A. Introduction
   - Does it matter to others whether or not you keep the way of the Lord? Genesis 18:19, 26, 29, 31, 32; Genesis 39:5; Jeremiah 5:1; Ezekiel 22:30; Matthew 24:22
     • Yes, God is merciful to others because of the influence of the righteous.

B. Transmission of God’s Way
   - What did Abraham’s visitors do after they had finished their meal? 18:16a
     • 
   - As Abraham went part way with the men, what did the Lord say? 18:17
     • 
   - What is God’s goal for Abraham’s (and our) descendants? 18:19b
     • 
   - What was God’s plan for Father Abraham to insure his descendants would reach the goal? 18:19a
     • Abraham should command his children and his household after him that they should keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice.

C. Inspection of activities of men
   - What two things had God noticed about Sodom and Gomorrah? 18:20
     1. 
     2. 
   - What did the Lord intend to do about the report on Sodom and Gomorrah? 18:21
     • He said that He would go down and check out the report.
   - When the two men (angels) departed for Sodom who remained with Abraham? 18:22
     • 

D. Intercession for the righteous
   - What was the question that Abraham asked the Lord? 18:23
     • 
   - In Abraham’s estimation, how many righteous people lived in Sodom? 18:24
     • 
   - What did Abraham say about God destroying the wicked along with the just? 18:25
     • Far be it from thee that the righteous should be as the wicked. Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?
   - What promise did the Lord make to Abraham in response to his inquiry? 18:26
     • 
   - What did Abraham realize about himself as he was talking with God? 18:27
     • He realized his own human frailty (dust and ashes).
   - As Abraham began to reduce his estimates, how many righteous persons could ultimately have saved the place? 18:32
     • 
   - Whom do you think Abraham had in mind when he asked for ten’s sake? 18:12-15, 19:14, 30
     • 

Keeping the Way of the Lord

June 9, 2013
A. Introduction
B. Transmission of God’s way
C. Inspection of activities of men
D. Intercession for the righteous
A. Introduction
Does it matter to others whether or not you keep the way of the Lord?
Genesis 18:26 - So the Lord said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare the whole place on their account."
Jeremiah 5:1 - Roam to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and look now, and take note. And seek in her open squares. If you can find a man, if there is one who does justice, who seeks truth, then I will pardon her.
Ezekiel 22:30-31 - "And I searched for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. "Thus I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; their way I have brought upon their heads," declares the Lord God.
Matthew 24:22 - And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short.
B. Transmission of God’s Way
What is the way of the Lord?
Genesis 18:19 - For I have chosen him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice; in order that the Lord may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him.
Proverbs 10:29 ~ The way of the Lord is strength to the upright; but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.
Way refers to a road or a trodden path; figuratively, it is a course of life or mode of action.
To walk in the way of the Lord means that we imitate the conduct of Christ.
Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
Train means to initiate, to begin.
Recognizing the Way of the Lord Early

1. Respect for authority
2. Instant obedience
3. Self-discipline
“There have been so many failures in religious training, that a spirit of doubt has grown up as to whether a principle like this can be regarded as holding good universally. With such doubt we undermine God’s covenant. Let us rather believe that the failure was owing to man’s fault. Either the parent did not make clear the way in which the child should go or the training in that way was not what God’s Word had ordered it to be.”

~ Andrew Murray
Ephesians 6:4 - And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training</th>
<th>Instruction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Discipline, nurture)</td>
<td>(Warning, admonition)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Paideia - Nurture is instruction by deed.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Nouthesia - Admonition is instruction by word.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>How</strong></td>
<td><strong>Why</strong></td>
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<td>Structure (Rules)</td>
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<td>Habits</td>
<td>Heart (Desires)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obey Commandments</td>
<td>Love God, Love Others</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Rod + Communication</td>
<td>Communication + The Rod</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Why would a dad neglect something as important training children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

- Did not know how
- Never had a good example from which to learn
- Failed to recognize individual differences in children
- Accepted erroneous ideas regarding “adolescence”
- Too busy
Why would a dad neglect something as important training children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

- Too tired
- Too intimidated
- Too sentimental
- Too presumptuous
- Tendency to overreact against his own experience which was either too lenient or too strict.
- Is not following the Way of the Lord himself.
C. Inspection of activities of men
If God is inspecting wrong behavior, dad and mom had better be checking it out too.
D. Intercession for the righteous
(and for the unrighteous)
A critical factor in the business of commanding your children and your household to keep the Way of the Lord.

Intercessory Prayer
Genesis 18:32-33 - Then He said, "Oh may the Lord not be angry, and I shall speak only this once; suppose ten are found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy it on account of the ten." And as soon as He had finished speaking to Abraham the Lord departed; and Abraham returned to his place.