



Broadcast Transcript

Broadcast: Provide the Pattern for Your Marriage and Family – Part 1

Guest(s): Pastor Brenen Beeler

Air Date: June 5, 2025

Dr. James Dobson: Welcome everyone to Family Talk. It's a ministry of the James Dobson Family Institute supported by listeners just like you. I'm Dr. James Dobson and I'm thrilled that you've joined us.

Roger Marsh: Well welcome to Family Talk, the broadcast ministry of the Dr. James Dobson Family Institute. I'm Roger Marsh. So glad you've joined us today. You know, Father's Day is less than two weeks ago and many people are talking about the role of fathers in America. You know, the role father's play in our homes has never been more critical. When a dad is actively present providing leadership, strength and guidance, it makes a profound difference in a child's development. Sadly though the statistics tell a sobering story. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly 20 million children in America live without a father in the home. That is one out of every four kids growing up without a dad's presence.

Well today here on Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk, we're going to hear a powerful message from Pastor Brenen Beeler, who brings that message about the biblical pattern for fatherhood in the home. Pastor Brenen is senior pastor of Calvary Chapel Eagle, a non-denominational church based in Treasure Valley, Idaho. He's also the founder of Regenerate Ministries and has a national radio program called Regenerate Radio. As a husband and a father, as well as a pastor, Pastor Beeler understands the vital importance of fathers who lead their families spiritually. You know, research shows that father absence contributes significantly to many societal changes we face today. Children from fatherless homes face higher risks of dropping out of school, substance abuse and behavioral issues, even incarceration. On today's edition of Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk, Pastor Brenen Beeler will share how men can embrace their God-given roles as spiritual leaders and provide the pattern for their families to follow. Let's get into part one of this presentation right now on today's edition of Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk.

Pastor Brenen Beeler: Guess what day the most phone calls are made on of the year? What day of the year the most phone calls are made? Guess what it is?

Audience: Mother's Day.

Pastor Brenen Beeler: You got it. Mother's Day. Mother's Day, the most phone calls are made out of any day of the year. But dad's I don't want you to feel left out today. True fact, the most collect calls are made on Father's Day. True fact. I'm not making this

up and that's because, well, dad, well, dad always pays for stuff, doesn't he? It costs a lot to be a dad, doesn't it? It's been said that dads carry photos where they used to carry their money. How many of you have had a dad growing up that he had a bunch of photos in his wallet and never any cash? That was me, and it does cost a lot to be a dad.

Dads pay for a lot and oftentimes a lot of those things that dads provide for are really taken for granted, or not really appreciated, or maybe even they go unnoticed. But it does cost a lot, even financially, to be a dad. It costs even more when dads aren't being the dads that God has called them to be.

Recent secular research has found that the missing component in society today and the reason for many of the social ills in society today have a direct connection to the absence of a true father in the home. In the past 30 years, there has been a 550% increase in violent crime. We can see that in the day in which we live. A 400% increase in illegitimate births. A 200% increase in teenage pregnancy and a 300% increase in teenage suicide. And secular experts have traced all of these things back to one singular thing, the breakdown of the family and specifically the absence of a father in the home.

There is a father absent crisis in America. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 19.7 million children, nationwide, live without a father in the home. 19.7 million. Do you understand that's one in every four kids in the United States don't have a dad in the home? One expert said that we are in danger of becoming a fatherless society. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, statistics show that when a child is raised in a father absent home, the kids are affected in these following ways. They are two times more likely to drop out of high school. Girls are seven times more likely to become pregnant as a teen. There is a four times greater risk of poverty in the family, and these kids are 279% more likely to carry guns and deal drugs.

They are more likely to commit crimes, more likely to go to prison, more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol, and two times more likely to suffer obesity. Also, 63% of all youth suicides are from a fatherless home. 90% of all homeless and runaway youth are from a father absent home. 85% of all children that exhibit major behavioral disorders are from father absent homes. 71% of all high school dropouts are from father absent homes. 70% of juveniles in state operate institutions are from father absent homes. 75% of adolescent patients in substance abuse centers are from father absent homes. 75% of rapists motivated by displaced anger are also from father absent homes.

And the list goes on, and on, and on about the statistics of what happens in our culture and society when fathers aren't present, when fathers aren't being the fathers that God has called them to be. And that's why I believe that a man who honors the vows he has made to his wife and stands by his children and grandchildren and leads them to the Lord are truly the unsung heroes of our country.

Dads, we need you. Men, we need you. Society needs you. Our homes need you, your families need you. And as men of God, we are called to lead. Aren't you thankful for the men of God who are leading in our country today? And listen, and this isn't just for men but also applies to men, we are called to lead by example. 1 Peter 5:2 puts it this way, "Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you." What is your flock? That's your family. That's what you have the responsibility to protect and to provide for. That's your flock. We are told to care for it, what God has entrusted to us. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly, not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve the Lord.

Don't lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your own good example. Whether it's pastoring, or parenting, or being the president of marketing, we are called to lead the people that have been entrusted to us in this way, by your own good example. Not, "Do as I say, but do as I do."

Listen, this is the key to Christian life and how we ought to live, to set the example. And for that reason, I want to talk to you today about the importance for us to provide the pattern with our lives that God has given for others to build their life upon. In 1 Chronicles 28, our text for today, David, who is the king, is at the end of his life, he's dying and he knows that he doesn't have much longer to live. And so he calls his son Solomon and he assembles all the leaders in the land and he tells them what he had in his heart to do.

That in his heart, he desired to build God a temple. A place that the ark of the covenant would reside in. The place where God's tangible presence would be felt in experienced acts. And he had this burden in his heart to build a house for the Lord, a temple. But God told David that he could not do that because he was a man of war and he had too much blood on his hands. But God tells David that David's son, Solomon, would be the next in line to be King and Solomon would be the one to build the temple.

So David goes before all the nations of Israel and he says to his son, Solomon, in front of all the leaders in 1 Chronicles 28:9, David says this, "Solomon my son, learn to know the God of your ancestors intimately." Wow. Learn to know God intimately. This relationship that you need to have with God isn't one of distance one where God is far from you, but it's a close intimate relationship. It's a personal relationship. It's one that you walk and talk with God in, it's one that you spend time with and that you learn to grow close to the Lord.

He says, "Learn to know the God of your ancestors intimately." And then he says, "Worship and serve Him with your whole heart and a willing mind." Our lives are meant to worship God and to serve God with all of our hearts. And then it says, "For the Lord sees every heart and knows every plan and thought. If you seek him, you will find him. But if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever. So..." verse 10, "take this seriously. The Lord has chosen you to build a temple as his sanctuary. Be strong and do the work."

Then David gave Solomon, here it is, the plans for the temple and its surroundings, including the entry room, the storerooms, the upstairs rooms, the inner rooms, and the inner sanctuary, which was the place of atonement. David also gave Solomon all the plans he had in mind for the courtyards of the Lord's temple, the outside rooms, the treasuries and the rooms for the gifts dedicated to the Lord.

The King also gave Solomon the instructions concerning the work of the various divisions of the priests and Levites in the temple of the Lord and he gave specifications for the items in the temple that were to be used for worship. So here's David, David couldn't build Solomon's temple. He wanted to build Solomon's Temple, but God said, "No, Solomon will be the one to build the temple." So David, instead of moping around and saying, "Well, if I can't do it, I guess someone else will have to." What David does is he does everything he can. "Okay, well, if I can't build the temple, well then I'm going to compile all the resources. I'm going to get all the materials ready. I'm going to even have all the blueprints done." And so David assembles everything and then when it comes time for Solomon to build Solomon's Temple, David says, "My son here is the plans."

The King James version puts that word, the plans, the pattern. What it's talking about, it's the blueprints. David had the drawings all drawn up and ready to go, "Here's how you can build the temple. Here are the instructions for the construction. Here's how you're going to do it, Solomon." In other words, David's showing Solomon. "Here is what the temple is supposed to look like. Here's what it's supposed to be like." David couldn't build Solomon's Temple, but David did what he could do and David gave Solomon the pattern in which to follow.

Then in verses 14 through 18, we read that David provided his son Solomon, everything he possibly could need to accomplish this task. He was equipped with all the resources necessary to follow the pattern that David provided. And then it goes on to say in verse 19, "Every part of this plan." David told Solomon, "was given to me in writing from the hand of the Lord." David tells Solomon this important truth, something that we each need to know today for our own lives.

The Lord is the one that is inspiring this pattern. So verse 20, David continued, "Be strong and courageous and do the work. Don't be afraid or discouraged for the Lord God, my God is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. He will see to it that all the work related to the temple of the Lord is finished correctly." Now, David tells his son, Solomon, "Be strong. Get to work. You can do it. So be courageous. Don't be filled with fear. Do the work."

Now here's the application for us today. 1 Corinthians 6:19, now New Testament. It says this, "Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirits who lives in you and was given to you by God?" Now here's the application. In the Old Testament, God was limited to that Holy of Holies. His presence was there over the Ark of the Covenant where the high priest, one

man on one day of the year, the day of Atonement, would be able to enter in and get a glimpse of God's glory.

And in those days, people would go to the temple just to feel near to God, to worship God. But now, New Testament, when Jesus Christ died on the cross and he said, "[foreign language 00:16:26], it is finished." We are told in the gospels that that veil, that was the wall that separated the Holy of Holies from the holy place in the sanctuary, God's presence from people was torn in two, ripped from top to bottom as if God just ripped it from Heaven, symbolizing and signifying this truth that God's presence isn't just for one person on one day of the year, but God's presence is for every person, every day of the year.

David wanted to build Solomon's Temple, but Solomon ultimately was the only one that could build Solomon's Temple. And you as a dad, maybe as a mom, a parent wish that you could make all the decisions for your kids, that you, even for your adult children wish that you could build their life because you know what would be best, what would work best and what they should do.

But listen, there comes a time where you can't. Dads, you might not be able to make every decision for your kids, but here's what you can do. And this is not only for fathers here today, but this is for single men, this is for married men, this is for moms and single ladies. This is for every single one of us here today. Here's what you can do. It is your responsibility as a person to provide the pattern for others to follow in the way that a godly person looks like. You are to provide them the pattern with your life that they are to follow.

Hey, I can't do it, but you can. But here's what I can do. I can give you everything necessary, the blueprints, the pattern for you to follow that if you simply follow the pattern that God has given, then your life will be built in the way that it needs to be.

"How am I supposed to build my life?" Listen, God has given to you the blueprints. He has given it to you in writing. It is the Word of God, the Living Word of God. His instructions for your life and listen, men, the very fact that you are here today on this beautiful sunny day, you've chosen to be here saying, "The plan is making the Lord a priority." Let me share with you a study that was done in Switzerland, which by the way, is not a Christian country. And this study in Switzerland, a very secular pagan country, did a study on family influence on Christianity. And they found in this huge research project that if a mom goes to church regularly and dad only goes occasionally, that when the children grow up and can make their own decisions to go to church, only 3% of children commit to going to church. That is if mom goes regularly and dad only goes occasionally.

Now, if mom goes regularly and dad never goes, it goes down to 2% of kids when they grew up will end up going to church. Now, here's where the study got mind-blowing. If mom and dad both go regularly, that percentage jumps up to 33% of kids when they grow up and can make their own decision, 33% of kids will say, "You know what? I'm going to go. Not with my mom or dad, but

without them if necessary, I'm going to take myself to church." It jumps up in huge numbers, but it even gets weirder. That's if mom and dad both go regularly, 33% of kids when they grow up will go to church.

