

Our Choices Affect Our Children *moral purity provides protection*

When Satan binds a father through hidden sin, he is free to enter the lives of each family member to torment them. Struggles in a child's life such as rebellion, lying, fears, moral failures, and other **problems are often a direct result of hidden sins in the father's life**. In Mark 3:27, Jesus said, "*No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.*"

If the enemy can bind the father through hidden moral failure, he can then easily plunder the father's "goods"—his wife and children. **Satan's ultimate goal for destruction is not focused only on the father, but also on the man's wife and children**. Satan may even leave the father alone, once the father has given him access to his family through unconfessed sin. A father may be gaining victory over his own sin, but as long as he refuses to humble himself and make a full confession, Satan is free to actively torment his wife and children.

Our children are like mirrors that help us see our own lives more clearly. Galatians 6:7 says, "*Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap*" Thus, if we see signs of rebellion, lust, or any other sin in our children, we must first ask ourselves where those sins are present in our own lives.

Just as sin in a father's life is a powerful tool for Satan, so **a father's open, humble confession is a powerful tool against Satan**. A father's honesty about his own sin releases him from Satan's bondage and frees him to fulfill his role to his family as their protector.