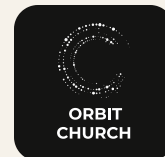


Becoming The Father You Never Had

2025-06-15 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Revelation 2

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Pastor Matt preached this on Father's Day and started with a confession. He once sat at a conference where every pastor on the panel credited something their father taught them, and he felt jealous, because he had no spiritual father. The conviction that followed became the message: become the father you never had. He called men to be pioneers rather than settlers, to break new ground instead of camping on what exists. And he was blunt about idols: anything that separates a household from God qualifies, golf and Netflix included. Joshua's old line still stands. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

To get started

- What is something you had to learn without anyone showing you first?

Looking back at the message

Some men here had no model. Some had a bad one. Both are in the room.

- 1 Pastor Matt admitted to being jealous of men who had spiritual fathers. When have you felt something like that jealousy?
- 2 A pioneer breaks new ground. A settler camps on what already exists. In a household, what is the difference, and which one have you been?
- 3 Pastor Matt defined an idol as anything that separates a household from God, and named golf and Netflix as candidates. Was that fair, or too far? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Joshua 24:14-15 and Ephesians 5:25-28.

- 4 Read Joshua 24:15. What choice does Joshua put in front of the people, and what does he declare about his own house?
- 5 Notice that Joshua speaks for his whole household. What does that assume about his role in it?
- 6 Read Ephesians 5:25. What is the standard given for how a husband loves his wife?
- 7 The standard is a man who laid down his life. What does that standard do to smaller sacrifices, like an evening or a hobby? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

Leadership talk can drift into control. He was explicit it should not.

- 8 Pastor Matt said the test of a leader is whether he does what he says and listens to what God says. Which half is harder for you?
- 9 Where have you been passive because acting felt risky?
- 10 There is a difference between leading by arbitrary decisions and leading by Christ-centered ones. What does that difference look like on an ordinary Tuesday?
- 11 When your kids describe you someday, what do you want them to say you were like?

OPTIONAL

The group together

Men without models need other men. That is the practical outcome here.

- 12 If someone never had a spiritual father, where do they find one now?
- 13 How could the men in this group actually help each other, not just encourage each other?
- 14 Who is younger than you, in age or in faith, that you could be one step ahead of?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What is one thing you could pioneer in your household that nobody modeled for you?

You might pray about

- For men who never had a father to follow
- For households waiting on someone to lead them well
- For the things that quietly separate a family from God
- For children who will stand on shoulders we are still building