

## THE FATHER'S HEART

An angel of the Lord appears to Zachariah and tells him that he and his wife will have a son.

When Zachariah has doubts about whether they will have a son, he is rendered unable to speak until after it happens.

God was preventing Zachariah from speaking doubt over his situation.

Zachariah was forced to give more thought to the things that come out of his mouth.

We need to consider the things that come out of our mouths.

Am I making statements that say, I believe the Lord?

Am I making statements that say, I trust the Lord?

The Lord would rather have you be silent, than to speak things that negate what He is saying over you.

One thing never changes, God loves you!

Jesus is coming back for a church without spot or wrinkle, without blemish.

Not for a failing church, but a victorious church, a church that is prepared for the Lord.

This is largely accomplished by men and women of God who raise up children.

We need fathers in this world who's hearts are turned away from sin and self and turned to the children.

Elijah was a prophet of God described in 1 Kings.

Prophets are often called to speak unpopular messages, which can be a fearful thing to do.

Fear will silence you unless you get close enough to the one who is the truth, to speak the truth.

John the baptist was said to have the same anointing as Elijah.

John the baptist had a real simple message - STOP SINNING!

STOP SINNING!

Because sin separates you from God and keeps you from experiencing His love.

In the 1980's there was a very popular set of dolls called Cabbage Patch Kids followed by a set of trading cards called Garbage Patch Kids (actually it was Garbage Pail Kids).

We do not want to raise "Garbage Patch Kids," we want to raise "Power Patch Kids."

How to raise Power Patch Kids:

1. Pray for your children.

Jesus intercedes for his children (Rom 8:34), we need to pray for our children.

Be alert!

Be persistent! (Lk 18:1-8)

Have a plan in writing.

2. Model purity for your children.

Your example will become their default.

Faults get passed down from generation to generation until there is a father or a son whose heart is turned toward God and puts a stop to it.

3. God wants us to share his message with grace and truth.

Don't destroy the heart of your child when speaking truth.

Don't destroy your relationship when speaking truth.

### **SCRIPTURE LIST**

Luke 1:13-17

Luke 18:1-8

Ephesians 6:18

Titus 2:6-8

Romans 8:34

John 1:14-15