

Turning The Hearts Of The Fathers To The Children



practice 3

Becoming a player/coach in the Kingdom of God, one practice at a time

“See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to the fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse”

(Malachi 4:5,6).

For your struggle is not against other people, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the demonic powers of evil in the heavenly realms”

(paraphrase of Ephesians 6:12)

In our previous Practice we clarified how demons have infiltrated around you in your home, school, workplace, even your faith community. In this Practice we'll present more Coach's Insights to reveal yet other strategies demonic powers have used to become triumphant players for the souls of people in this nation.

The two predominant demonic opponents you're up against in this land are:

1. **DECEIT**, which rules over the nation's capital, Washington, D.C. Our capital could more appropriately be called “Washington, *Deceit*.”

2. A **JEZEBEL** demonic entity with a much broader reach over the entire nation. You'll face this demonic power on a number of battle fronts as it uses two main weapons: *fear* and *sexuality*. As we noted in our previous Practice, this one is especially able to terrorize men who purport to be true to God (1Kings 19:2).

The Jezebel spirit also entices females to use sensuality and sexuality to gain control over and dominate men (2Kings 9:30). Many men who are reading this have been intimidated and/or seduced by the Jezebellic spirit in the past. Some gave in to the fear it induced and failed to be true to God, while others gave way to the seduction. If you're one of these men, have you regained the *courage of manhood* in which God would have you live?

A diabolical destruction is taking place in this country that is a by-product of Jezebel's work. Here's what we mean:

Jezebel-roused *feminine domination* has made it very hard to raise children who will fulfill their appropriate adult *gender responsibilities* which are delineated in the Bible. Having the body of a female doesn't make you attracted to males, nor does having male apparatus mean you're drawn to women. **Gender identification**, as this is called, is most strongly influenced by *fathers and/or a father-figure*. And tragically, fathers are being driven out of homes in droves by divorce.

The biggest losers in a feminine-dominated family or society are the males, who often have no godly male role models in their lives. Their desire for God-established heterosexual relationships more easily becomes transformed into lust for homosexual partners. Widespread toleration for homosexuality is always the final step in the downfall of a society, especially as the *sanctity of marriage* between a man and a woman is violated. God's Word is being played out in our midst:

“The wicked freely strut about when what is vile is honored among men” (Psalms 12:8).

“Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel...” (Revelation 2:20).

Many of us older men unintentionally encouraged Jezebel's conquest of this nation. How? How about when Hugh Hefner started *Playboy* magazine in 1953. Why didn't the clergy and the evangelical community lead a march of Christian men on Washington to protest the degrading of women? Where were the religious leaders who were needed to con-

demn the abuse of these women? The answer is easy. Pornography and sexual misconduct have long stood as the #1 pitfall of both *Catholic and Protestant clergy* for a very long time. Since the Jezebel demon had already made such inroads with clergy, these leaders had little incentive to call for Christian men to stand strong in Jesus against sexual smut.

[For more insight on the spirit of Jezebel, see Lifebyte 62. *Does Your Marriage Reflect Your Covenant With Our Father?* And for encouragement as to why fathers and father figures are so essential, please read Lesson 33. *Why We Need Fathers* in our Discussing How To Restore The Early Church series online at our website.]

“See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy”
(Colossians 2:8).

In the Coach’s Insights in this Practice we’ll look into how the demonic powers of Hellenism and Humanism have gained almost universal control in both this nation *and* within Christendom.

Derived from the worldview of the ancient Greeks, Hellenism and its offspring Humanism put humans at the center of all things within a culture. *Neither God nor His moral standards have any role* in mainstream practice or daily living. Hellenism and Humanism predominate both western thought and education today, heavily impacting Christianity as well. Through these two “H’s” you’re urged to pursue a life that makes you happy rather than a life of duty and responsibility to God or to other people.

Coach’s Insight #2:

Hellenism’s Offspring, Humanism
“Education is thus a most powerful ally of Humanism, and every American public school is a school of Humanism.”



As my time in public education was coming to a close in 1968, a certain undercurrent which had started with the signing of the Humanist Manifesto in 1932 began to be recognized. The fiendishly-inspired Manifesto was signed by leaders of the National Education Association. Through its pervasive influence, the Bible, prayer in school, and ultimately Christian groups meeting on school grounds were being eliminated. The goal of the Humanist agenda was to wipe out any focus on the one true God so that He became insignificant to the student’s frame of reference.

