

## 作一個敬虔的父親

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父親，一個常被誤解和低估的角色。為此，歷代以來，男性和女性都受到不少傷害。為了挽回和避免這些傷害，從男孩到男人，我們不但期待「無毒」的剛陽之氣，而且渴求達到某種程度的敬虔。「有毒的陽剛之氣」是一種基於「贏-輸」、「支配-順從」模式的個人身份不安全感的性別關係典範。這是關於控制和情感的優勢。當有贏者、就必有輸者；一般來說，男人要想「贏」，不經意間他「愛」的女人就必定是輸者。邪惡，這種無形的黑暗勢力，利用男人和女人的自私，在某些特殊情況下，令人髮指地侵奪人們心中的敬虔，如人口販運，它令人震驚，卻只是不可避免的惡果之一。邪惡是種黑暗的靈力，因此，單以道德倫理來緩解它是很難發揮效用的。

一位敬虔的父親，首先需是敬虔的丈夫；一位敬虔的丈夫首先需是敬虔的人。男人的敬虔是一種罕見的品質，可被觀察到卻不能自稱擁有，就如自稱「我是一個很謙虛的人」。這種自稱可能表面聽來不錯，卻讓智者聽來深感不安。一個父親是否敬虔必需以他結的果實來判斷，即他的孩子如何評價他，更重要的是，他的妻子如何評價對他！不管他最好的動機意向、經驗、靈性水平、資歷和主張如何，他敬虔為父的心，必需並只能由他所愛的人來評價。

敬虔的人如何成為敬虔的丈夫和父親？

這在於掌管他行為的個性與品格。這些品質是可以學習和培訓的！良善並保持良善是一個艱難而認真的選擇！這不僅是為了避免做壞事。不做壞事可能只是在道德上簡單地選擇了「正直」，而敬虔是一種非常個人的屬靈操練，是在順服、追求和效法耶穌基督在謙卑中所彰顯的上帝的品格。這幾乎是不可能實現的，因為沒有人可以像上帝一樣完美，只能盡可能接近像上帝。

聽起來這麼困難，那如何行得出來呢？

首先，這必須是你個人的選擇：基於你與耶穌基督的個人關係以達敬虔。它全在於關係。「像基督」是基於三一真神的三位一體的關係，所以敬虔必須在關係上表彰出來。敬虔的男孩在長大的過程中，身邊有敬虔的父母，以及/或老師、牧長、教練、導師和教父教母等陪伴。敬虔的人可以辨識他人的敬虔，他們聚集組成敬虔的群體，互相支持和啟發。大多數情況下，這可以在一些健康的基督教會中找到。

其次，「有毒」的男性文化既然是原生家庭功能失調及墮落人性不可避免的一部分，我們都有責任將自己從其導致的個人破碎中轉化過來。這種轉變可以通過不同的方式達成，如臨床個人心理諮詢，戒癮支持小組，以及一些能為這些掙扎提供答案的教會。

其三，因為邪惡是一種靈界的影響，它能以管轄與壓制的形式，在個人隱密的腐敗中表現出來；因此，靈命更新與成長必須成為每日生活的常態，用正念保持心靈上的醒覺，以敏銳的心去實踐：「世人啊，耶和華已指示你何為善。祂向你所要的是什麼呢！只要你行公義，好憐憫，存謙卑的心，與你的上帝同行。」（彌迦書 6:8）

其四，也是最重要的一點，就是謙卑地過敬虔的生活，與神同行。敬虔的丈夫聽他妻子說話，也聽兒女說話。在公共場合，他傾聽並尊重女性，認真對待她們的建議，不僅對那些有權威地位的人，而是所有的女性。敬虔的人是寬宏的人！

如何實踐在柬埔寨？

「有毒」的剛陽之氣像一種沉默的癌症，在所有國家的文化中潛伏、擴散。為了減少這種致命的傳播，我們需要在當地文化的「健康身體」中，在細胞層次上「發出警訊並喚醒」和鼓勵健康細胞生長，以「縮小」這種癌症的生長，並阻止它的擴散。

這是一項正在進行的工作，並會不斷小步向前，循序漸進。

首先是「播種期的準備土壤」，尋找招聚志同道合的當地領袖，組成核心領導團隊，成員是當地敬虔的男人和丈夫。我們也需要與當地具有相同服務方向的機構建立關係，組成團隊，合作服務當地社區。

其次，舉辦教育研討會，與凡想了解「敬虔男人」的人一同探討，分享異象。我們需要提供敬虔男人的典範，他們可靠並值得信賴，與他們的妻子一同參與。例如，這些妻子會分享她們丈夫的品質與表現，如何成為兒女的榜樣，並以當地語言在社交媒體平台上轉載這些資訊，公開分享敬虔男人的品質，播下希望的種子。

在這些研討會中，我們可以同時討論成癮和憤怒管理等課題，幫助男人和男孩學習處理誘惑。「滿足妻子的情感需求」將由心理健康專家教授。課題亦包括為父的技能及教育兒女的有效方法。會出版有關這些主題的視頻、錄音、刊物和小冊子等，放置在禮拜場所、社交聚會和社會服務機構等地方，供當地人使用。