But if dad goes to church regularly, consistently and mom only goes sometimes it even goes up more to 38% of kids will end up taking themselves to church. The point that this is mind-blowing is simply this, that kids are looking to the father in the home to set the example. So much so that the study found this, when dad goes regularly, consistently to church and mom never goes to church, 44% of kids will end up going to church when they grow up and can make their own decision.

Because your son, your daughter, our kids, they are looking to dad to provide the pattern. They're looking to the father and the reason why that has even greater impact when the dad says, "Even when my wife isn't going to get up and make the kids breakfast. Even when my wife is going to sleep in on Sunday mornings. Even when I have to get the kids ready and do the extra work, and even if I have to take the kids to church by myself, I'm going to church. And as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord."

When dad makes that as a priority and the kids see when dad does it and when they see that in dad and his commitment to take the family and to lead the family to church, that has a lasting impact in kids. More so when mom does and dad never goes, because in the family God is designed it to be where the man of the house, the father is called to be the spiritual leader. It's time for the godly men to put on the spiritual pants of the home and to lead their family unto the Lord. Like Joshua said, "As for me in my house, we will serve the Lord."

Roger Marsh:

Today's message here on Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk was courtesy of Pastor Brenen Beeler, and it reminds us that patterns truly matter, especially for the ones we set for our children through faithful leadership. Now if you missed any portion of today's broadcast or if you'd like to share these insights with someone who needs some biblical encouragement, you'll find the complete program up at drjamesdobson.org/familytalk. You know, at the heart of our mission here at the Dr. James Dobson Family Institute is the conviction that strong families build a strong nation. As we heard on today's edition of Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk, fathers play an irreplaceable role in that equation. When dad's take up their God-given responsibilities as spiritual leaders, everything changes. Marriages grow stronger, children develop greater security and biblical values pass on to the next generation. That's why programs like today's matters so profoundly and that's why your prayers and financial support make such a huge difference.

Through the month of June, we have a June Matching Grant in place that gives you an extraordinary opportunity to double your impact on families. Every gift we receive between now and June 30, will be matched dollar for dollar allowing us to reach twice as many parents with biblical wisdom and practical guidance.

In these challenging cultural times, your partnership helps fathers understand their calling and gives them tools to lead their families with wisdom and grace.

Now to have your gift doubled dollar for dollar through our June Matching Grant, go to drjamesdobson.org or you can write to us at Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk P.O. Box 39000 Colorado Springs, Colorado, the zip code, 80949. And we'll be happy to thank you for your gift of any amount by sending you a copy of Dr. Dobson's powerful book called *Your Legacy* along with the companion DVD. Now this resource offers practical wisdom for building a spiritual heritage that will equip your children and grandchildren with an unshakable foundation of faith for generations to come. In its pages, Dr. Dobson shares his own family's spiritual journey. He reveals strategies for effective spiritual training of children and building loving relationships with those kids. You'll discover how intentional spiritual leadership can create a legacy that spans generations even in today's challenging culture. The companion DVD brings these concepts to life through powerful testimonies and Dr. Dobson's heartfelt guidance. Now to request these resources, the bundle that includes Dr. Dobson's book, *Your Legacy*, and the companion DVD, simply call our resource center right now at 877-732-6825. When you make your special June matching grant donation of any amount, we'll be happy to send you the book and DVD as our way of thanking you for your contribution. Again call 877-732-6825, or you can write to us at Dr. James Dobson Family's Talk P.O. Box 39000 Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80949.

Well I'm Roger Marsh and on behalf of Dr. Dobson and all of us here at the Dr. James Dobson Family Institute, thanks so much for joining us today. Be sure to join us again next time for part two of Pastor Brenen Beeler's message for fathers. That's right here on the next edition of Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk, the voice you trust, for the family you love.

Announcer:

This has been a presentation of the Dr. James Dobson Family Institute.