

RCCG INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CENTRE - LIGHTHOUSE LESSON OUTLINE
A Christ-Centred Church with a Heart of Compassion

Message Date: 21/06/2026 Lighthouse Meeting Date: 23/06/2026	Message Title: The Father Who Leads the Way: “Building Sons and Daughters Who Will Not Be Lost” Minister: Pastor Chuka Nwafor
Key Texts: Proverbs 3:5–9, John 14:6, Genesis 22, Genesis 2:15, Hebrews 12:3–13, Psalm 103:8–14, Hosea 11, Luke 15, 1 Thessalonians 2:11–12	Sub Text:

Please read the entire document and Bible texts before you begin to discuss and answer the related questions. This will help you grasp the overall context of the message, however, remember the Bible is not a discussion book but a decision book. God honours and empowers your decisions not your discussions.

INTRODUCTION:

There is a statement embedded in this bible study outline text that should arrest the attention of every parent in this room: **“A road that is well beaten will automatically prepare a trail for others to follow.”** Isaac did not need an explanation to recognise what his father carried up the mountain: the wood, the fire, and the knife. He recognised it because it was a pattern. It was observable. It was repeated.

That is both the sobering responsibility and the sacred privilege of fatherhood and, indeed, of every spiritual leader, mentor, and parent in the body of Christ: **your children are not primarily listening to your sermons; they are watching your footsteps.** They are observing what you do with your time, your resources, your relationships, and your worship when no one is watching and no applause is given.

Today’s teaching is more than a Father's Day celebration message; it is a divine summons. God is calling fathers, mothers, and spiritual leaders back to a forgotten responsibility: **not merely to plant, but to build; not merely to begin, but to sustain.** The legacy we leave is not determined by what we say occasionally, but by what we model consistently. Long after our words are forgotten, our example will continue speaking through the lives of those who follow behind us.

HISTORICAL AND BIBLICAL CONTEXT

In Scripture, fatherhood was never a passive title, it was an office. In the Ancient Near East, the father was the priest of his household, the one responsible for instructing the next generation in the covenant of God (Deuteronomy 6:6–7). Israel's entire continuity as a nation depended not on temple architecture but on fathers transmitting truth household by household.

This is why Genesis 22, Abraham and Isaac walking up Moriah is so instructive. Isaac's question wasn't suspicion; it was familiarity. He expected the pattern because the pattern had been set long before that climb. Likewise, Jesus modeled sonship to the Father perfectly, declaring in John 14:6, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," and in doing so revealed exactly what fatherhood is meant to reproduce in the next generation: direction (the Way), conviction (the Truth), and vitality (the Life).

KEY POINT 1: A FATHER IS A LEADER WHO SHOWS THE WAY

Jesus did not say, *"I will tell you the way"*. He said, *"I am the Way."* Biblical leadership is not merely about giving instruction; it is about living the truth. A father is called to show his children the ways of God through the example of his own life. Genesis 22 illustrates this clearly. Isaac's confidence came from years of following a path his father had already walked. Whether intentionally or not, a leader's life becomes the road others follow.

Practical Application: Every believer should ask whether their daily habits, their use of time, finances, relationships, and devotion to God are creating a path worth following. Paul wrote, *"Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ"* (1 Corinthians 11:1, AMPC).

Scripture Focus:

"Jesus said to him, I am the Way and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except by (through) Me." John 14:6 (AMPC)

Digging Deep: If your children, disciples, or mentees copied your private habits for the next ten years, would those habits lead them closer to God or further away from Him?

KEY POINT 2: A FATHER IS A BUILDER, NOT MERELY A PLANTER

This outline highlights a vital distinction: *"We are not just planters; we are sustainers. We do not merely plant the seed; we also water it and nurture it."* God's mandate to Adam was not simply to plant but to **"till and keep"** the garden. A father who plants and walks away has fulfilled only part of his calling. Biblical fatherhood requires the ongoing work of nurturing, protecting, and cultivating what has been sown.

This principle applies to every believer. Seeds of faith, character, and wisdom do not grow through occasional attention; they require consistent care. Lasting impact is built through faithful stewardship over time.

Practical Application: Spiritual growth requires more than a single decision, it requires continual cultivation. Paul writes, *"I planted, Apollos watered, but God kept giving the increase"* (1 Corinthians 3:6, AMPC). Both planting and watering are essential; the growth comes from God.

Scripture Focus

And the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to till and keep it. Genesis 2:15 (AMPC)

Digging Deep / Self-Reflection

Where have you planted something valuable, a biblical truth, a godly habit, or a kingdom principle but failed to nurture it consistently? What step can you take this week to cultivate what God has entrusted to you?

KEY POINT 3: A FATHER FUNCTIONS AS PROPHET, PRIEST, AND KING

Every godly father is called to function as a **prophet**, a **priest**, and a **king** within his household. As a prophet, he speaks truth and direction. As a priest, he intercedes before God on behalf of his family. As a king, he provides leadership, protection, and stewardship. The message gives a sobering warning: *"the*

spirit of the ostrich" describes a man who is willing to sow but unwilling to pray over what he has sown.

This threefold pattern is reflected in Paul's ministry to the Thessalonians. He taught, encouraged, and urged them to walk worthy of God. Biblical leadership is more than instruction; it requires proclamation, intercession, and shepherding care.

Practical Application: Every believer in a position of influence, whether a parent, mentor, pastor, or leader, should pray intentionally for those entrusted to their care. Job modelled this by regularly interceding for his children (Job 1:5), demonstrating that spiritual leadership includes faithful prayer.

