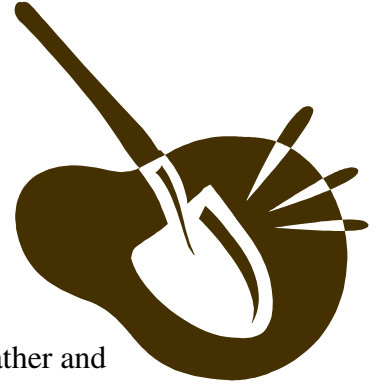


## DIGGING DEEPER

**Series:** A Psummer of Psalms for the Psoul  
**Sermon:** **A Man Blessed by God** (Father's Day)  
**Scripture:** Psalm 128



### GETTING STARTED

Which of the following TV “dads” do you think best exemplifies the ideal father and why?

- \_\_\_ Mike Brady (Brady Bunch)      \_\_\_ Jim Anderson, Sr (Father Knows Best)  
\_\_\_ Jason Seaver (Growing Pains)      \_\_\_ Heathcliff Huxtable (Bill Cosby Show)  
\_\_\_ Bill Miller (Still Standing)      \_\_\_ Ray Barone (Everybody Loves Raymond)  
\_\_\_ Homer Simpson (The Simpsons)      \_\_\_ Ozzie Neslon (Adventures of Ozzie & Harriet)  
\_\_\_ Ben Cartwright (Bonanza)      \_\_\_ Ward Cleaver (Leave it Beaver)  
\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### BIBLE STUDY

Read Psalm 128 and answer the following questions:

1. What is the connection between the “fear of the Lord” and “walking in God’s ways” (v. 1)?
  - If a person doesn’t “fear the Lord”, can they “walk in His ways”? Explain your answer.
2. Is the promise of “blessings and prosperity” in verse 2 a promise that believers will be always experience health and wealth?
3. For the man who seeks to live in accordance with the teachings of Scripture, how is his wife “like a fruitful vine” and his children like “olive shoots”?
4. Pastor Paul mentioned that an olive shoot requires preparation, participation and patience in order to grow properly. What practical steps can a father take to help his children in each of these areas?
  - Preparation
  - Participation
  - Patience

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:10-12.

5. What do we learn from this passage about the role of a father (a physical father as well as a spiritual father) in the spiritual development of “children”?

## **APPLY IT**

Each of us can help others to mature in their faith through encouragement, comfort and urging (1 Thessalonians 2:10-12). Identify someone whom the Lord has laid on your heart and write out at least one way in which you can assist that person to grow in each of these three ways:

- Through encouragement:
- Through comfort:
- Through urging: