



Building Bridges

Prov. 3:5-6

“Fathers – Building Bridges and a Legacy”

Prov. 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart;
and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall
direct thy paths.



“Mothers – Building Bridges for a Lifetime”

“Fathers – Building Bridges and a Legacy”

A legacy is anything handed down from the past, as from an ancestor or predecessor:

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/legacy?s=t>

I. THE PURPOSE ESTABLISHED (why?)

A. The Motive – Prov. 3:5a

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart...”

B. The Methodology – Prov. 3:5b –

“...lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and **he shall direct thy paths.**”

Our purpose, in directing what we do as fathers, is a starting point, but it is also a progressive path with continual adjustments – first to honor God, and then for the welfare of the children for the future – *building a legacy.*

II. THE PLAN EXECUTED

A. The Authority for Initiating the Plan

Psa. 37:23a “The **steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD...**”

Psa. 119:133 **Order my steps in thy word:** and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

To leave a lasting legacy, a plan that is steadfast and sure must be laid as an anchor of the soul:

Heb. 6:17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto **the heirs of promise** the immutability of his counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath:

18 That by two immutable things, in which *it was impossible for God to lie*, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

19 Which *hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast*, and which entereth into that within the veil;

B. The Action for Implementing the Plan –
FAITH – “...and **he shall direct thy paths.**”

Prov. 4:26 Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be **established.**

Prov. 16:3 Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be **established.**

Prov. 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD **directeth** his steps.

Prov. 24:3 Through wisdom **is an house builded**; and by understanding it is **established**:

III. THE PARTICIPATION EXPERIENCED

After developing a plan, it must be implemented by diligent participation.

LORD

A. With Conviction, Prov. 3:5a “Trust in the **with all thine heart...**”

B. With Consistency – Prov. 3:5b – “...lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In **all thy ways** acknowledge him...”

Psa. 44:18 Our **heart** is not turned back, neither have our **steps** declined from thy way;

C. With Compassion

Psa. 119:2 Blessed *are* they that **keep his testimonies**, *and that* **seek him with the whole heart.** ...

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, **I shall observe it with my whole heart.**

2 Chron. 16:9a “For **the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart is perfect toward him...**”

IV. THE POSTERITY

A. The History of Holiness

Psa. 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD *is* from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

Psa. 37:23b "...and he delighteth **in his way**."

Psa. 37:31 The law of his God *is* in his **heart**; none of his **steps** shall slide.

Psa. 106:28 They joined themselves also unto Baalpeor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead.

29 Thus they provoked *him* to anger with their inventions: and the plague brake in upon them.

30 **Then stood up Phinehas, and executed judgment:** and so the plague was stayed.

31 And **that was counted unto him for righteousness unto all generations for evermore.**

B. The Hope for the Heritage

Psa. 128:6 Yea, **thou shalt see thy children's children**, *and* peace upon Israel.

Prov. 13:22 **A good *man* leaveth an inheritance to his children's children**; and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

Prov. 17:6 **Children's children *are* the crown of old men**; and the glory of children *are* their fathers.

V. THE PRAISE IN ETERNITY

A. The Accountability

Rom. 14:12 So then **every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**

Psa. 127:1a “**Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it...**”

3 Lo, **children are an heritage of the LORD:** and the fruit of the womb *is his* reward.

B. The Acknowledgement

1 Cor. 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and **will make manifest the counsels of the hearts:** and **then shall every man have praise of God.**

Ezek. 37:25 And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and **they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever:** and my servant David *shall be* their prince for ever.

Psa. 73:25 **Whom have I in heaven *but thee?*** and *there is none upon earth that* I **desire** beside thee.

Psa. 112:1 Praise ye the LORD. **Blessed *is the man that* feareth the LORD, *that* delighteth greatly in his commandments.**

Conclusion

Phil. 4:17 Not because I desire a gift: but **I desire fruit that may abound to your account.**

1 Pet. 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves likewise with the same mind**: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

2 That he no longer should **live the rest of his time** in the flesh to the lusts of men, but **to the will of God.**

3 For the time past of *our* life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

4 Wherein **they think it strange that ye run not with them** to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of *you*:

5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead