

Bible Study

I Will – Lesson 18

By – Thom Rainer

CELEBRATE YOUR AFFIRMATIONS

DEUTERONOMY 5:16

Today we follow the biblical commandment to honor our fathers on this day that the nation calls Father's Day. We celebrate dads who have taken care of their families, cheered for us and loved us. We honor our parents not because they are perfect but because it is God's will for us to do so. Many of us have had issues with our parents as well as our parents have had issues with us. True love and honor looks beyond faults, flaws and failures to seek the best for others.

The image of a father is contingent on the image we have of our natural father. For some the image of a father is one who is absent; another image could be one who is negligent; for others a father could be harsh and mean. No man can love us like our Father God loves us. God's desire is to affirm us. All of us would like for someone to affirm us especially in troubled times. A good parent usually affirms their children and gracious children should affirm their parents.

The world would be a better place if we would learn to affirm one another. Turn to your neighbor and say, "I appreciate you." Affirmation is an expression of love and all of us want to be loved. Let us learn to forgive those who have hurt or disappointed us. Let us concentrate on the positive persons and things, forgive the negative experiences and inspire others through affirmations. This will help us move forward in life.

Let me share three ways that we can celebrate our affirmations.

- I. Affirm godly Virtues.
 - A. Practice Righteousness
 - B. Practice Redemption
- II. Affirm godly Values.
 - A. Value humility
 - B. Value honor
- III. Affirm godly Vows.
 - A. Vow to be compassionate
 - B. Vow to be consecrated