God’s Responsibilities for Man: Family Dynamics

Zanesville, OH | September 30, 2018 | Sermon Notes

**Foundational Scripture:** Josh. 24:15

**Intro**:

* It has been said that stronger families make for stronger societies. Embedded within that statement is the reality that the family, as an institution, serves as a pillar for society when it comes to values, morals, norms, principles etc. These aspects are taught and learned in the home and where do they come from? **GOD!** God has given man a vital responsibility when it comes to family dynamics. What we teach and learn in the home will be reflected in society which means we have the ability to influence how our societies function. Each person is responsible for his/her specific role for which they will be held accountable.

**The Roles to Fulfill**

1. **Man**
	1. **Husband**
		1. *Head of household* (1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 5:23) – A man, as the head of the household, is given an essential responsibility of leading his family to seek God and serve God.
		2. *Unconditional love for wife* (1 Cor. 7:3; Eph. 5:25, 28-29, 33; Col. 3:19 1 Pet. 3:7) – The man must also love his wife at all times just as Christ loves the church. His love for her does not depend upon her treatment of him but rather he must always seek to love and care for her.
	2. **Father** (Gen. 18:19; Deut. 6:7; Prov. 19:18; Prov. 22:6, 15; 23:13-14; 29:15; Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21; Heb. 12:7-10)
		1. A man’s duties to his children should never be underestimated. There is no such thing as spending too much time with your kids. A father will be held responsible by God for what he does and does not teach his children and whether or not he disciplines them.
	3. **Provider** (Gen. 2:15; 3:17-10; 1 Tim. 5:8)
		1. God tasks man with the responsibility of providing for his household. No man should seek to neglect this responsibility if he is able to work with his own hands.
	4. **Protector** (Jn. 15:13; Eph.5:25)
		1. A man’s role as protector is seen in the demonstration of Christ’s love for the church. Such love goes to any and all extents to protect and save loved ones from harm, evil and sin.
2. **Woman**
	1. **Wife**
		1. *Subject to husband* (Gen. 2:18; 3:16; Eph. 5:22, 24; Col. 3:18; 1 Tim. 2:11; Tit. 2:5; 1 Pet. 3:1) – A woman must submit to her husband and she must not rule over him for such is pleasing to the Lord. Yet, this is not to be misunderstood and misconstrued as a gross picture of undervalue and underappreciation.
		2. *Unconditional respect for husband* (Prov. 31:12; Eph. 5:33; 1 Pet. 3:2-6) – Wives must love their husbands just as husbands are called to love their wives. God, however, desired that wives respect their husbands unconditionally. That is, her respect for her husband does not depend on his treatment of her.
	2. **Mother** (Gen. 3:16; 1 Tim. 2:15; 5:14; 2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15; Tit. 2:4)
		1. It has been said that there is nothing as powerful as a mother’s love for her children. God created women this way and for good reason. As the one given the responsibility of child bearing, there is a certain value to mothers that is incomparable to any other. She, like her husband, is responsible to raise her kids with a view of seeking God and incorporating discipline when necessary.
	3. **Homemaker** (Prov. 31:13-29; 1 Tim. 5:14; Tit. 2:5)
		1. This is directly tied to the role of being a mother. A woman is to primarily *“keep house”* as observed in the scriptures above. This means that her primary responsibility is to manage the household (raise children, perform housewife duties). This does not mean that a woman cannot seek another full-time responsibility. It does mean that anything that prevents a woman from fulfilling this God-given role should be taken into consideration as a hinderance to being pleasing to God.
3. **Child**
	1. **Honor Mother and Father** (Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16; 21:18-21; 27:16; Prov. 6:20; 20:20; 30:17; Eph. 6:1-3; Col. 3:20)
		1. Children must obey their parents in all things (unless asked to commit evil/sin) and submit to the authority of their parents. God is well pleased when a child honors their mother and father and seeks to do what is true and righteous. Such a child will be blessed by God and it will be well with them.

**The Power of Family**

1. God’s word, values, principles and heritage is preserved (Deut. 6:20-25)
2. A shining light to societies that need God’s grace (Matt. 5:14-16)
3. The culmination of God’s promises in Heaven (Gen. 7:1, 7; Jn. 14:1-3)