknown, penniless shepherd in Midian.
- ❖ But if our humiliation is what it takes for us to turn our eyes to God and seek His help, so be it. He is our source and the provider of every good and perfect gift we enjoy (James 1:17).
- ❖ Here is a truth all fathers need to know: If you are trying even a little bit to be a good, attentive father, your children look up to you with love, honour, awe and respect.
- ✚ You are the one they will run to for help in every situation.
- ✚ You are the one they believe can solve every problem and right every wrong.
- ✚ You are the one whose love and approval they crave.
- ✚ You are the one from whom your daughter wants to hear "you're beautiful."
- ✚ You are the one from whom your son wants to hear: "I'm proud of you, proud of what you've done, proud that you're my son!"
- ✚ You are the one from whom they seek justice and equity.
- ✚ You are their Dad, and they think you're super!

**KEY SCRIPTURES:** Exodus 3:11, 4:1-4, 10:9, 20:7; Psalm 65:2; Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV), 7:11; 2 Timothy 1:6; Luke 15:20-24; Joshua 24:15; Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Job 1:1, 1:4-5, 1:8; Colossians 3:21; 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

- ❖ To fulfill what their children want and need, fathers must turn to God and seek His help. A child's impression of "God the Father" begins with their experience of "Dad the father".
- ❖ Let God impart His super powers to you so you can become the rock of unconditional love to your children (see 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a and Proverbs 3:11-12).
- ❖ A good/godly father:
  - listens to his children, as God listens to us when we pray: Psalm 65:2, Matthew 6:9-13
  - encourages his children: Colossians 3:21, 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12
  - gives godly counsel to his children: Prov. 4:1-4
  - gives good gifts to his children: Matthew 7:11, 2 Timothy 1:6
  - forgives and restores: Luke 15:20-24
  - is full of integrity: Proverbs 10:9, 20:7
  - instills faith in God in his children: Joshua 24:15 Deuteronomy 6:6-7
  - is pure and holy: Job 1:1,8
  - prays and intercedes for his children: Job 1:4-5.
- ❖ Children want their father to be 'Superdad', and so they should. But a father can't be 'Superdad' in his own power.
- ❖ Instead, fathers, allow God to share His supernatural power with you through His Holy Spirit.
- ❖ If you do so, you will receive *both the desire and the ability* to act in accordance with His good will and pleasure for you and your children (Philippians 2:13).

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. How are fathers perceived/treated in our society and how does this help/hinder men as they strive to fulfill their roles as godly fathers?
2. What are some desires/abilities God wants to give fathers who trust and depend on Him for guidance and support? (Refer to scriptures.)
3. If you are a father (figure), what do you feel you are doing best, or need most support with?
4. Pray for the fathers/father figures in the group.

### Prayer Time

God, you are a Good Father to those who need one and to those who are striving to be one. Thank You. Help us to depend on your power and not our own. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Start-up: Identify some things considered "superpowers". In your view, can something be "normal" to one and a "superpower" to another? Explain.

## WEEK OF SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019

### NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

- ✓ (Reminds me/Confirms)    💡 (New idea)    🧠 (Think about)
- 👉 (Do this)    ❤️ (Speaks to my heart)    ↔️ (Must share)

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### PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

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Go deeper with your Life Group family.  
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD  
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline