

# Empire Church of the Brethren

## Sunday Service Sermons

21 June 2026

### The Duties of a Daddy

Text: "But you, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." *1 Tim. 6:11*

In his book, "Hel! I'm a Layman" Kenneth Chafin wrote of a time several years ago when he came home from the office in time for the evening meal.

They had hardly begun to eat when his five-year-old daughter asked if he would be home that night.

He was embarrassed to answer because he was to speak that night to a group on the topic "What a Good Father Ought to Be."

To soften the disappointment of his daughter at his leaving, he decided that he would ask her to give him a little help with the talk.

He placed a piece of paper and a pencil on the table and asked her to tell him what it meant to be a good daddy.

Throughout the meal she would come to his chair and whisper her ideas in his ear.

He wrote each of them down.

This was the list:

1. Catch a fish.
2. Build a fire.
3. Fly a kite.
4. Catch a butterfly.
5. Plant a flower.
6. Get a kitty cat out of the mud.

Chafin took the list with him to the meeting.

As he waited to be introduced, he was looking over the list.

Suddenly it hit him: nothing that his daughter wanted in an ideal father required his buying anything; but everything she mentioned required him.

From that he wondered if many of us do not spend most of our lives working to purchase things for our children instead of giving them what they need more than anything else, ourselves.

On this Father's Day let us consider some duties of a daddy.

For that consideration we will turn to *First Timothy 6*.

This is rather a summing up of the things that Paul had written to the young minister.

While these suggestions are not primarily intended for fathers, they can surely be applied that way.

These are some of the spiritual duties of a daddy.

Continuation is one duty of a daddy.

There is a heritage of faith.

Timothy had a good heritage of faith.

He came from a family where Christian faith was strongly held and vigorously practiced.

This was obviously important to Timothy's early spiritual maturity.

A continuation of the heritage of faith.

One duty of a daddy is to continue that heritage of faith.

Timothy is urged here to "fight the good fight of faith."

The heritage of faith is not just for women and children.

It is carried on by people who see its worth and catch a vision of its greatness.

The strength of the continuation of the heritage of faith.

How much stronger our churches would be and how much deeper Christian faith would penetrate the world if this could be the natural, unembarrassed, unashamed approach of fathers.

Their faith would be something that they wove with naturalness and expressed without embarrassment.

When the heritage of faith is continued by fathers, it is done unashamedly.

The character building is one of the duties of a daddy.

The importance of character.

Character is important.

We must have men of character who will stand for God in their homes and in the nation.

The indications of character.

*Verse 11* gives some of the characteristics of a godly man: righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness.

This kind of character will pay dividends for the family.

Confession is one of the duties of a daddy.

A confession of faith in Christ.

Another duty of a daddy is to make a clear confession of faith in Christ as Savior.

In *verse 12* Paul called on Timothy to lay hold of the eternal life to which he had been called and to profess it strongly before others.

The confession is necessary for Christian homes.

We cannot have Christian homes without Christians in the home.

The father sets the pace for the family.

If he is the head of the household, the leader of the family, he should certainly lead in this area also.

This confession is comparable to Christ's confession.

In *verses 14-16* Paul compares the confession that Timothy would make before people to the confession that Christ made before Pilate.

It is the kind of confession that is consistent with the commitment that has been made to Christ.

A certain father was the manager of a feed store, where Purina feed was sold.

He was offered a position as a manager of the competitor's feed store, where he would have made considerably more money.

When he refused the offer, his son asked him why.

To him the answer was clear, "Why, son," he said, "all these years I have been telling these people that Purina feed was the best feed for their livestock. If I quit them now and start selling some other kind of feed, they would think that I had been lying all that time."

This man was equally consistent in his witness for Christ.

These are some of the duties of a daddy.

When fathers accept these duties and begin to carry them out, homes will be stronger and the Christian testimony greater.

The man of the house should be a Father and a Daddy.

The term Father is a term of respect and responsibility.

The term daddy is intimate and loving.

Jesus said in his prayer for his disciples to call the great God of the universe Daddy.

That had to be a shock for the disciples.

Jesus knew God as daddy.

He knew the love and closeness that God had with his creation.

Call the creator of the universe and you daddy then be a daddy and a father to your family.  
They need you to be all that God can help you to be.  
Be all you can be for them.  
And all you can be is found in God our Father and Daddy.  
God bless your home and family, today and always.