Again, the paramount focus of Humanism, the gutter child of Hellenism, is that a human being is the sole center of life. God represents superstition, which interferes with mankind’s rule. Therefore any reference to God or His Word must be dealt with as foolish fiction and eradicated. What better platform for accomplishing this god-less goal than through brainwashing eager young minds? Whatever contributes to their personal happiness without any moral constraints or interpersonal responsibilities is permissible. From the Humanist perspective, ***What makes ME happy is all that matters.***

Doesn’t this sound like our SELF-obsessed, “look at ME” society today? It sure did to Paul regarding the brutal corruption of the last days. His vivid description of sordid character traits in 2Timothy 3:1-5 begins with “lovers of *themselves*” and degenerates from there! Humanism, born in the fires of hell, is the dominant religion in this nation, producing the bitter fruit of unabashed ego-

tism and moral decadence. And *public education* is one of the agents the demonic powers use to undermine biblical values—and thus eliminate biblical character qualities. Among the people you encounter there’s only a *4% biblical literacy rate* in this nation today! Don’t expect much of them, but expect *a lot more* from yourself.

Were you aware that Humanism is indeed *the religion* of public education?

Torcaso V. Watkins, 367 US 488 (1961), the US Supreme Court ruled that the “*religion of Secular Humanism*” should be granted the same First Amendment protection *as other religions*.

Knowing this, how are *your* children or grandchildren being affected? The majority of public school educators graduate from Christ-less, even *anti-Christ* secular universities which are steeped in humanism, feminism, and paganism. This indoctrination of the teachers of *your family’s offspring* has become the foundation of their classroom instruction and how they process information. This entire system is *God-less*.

So many Christian parents have unwittingly entrusted their children to years of *anti-God indoctrination*. They falsely believe that their kids’ attendance at church can overcome it. Yet years of studies show this to be error. Humanism is winning the hearts and minds of children by a margin of 4 to 1 over Christianity. Less than 1 in 4 children continue in the faith when they leave home.

A child develops his or her own values through questioning and trial-and-error.



Since the launch of the government-sponsored *No Child Left Behind* program in 2001, teachers have heavily relied on *pedantic teaching** to prepare students to score well on standardized tests.

(**Pedantic teaching* means that educators are overly concerned with minute details to be tested, in this case, forcing teachers to “teach to the test” or else lose their jobs.) A destructive aspect of pedantic teaching is that it hinders the children from thinking for themselves. Questioning and creative investigation are stifled. The pedantic teaching goal of passing a standardized test has produced unwholesome results in this generation of youngsters. The kids are:

- less able to produce unique and unusual ideas
- less able to elaborate on individual ideas
- less humorous
- less imaginative.

As you’ll see, pedantic teaching inhibits how our Lord would have each of us be trained in applying His Word.

Teacher: “Yes” Father: “No”

Another goal of the devilish agenda of Humanism which permeates public education has been to *minimize the influence of parents* on their children, especially of fathers. The system was designed to neutralize the hold of parents on their offspring so the government-paid employee—the teacher—could exert a greater influence in the child’s life.

The founders of public education regarded parents, especially fathers, a threat to a powerful central government. With government-funded education, those in power could train teachers by instilling in them what was needed to indoctrinate the students. Ever so slowly has been eroded a child’s confidence in his or her father (when dad is even in the home) or grandfather.

Single mothers are far more open than single dads to the snare of government deception, especially if they’re on government welfare. *47% of households* are now headed up by a single mom. All of our society has been shak-

en by this result of *self-serving* humanism: boys raised without fathers comprise the majority of the criminal element in this land.

From a biblical perspective, fathers are supposed to be the role model and developer of moral character, courage, and sacrifice. But these are character qualities which are hard for a government which is controlled by the principality of DECEIT to manipulate. History has shown repeatedly that *courageous, sacrificial men* are the moral standard-bearers of any society. Yet because of the sweeping success of government-backed humanism, grandfathers as well as fathers have essentially become expendable in a child's character development.

All that's been needed to undermine fathers is to *undermine manhood* at large. The Jezebel spirit has achieved victory in this arena: In 1986 the National Education Association deemed the public school system in this nation "**a totally effeminate institution.**" In effect it was a declaration that Satan's scheme of Humanism has *defeated the fathers* of this nation.

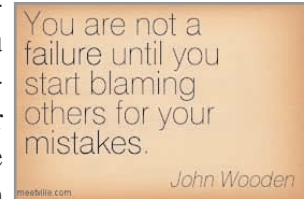
It was open season for the devil's minions. Through the support of government-funded education, energetic active boys could have hammered into them feminine character qualities such as quiet and obedient attentiveness, sitting still, and not questioning their teacher.

Let's carry this even further. By the end of the 1980s those who study Christianity in the US labeled *the religious system* "**a totally effeminate institution.**" We'll discuss the effects of Hellenism and Humanism on Christianity a little later in this Practice. But think of the decades of boys, many who are now men, who've been derailed from developing the biblical character qualities of manhood. Is it any wonder that women are

divorcing feminized men in droves? And that others are just living with men until they tire of them? Worse yet:

In this nation's moral freefall, feminized men are lusting after feminized men. And women are left to satisfy themselves with each other. (See Romans 1:24- 27. This is what happens when the truth of God is exchanged for a lie—in this case, humanism.)

- Are you and your children products of public education after the Humanist Manifesto was signed in 1932? Do you think it had any negative influence on you living as a beloved, obedient servant of our Lord Jesus?
- As you reflect on your life and where it's gotten you and your family, do you find yourself *more worldly* in your life pursuits than being poured out in service to our Lord?
- In your children's upbringing, did you discuss applying Bible truth with your kids at home, role modeling for them biblical character qualities? If you didn't, do you need to ask forgiveness from anyone?



Coach's Insight #3:

Nicolaitans — Satan's Scheme of Clergymen Separating The Father From His Children

[Jesus]: "*But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth*" (Revelation 2:6,15,16).



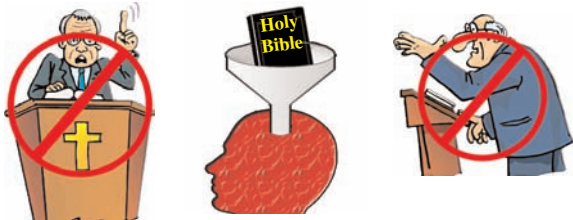
The Greek word *nicolaitane* means “conquering the people.” The first part of the word refers to *nikos*, to conquer or have victory over. The middle of the word is derived from *laos*, which means “the people.” The commonly used term “laity” is derived from it. The Nicolaitan system *subjugates the Father’s children* by making “laity” out of them through raising up unbiblical clergy who lord their position over them. At its demonic core the system places a human being between the Father and His child—a detestable practice which He despises and has been warring against for centuries.

This may insult your spiritual perceptions, but professional clergy are “players” whom Satan slipped into Christendom to tip the game in his favor. There is no biblical basis for clergy in the Bible. The *shepherds* of the first followers of Jesus were *older men of wisdom* who led spiritual families as willing servant/leaders (Acts 20:28; 1Peter5:2). They certainly weren’t part of any hierarchical religious system. Therefore “Nicolaitan” is God’s scathing view of professional clergy!

Consider this demonic strategy:

Nicolaitan Pedantic Bible Instruction

Nicolaitan clergy and laity are excessively focused on *knowledge of Bible content*.



Unlike the Player/Coach, Jesus, Who *role modeled, instructed, and sent out* His disciples to do likewise, Nicolaitans don’t role model what they teach. The Bible is treated as an academic tome rather than as the Player/Coach’s Playbook with skillsets to acquire through following the instructor’s example.

How do you displace a husband/father from carrying out his God-given responsibility in the spiritual development of his wife and family?

Satan used the same strategy he later used with public education to displace fathers. By the 3rd century the Master Deceiver had insinuated Hellenism into Christendom through “church fathers” who themselves had been trained in Hellenist philosophical thought. In the mold of Greek pagan practices, Hellenism put professional clergy at the center of the “Christian” religious system.

The scriptural simplicity of wise older men of integrity leading spiritual clans of Jesus followers (see 1Timothy 3:1-8) was replaced by young men of education and status. The Bible was spoonfed pedantically like an academic subject while the laity became silent students forced to sit back and just listen.

[At this point you may find it helpful to read one or both of our Hebraic Articles: *I Hate Nicolaitanism*, and *God’s Clergy-less Kingdom*.]

If you’re a product of Hellenized Christendom, then you’ve been subjected to the various academic methods of



“If it weren’t for the demonic victory of Nicolaitan pedantic teaching being embraced throughout Christendom, we would have a Kingdom of Jesus followers among all nations being led by Spirit-filled, older men of wisdom. One generation would have built upon the God-given wisdom acquired by past generations.

Those in leadership would be older men who experienced confession, repentance, forgiveness, and the redemptive power of our Lord to heal and make new what sin has destroyed. By God’s grace they would first role model the truth of His Word, and through mutual discussion lead others to apply God’s commands. This is the true biblical role of grandfathers—shepherding their families to heaven!”

conveying the Bible pedantically. For example, you've been taught from behind a pulpit or in a Sunday school class (or have taught one yourself). But if you've only been taught God's Word in an academic environment like this, then you're already trained to be nothing more than a *passive listener*.

