



## CELL GUIDE

---

**TOPIC** I Am Your Father

**SPEAKER** Elder Lok Vi Ming

**THEME** Faith At Home

**DATE** 16 & 17 June 2018

---

# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## I AM YOUR FATHER

The role of a father is a tough and tricky one. But it is a very important one.

This week, on Father's Day, as we honour our fathers, Elder Lok gives practical, godly advice, not only to the fathers in our midst, but to those who play a special role in making them fathers: their wives, and their children.

## FINDING GOD FOR THE FATHERS IN OUR MIDST

### THE FATHER'S PERSPECTIVE AS A KING

- Beware the lure of women and wine. (Prov 31:3-7)
- Be courageous. Keep a clear mind. Speak up, bring justice for poor and needy. (Prov 31:8-9)

### THE FATHER'S PERSPECTIVE TO YOUR WIFE

- Build a partnership with your wife (Prov 31:10-31) for she is the helper God has designed for you to make you complete (Gen 2:20-24)
- Pray for your wife. Love her as Christ loves the Church. In every area of struggle, bring it before the Lord. (Eph 5:22-27)

### THE FATHER'S PERSPECTIVE TOWARDS YOUR CHILDREN

- Encourage and comfort them. Urge them to live lives worthy of God! (1 Thess 2:11-12)
- Carry them along their journey. Help them borrow your strength. Raise them up to more than they can be! (Deut 1:31)
- Help them plan and pilot their journey so that they will not depart from it. (Prov 22:6)
- Do not exasperate them. Be ready to be their safe harbour in stormy weather. (Eph 6:4)

### THE FATHER'S PERSPECTIVE AS A REAL MAN

- Stand by your convictions courageously.
- Seek to make others better
- Take up and act on your responsibilities
- Reject passivity but inject energy and set the culture of your home

## THE MOTHER'S PERSPECTIVE

- Be your husband's **mirror**: Follow where they lead.
- Be their **lover**: Let them know that you will always love and respect them.
- Be their **cheerleader**: Encourage and spur them on.
- Be the God-fearing wife that God has designed you to be.

## THE CHILDREN'S PERSPECTIVE

- Obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. (Eph 6:1)
- Honour your father and your mother.
- Do not despise the efforts of your father.
- Heed your father's instruction. Respond to his rebukes. (Prov 13:1)
- Allow your father to be your pilot and your safe harbour in the storm.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion:

Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children or they will become discouraged. (Col 3:18-21)

And for each and every one of us, in the big and little things of our everyday life, be imitators of God. (Eph 5:1) For we will never know when our little acts of imitating God might lead someone to Jesus.

# QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the things that the speaker has called fathers to do? Which one impacted you the most? Why?

2. Elder Vi Ming cautioned against romantic doldrums where a couple can slowly drift apart if they are in a prolonged period of stagnation. The same doldrum effect can be so for any one of us who do not intentionally grow a relationship with God and/or our loved ones. What are some of the challenges that is keeping you from growing your relationship with God/your loved ones and what can you do about it?

3. As beloved children of God, we are called to be imitators of Christ [*Eph 5:1*]. In what ways can you imitate Christ more carefully to become a better husband/father, wife/mother or child to your parents? Be specific to your context.