

## A Dad's Charge

1 Thessalonians 2:8-13

### Taking it Home:

1. Which of Paul's three fatherly actions do you most need to grow in and why?
  - Encouraging (directing their steps)
  - Comforting (shepherding their heart)
  - Urging (showing them the way)
2. Whether you are a parent or not, who has God entrusted to your spiritual influence right now? How are you stewarding that relationship?

### Prayer Concerns:

### The Goal

A father's greatest goal is not merely raising \_\_\_\_\_,  
but helping them \_\_\_\_\_.

### The Charge

1. Direct their \_\_\_\_\_
2. Shepherd their \_\_\_\_\_
3. Show them \_\_\_\_\_

### The Reward

*"We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD...  
so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born,  
and they in turn would tell their children. [Psalm 78:4b,6]"*

## Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

### Getting Started:

1. What's one lesson you've learned from your father (or another father figure) that's stayed with you?

### Digging Deeper:

#### Read 1 Thessalonians 2:8-13

1. What was Paul's greatest goal for his spiritual children? What did he do to help bring this about?
2. What are some of the competing goals of culture that get in the way of spiritual intentionality? What gets in the way of leading your own children/grandchildren spiritually?
3. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Psalm 78:4-7, Proverbs 22:6, 19:18. What theme runs through these verses? What are some of the practical ways you have lived these things out at home?

4. How can parents, grandparents, mentors, or spiritual leaders encourage younger people toward godliness without becoming harsh or legalistic?
5. Read Psalm 103:10-14. What do these verses teach us about God's heart towards his children? In what ways does this transfer to our parenting, grandparenting, and interactions with others?
6. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:4-6 and 1 Corinthians 11:1. How has someone else's faith strengthened your walk with Christ? What parts of your faith would you most want others to imitate? What are some practical ways parents can model authentic faith for their children?