When combined with pedantic teaching, Hellenism creates an intellectual grid through which you regard information solely as mental input. In other words, it's *what you think* that counts, not *what you do* with what you know. In a later Practice you'll see how sinful and *anti-Christ* this system really is!

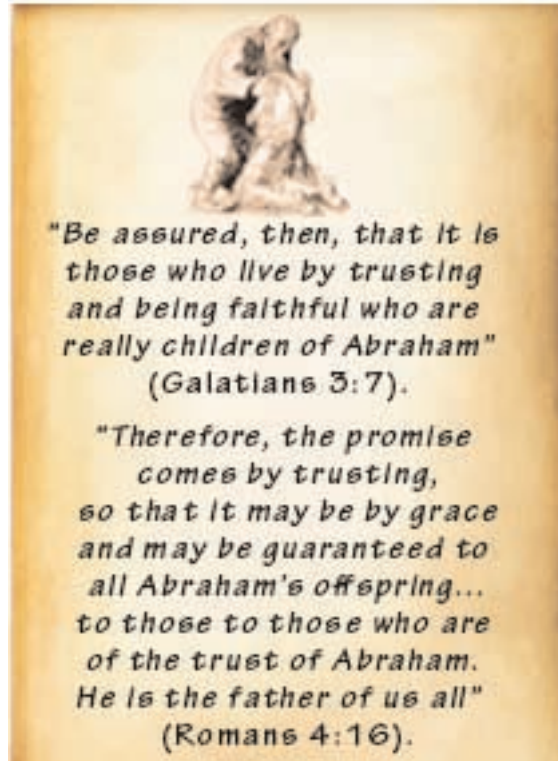
Coach's Insight #4:

Nicolaitans — Satan's Scheme of Clergymen Separating Fathers From Their Children

"For I have chosen [Abraham], so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what He has promised him." (Genesis 18:19)

God chose Abraham, the father of all who put their trust in Jesus (Romans 4:16), to be the primary role model for all fathers. Each man is to personally direct his own children to keep the way of the Lord. In other words, you are defying God's plan when you outsource this responsibility to others.

The Hellenist Greeks as well as the Romans outsourced their children for others to raise and tutor. Wealthy wives even had their female slaves bear children for them so they wouldn't lose their figures. Today, outsourcing of wives and families by men for others to spiritually train predominates Christendom to the extent that a man would seem *un-Christian* if he didn't.



When we arrived back from Israel with the Hebraic foundations in 1994, I went to talk with several clergymen I knew. When I asked them about the purposes for their various programs, their Sunday school, youth groups, women's Bible study, they all admitted these existed to compensate for *irresponsible husbands and fathers*. Through the Nicolaitan practice of compensating for negligent husbands and fathers, the clergy were separating these men from their God-given responsibilities to their families.

The outsourcing of wives and children for others to spiritually train would have been unheard of among our Hebraic predecessors in the faith. Today's outsourcing of children for others to train harkens back to England in the 1700s. Well-meaning people tried to help educate illiterate orphans who'd been forced by circumstances to work in factories. What was an outreach to the unfortunate has now become the established practice to allow irresponsible men to outsource their families.

So many men have deceived themselves into believing that Sunday school and youth groups would counter their dereliction as dads. It hasn't! Fewer than 23% of children who've been raised in Christian homes follow their parents in Christian faith practices.

Just like so many Jews in the concentration camps during WW II who thought they were going into showers when they were entering gas chambers, many men have believed they were sending their kids to 'the showers' when they sent them off to government-sponsored public schools or outsourced them to a religious institution to receive spiritual instruction. In fact, they were *inoculating them against Christ* by sending them to diabolical "gas chambers" which were displacing the child's yearning to learn from Dad.

Religious youth programs have been *less than 3% effective* in equipping young people to pursue Kingdom purposes with Jesus as Lord of their lives. Yet youth programs are one of the most common reasons families with youngsters attend particular congregations. Something's tragically wrong, but so many feel helpless to make a change even in their own home.

A marriage or family that's divorced from spiritual growth together will become divorced in other ways.

Outsourcing gets someone else to do your work for you. In a marriage it's a form of "passing the buck." And not only have men gotten away with this, but Nicolaitans have encouraged them to through a multitude of programs! It makes awful sense as to why Protestant clergy have for years led the country in divorce. Aren't they experiencing God's judgment for usurping a husband's responsibility to carry out his part of the marriage union? What layman can measure up to the Bible

Why is the mourner's bench gone?