Scripture Focus

For you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you, and encouraged and charged you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory." 1 Thessalonians 2:11–12 (AMPC)

Digging Deep / Self-Reflection

Digging Deep: Of the three roles prophet, priest, and king, which comes most naturally to you? Which one have you neglected, and what practical step can you take this week to strengthen it?

KEY POINT 4: DISCIPLINE MUST BE GOVERNED BY MERCY

Hebrews 12 teaches that discipline is evidence of love, not its absence: "*For the Lord corrects and disciplines everyone whom He loves*" (Hebrews 12:6, AMPC). Yet discipline must always be governed by mercy. Psalm 103 reminds us that God "*has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.*" His correction is firm, but never cruel.

For parents, leaders, and mentors, this is a vital lesson. Discipline without compassion can wound rather than restore and crush rather than build up. People often forget the details of a correction, but they remember the spirit in which it was given. What leaves the deepest impression is not the correction itself, but the tenderness that surrounds it.

Practical Application: Whether correcting a child or guiding a disciple, always pair correction with reassurance and love. This reflects the father in Jesus' parable, who ran to embrace the prodigal son before speaking a word of correction (Luke 15:20).

Scripture Focus

As a father loves and pities his children, so the Lord loves and pities those who fear Him with reverence, worship, and awe." Psalm 103:13 (AMPC)

Digging Deep / Self-Reflection

Have you ever experienced correction that felt more like rejection than love? How has that shaped the way you respond to or give correction today?

KEY POINT 5: FATHERHOOD REQUIRES UNRELENTING PRESENCE

The message states plainly: "**You cannot train, correct, and discipline from a distance.**" Formation requires *proximity* not only to observe behaviour, but to discern the attitudes of the heart, which only

consistent presence can reveal. This is why the warning is so serious: **“You cannot afford to grow weary; when parents grow weary, children suffer.”** The call to presence reflects the heart of God Himself, who, as Hebrews teaches, lovingly disciplines every son He receives. The greatest failure of fatherhood is often not harshness, but absence.

Practical Application: Those entrusted with caring for and discipling others must resist the temptation to withdraw through discouragement or exhaustion. Galatians 6:9 (AMPC) reminds us: *“And let us not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right, for in due time and at the appointed season we shall reap.”* Faithful presence may be demanding, but its reward is lasting.

Scripture Focus

"You must submit to and endure correction for discipline; God is dealing with you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not train, correct, and discipline?" Hebrews 12:7 (AMPC)

Digging Deep / Self-Reflection

Digging Deep: Is there someone under your care a child, family member, disciple, or friend from whom you have quietly withdrawn, not out of anger, but out of weariness? What would it look like to re-engage with patience and love?

CONCLUSION:

The thread running through this entire message is unmistakable: **fatherhood whether spiritual or biological is not a title bestowed, but a trail faithfully walked.** You are not merely called to plant seeds of faith and then step aside. You are called to walk ahead of those entrusted to you to nurture what you have planted, to speak life as a prophet, to intercede as a priest, to protect as a king, to correct with grace, and to remain present long after the excitement of beginning has faded.

Heaven's model has never been unclear. When Jesus declared, *“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life,”* He was not only revealing His identity; He was establishing a pattern for every leader who follows Him. True fatherhood provides direction through example, anchors conviction in truth, and imparts life through consistent presence. The greatest legacy you will leave is not what you build for the next generation, but what you model before them. Long after your words are forgotten, your footsteps will continue to speak.

PRAYER POINTS

- **Father, forgive us for the times we planted but failed to nurture what You entrusted to us. Restore what has been neglected and give us grace to steward it well.**
- **Lord, raise us up to speak life, intercede faithfully, and lead with wisdom, diligence, and integrity.**
- **Father, teach us to correct with mercy and patience. Let love, not anger or weariness, guide our leadership.**
- **Lord, strengthen us to remain present and faithful in building those You have entrusted to us. Renew our strength when we grow weary.**
- **Father, heal every heart wounded by the absence or failure of an earthly father, and reveal Yourself as the perfect Father.**

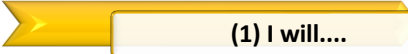
POINTS TO	What did you hear?	What point in this message was most impactful for you?	PONDER
	What do you think?	How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?	
	What will you do?	How will you put into practice what you have learned today?	

Please note that the Bible is not a discussion book but a decision book.

God honours and empowers your decisions not your discussions.

This is the most important part of tonight's meeting The Holy Spirit awaits your decisions.

From this day forth:



(1) I will....



(2) I can.....



(3) I must.....

General Prayer points:

- ✚ Prayer regarding Lessons learnt today
- ✚ Pray for special needs of LightHouse Care Group Members
- ✚ Pray for your Pastors, Leaders and Workers in God's vineyard
- ✚ Pray for increase and the ability to reach your neighbours and winning of new Disciples for Christ through the Lighthouse Fellowship

Seven things we must seek whenever we come to the presence of God - Lighthouse Meeting:

- (1) The knowledge of God, Jesus Christ & the Holy Spirit through the Word.
- (2) Is there any sin, transgression or iniquity (habit/attitude/ mind-set or behaviour) that needs to be repented of, confessed and forsaken?
- (3) Is there any promise to be claimed, any inheritance to be possessed?
- (4) Is there any instruction to be obeyed, direction to be received, and guidance to be followed?
- (5) Is there any example to be followed/emulated or any example to be weary of and discontinued?
- (6) Is there any battle against the enemy to be fought and won?
- (7) Is there any relationship that needs to be healed and restored, or any that needs to be terminated and separated from?

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