

FATHERHOOD

A God ordained ministry:

- Abraham's example (Gen 18:19)
- Manoah's example (Jud 13)
- Lead from the front (Prv 22:6)
- Lead with understanding (Eph 6:1-4)
- Lead with purpose (Deut 6:5-7, Mal 2:15)
- Provide for their family (1 Tim 5:8, 16)
- Love their wives (Eph 5:25, 1 Pet 3:1-7)

1. Abraham

Gen 22

a. He obeyed and trusted God as a matter of priority

- He obeyed when he did not understand (He went with what he *knew*)
- He trusted God to resolve what seemed humanly impossible (Gen 22:6-8)

b. He believed that God would keep His word (Heb 11:17-19)

- That God would provide a lamb for the offering.
- Isaac received a substitute. *What an object lesson for ourselves - Just as God provided a substitute for Isaac, so He provided one for us. Jesus. (Jn 3:16)*

The lesson for Isaac: God comes first (Mtt 10:37/Lk 14:26)

3. Rechab

2 King 10:15, 1 Chr 2:55, Jer 35:2-19

a. A man of God. 2 King 10:15

- He was descended from Moses' wife's family (See Jud 1:16)
- Initially he supported Jehu in his destruction of Ahab's family.
- He seems to have been a godly man who hated Israel's apostasy.
- He must have seen the "writing on the wall" and gave his family some crucial direction: See Jer 35:2-19.
 - * His descendants were commanded to abstain from wine, to live nomadic lives, dwelling in tents and not owning property.
 - * Judgment was coming and he wanted his family to be prepared. See Heb 10:8-12.

b. God gave him an enduring legacy. He is out there even now! Jer 35:18-19

- He became an example of obedience for Israel and Judah.
- His line would always produce a godly man to serve the Lord.

A legacy of faithfulness endures