The mourner's bench was a wooden kneeler 20-25 inches high, 12-14 inches wide, and several feet long, sometimes covered with padding for the knees. It was widely known as the place where *tears broke out over sin*—which is why you probably haven't seen or used one.



Another demonic strategy employed by those who signed the Humanist Manifesto occurred following WW II. Liberal lawyers traveled throughout the country to inspire fear in clergy. Most congregations up to that time were not incorporated. But the lawyers warned the clergy that without incorporation they'd be held *personally accountable* if they were ever sued. The lawyers convinced the clergy to get their congregations to incorporate.

States then began to tax congregations because a corporation is a state entity. Congress had to pass the Tax Exempt Act to free congregations from paying taxes. At the same time, banks which had been unwilling to loan money to congregations were now willing to do so since they were incorporated. Ever-increasingly larger edifices with immense mortgages began to be built. More and more clergy became convinced by noted management consultant Peter Drucker that *size was the true measure of success*. Thus was born the *anti-Christ* "**Church Growth Movement.**"

To the spiritual detriment of millions of congregants, as mortgages grew in number and in the size of loans, the call for repentance all but disappeared. So did the mourner's bench. Savvy clergy weren't going to drive away the people they needed to pay the mortgage by preaching an unpopular message *to repent*.

knowledge of his clergyman, especially if his wife has put that person on a pedestal? You might call it “spiritual adultery.”

If men could really see what’s happening to their wives within Nicolaitanism, they would be filled with the same rage as if their wife went to bed with the clergyman.

[For further reading about *spiritual succession* within a family, see Chapter 4. *The Biblical Basis for Leadership by Older Men* in our book, *Pastoring By Elders*.]

Coach’s Insight #5:

***Nicolaitans* — Created in the Halls of Hell Without Any Biblical Basis**

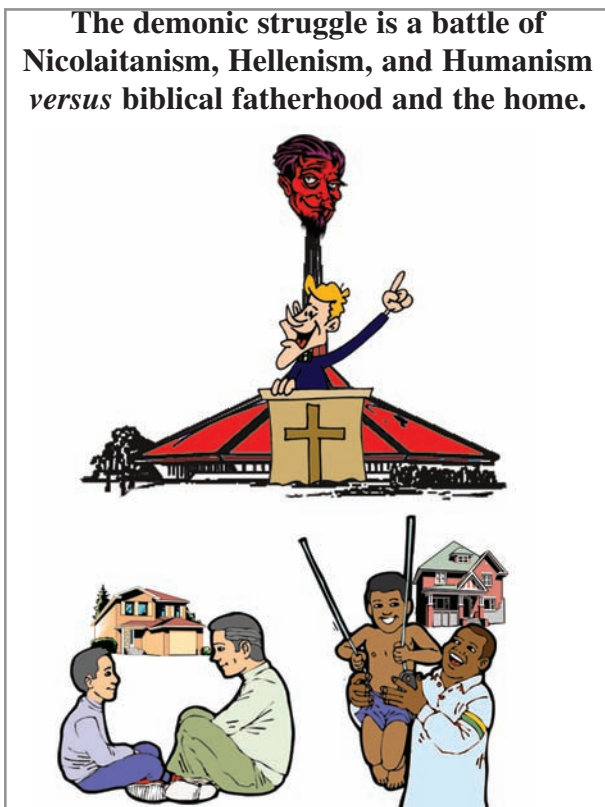
The Nicolaitan clergy system eliminated our Lord’s Spirit-anointed and empowered way of extending His Kingdom and brought about the unbiblical system of one individual being esteemed above all others (see James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5). This

same singular mindset is presently being confronted by our Lord as droves of clergy fall into sexual sin. Grievously, Protestant clergy have been a leading occupation for divorce in this nation for years. It’s difficult to stay married to someone whose occupation feeds a perception of *self-importance* and irreplaceability.

They’re not alone. By 1985 the Roman Catholic Church in the US had already spent over \$400 million on out-of-court settlements for their clergy preying on and sodomizing boys. And that was 30 years ago!

In our next practice you’ll be given some personal exercises to get your own life and family and faith family prepared so “*you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand*” (Ephesians 6:13).

The demonic struggle is a battle of Nicolaitanism, Hellenism, and Humanism versus biblical fatherhood and the home.



A Patriarch is a venerable *grandfather* who is both *discipler* and *coach* in helping his family achieve eternity in heaven.

Though he may be wise in the Lord’s sight, if his coaching is rejected by his family, he will be deprived of all enjoyment.

When a family puts into practice the patriarch’s biblical wisdom, it’s to their eternal advantage, and he wins a heritage of glory for all of them.