第三，在新加坡、馬來西亞、香港和台灣等地的信仰領導人的協助下，爭取地區性幫助，在柬當地建立類似「柬埔寨終生父親」、「柬埔寨好父親運動」等組織。然後，我們將召開年度大會，讓這些種子保持成長，增強發展勢能，在社區中結出果實。

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## Being a Godly Father

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Fathers have been misunderstood and under-rated, and this has hurt men and women for generations. To redeem and prevent these hurts, we need to aspire for and expect a higher level of non-toxic forms of masculinity from boyhood to manhood, and to achieve some level of godliness. Toxic Masculinity is a gender-relational paradigm based on personal identity insecurity of “win-lose”, “dominant-submissive” model. This is about control and emotional superiority. When there must be winners there are losers; for men to “win” generally the women that the men inadvertently tried to “love” must be losers. Evil, the invisible power of Darkness takes advantage of the selfishness of all men and women, and in some exceptional situations to perpetuate heinous violations of godliness in people. Human trafficking, while egregious, is just one of the unavoidable results. Evil is a Dark spiritual manifestation, so just being moral, or ethical in the futile secular hope for relief doesn't work very well.

A godly father is first a godly husband, and a godly husband is first a godly man. Being a godly man is a rare quality to be observed and cannot be self-proclaimed, as saying "I am a very humble person!" may sound good on the surface but profoundly troubling and disturbing to the ears of the wise. A godly father must be judged by his fruits: What does his children say about him and more importantly, what does his wife say about him! Regardless of his best of intentions, experience, level of spirituality, credentials and claims; his godly-fathering heart must, and can only be evaluated mostly by his loved-ones.

How a godly man becomes a godly husband and father?

This is within the character development and personality of the man that govern his behaviors. These qualities can be learned and trained! It is a hard and serious choice to be good and remain good all the time! It is not only about the avoidance of doing bad, which can simply be a moral choice to be "upright". Godliness is a very personal spiritual discipline in obedience, and to seek after, and to emulate the character of God as manifested in the person of Jesus Christ in His humility. This is close to impossible to achieve as no one can be like God in terms of perfection, only be as close to God as possible.

How can this be done as hard as it sounds?

First it must be your personal choice: based on your personal relationship with Jesus Christ to reach Godliness. This is about relationships. To be "Christ-like" is about the trinity which is based on the Trinitarian relationships, so godliness must be relationally manifested. Godly boys grew up with godly parents, and or teachers, pastors, coaches, mentors and Godparents. Godly men can discern Godliness in other men and flocked to one another to form communities of godly men for support and inspiration. Most often, this can be found in a few healthy Christian Churches.

Second, to take personal responsibility to transform ourselves from our personal brokenness resulting from our dysfunctional family-of-origins, as part of an unavoidable fallen nature of humankind in the

toxic masculine culture all over the world. This transformation can take the form of personal counseling from a skilled clinician, support groups for freedom from addictions, as well as some special churches that can provide answers for these struggles.

Thirdly, as evil is a spiritual influence that can manifest in the insidious corruption of a person in the form of domination and oppression; regular spiritual renewal and growth must be a daily routine. To stay spiritually awake with mindfulness! To have the sensitivity in heart to practice: "He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you but to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

Fourthly, and most importantly, is to live the life of Godliness in being humbly and walk with God. A godly husband listens to his wife, and listens to his daughters and sons. In public, he listens and respects women and can take their advice seriously, not only those with authority but all females. A godly man is a generous man!

How to make this happen locally?

Toxic masculinity is like a silent cancer that insidiously and pervasively metastasizes in the culture of all nations. To reduce this lethal spread, we need to "signal and wake-up" and encourage growths of healthy cells in the cellular level in the "healthy body" of local cultures to "shrink" the growth of this cancer and stop the metastasizing.

This will be a work in progress and it will generally happen in small steps over years.

First, "the seed sowing stage by first preparing the soil" we need to seek out like-minded leaders locally to gather a group of core leaders. These are local men and husbands who manifest godliness in their lives. We will need to network with like-minded organizations to work and serve as a team in partnership serving local communities.

Second, we will next share the vision in educational conferences and meetings for all who want to hear about godly Men. We need to provide credible and trusted role-models of godly men, and their wives will need to be involved. For example, these wives will tell us about the qualities of their husbands that make them role-models for their sons and daughters. These will be promoted in social media platforms in the local languages so godly manhood can be shared in public so we can sow the seed of hope. In these conferences, special topics like addictions and anger management will be discussed so men and boys can learn skills to manage temptations. "Meeting the Emotional Needs of Wives" will be taught by mental health professionals. Fathering skills as well as effective parenting skills will be included. Videos, audio recordings, pamphlets and booklets on these subjects will be published for local use, for example in places of worship and social gatherings and social service agencies.

Third, we will need to enlist regional help in establishing organizations like "Dads for Life Cambodia", "Good Fathering Movement Cambodia" with the help from regional leaders from Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Taiwan. We will then have annual conferences to keep these seeds growing to pick up momentum so communities can bear fruits.