

The role of man in marriage

(-)

INTRODUCTION:

A. The lessons from this series:

1. 327_Introduction to the series about the family
2. 591_Marriage: Its purpose
3. 592_Marriage: Its permanency
4. **015_The man's role in marriage**
5. 017_The woman's role in marriage
6. 498_A wife worth more than jewels
7. 244_When mommy is not home
8. 597_Loving intellectually
9. 598_The affectionate love
10. 599_The intimate love
11. 602_Communication
12. 604_Problems between husband and wife
13. 606_The responsibilities of parents and kids
14. 608_Training our children: Education
15. 609_Training our children: Chastisement
16. 610_Training our children: Direction
17. 612_Biblical cases of fathers and sons
18. 611_The relationship between siblings
19. 440_What every youth wants in reality
20. 618_Courtship: Preparation for marriage
21. 021_The family who is centered in Christ

B. The necessity of order

1. Order is essential, look around and you will see that every organization or a collective body form of two or more persons requires some kind of order and or hierarchy. Someone needs to lead, the others need to follow. Someone will take charge and the others will submit to the one in charge.
 - a. In society (**Romans 13:1-2**)
 - b. In the local church (**Phil. 1:1; Acts 20:28; Hebrews 13:17**)
2. Consequently, God also has established an order in the family as well.

C. Many are not satisfied with the order God has specify for each individual in the family. Thus some will neglect their roles God has designed for the family by abusing those roles which it will result in:

1. The "feminist movement" those who advocate for such movement their main agenda are to overthrow God's order for woman in the family therefore hurting the family.
2. Disorderly homes even in Christian families; homes that do not function well

D. The different functions or responsibilities should not be confused with superiority or inferiority

1. When Jesus submitted Himself to the Father when coming to this earth (**Philippians 2:6-8**), this is humility and NOT inferiority! Was Jesus inferior to the Father? Was He no longer divine? After reigning, Jesus will submit to the Father (**1 Cor. 15:28**), will Jesus be inferior to the Father?
2. Man's soul and woman's are the same before God (**Galatians 3:28; 1 Cor. 11:11**)

3. Adding to this everything (including the different responsibilities in the family) proceed from God (**1 Cor. 11:12**).

E. The objective of this sermon:

1. To establish what role does the father have in a family
2. How this specific task, role takes place

I. THE HUSBAND IS THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD

A. In general

1. See (**1 Cor. 11:3**)
2. Also consider (**1 Tim. 2:12-14**)
3. A principal based in the creation of man and the woman
 - a. Adam was created first and latter Eve (**1 Tim. 2:12**)
 - b. Woman was created because of man and for man (**1 Cor. 11:9**)
 - c. Woman was created to be a helpmeet a help to Adam (**Genesis 2:18**).
 - d. The woman came from man (**Genesis 2:22**)
 - e. God made her and then took her to Adam (**Genesis 2:22**)

B. In the family

1. Consider (**Ephesians 5:23**) in a marriage relationship man has to lead, he is the head of the household

C. If the husband is not the head of household in a family, neither are the children

1. In many homes and even in Christians homes the children are the ones who lead!
 - a. The little ones control the parents by kicking them, biting them, etc
 - b. The child grows up and warns? Their parents with a tantrum scream when they do not get their way, the toy at the store, etc.
 - c. The teenagers, control the use of the automobile, set their own schedules when to get up when to get in, control the programs on television, use the telephone and the family cannot receive nor they can call out
 - d. How has the control of this family? Who is the head of household?

D. The husband sins when he forsakes this responsibility given by God

1. Few husbands today have the courage to take this role, this responsibility given by God in a marriage
 - a. They do not want to maintain their family
 - b. Nor they want to discipline their kids
 - c. And they do not want to take or make any decisions for the family
 - d. Who is left to make all these things?
2. Unfortunately it is the woman, the wife
 - a. Now they have other responsibilities upon their shoulders, now she has to be a "father" also.
 - b. She will have two roles
 - 1) To provide emotional support for the child, and also...
 - 2) Pay the bills, etc.
 - c. The woman has a specific role she must fulfill and so does man!

II. WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD (APPLICATIONS)

A. To love like Christ loves (Ephesians 5:25)

1. The love of Christ was a love of sacrifice (vs. **25**); it requires energy, time, effort, perseverance, etc. to the family.
2. It is to seek the wellbeing of the family (vs. **26-27**).
3. "So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies" (vs. **28-29**).

- a. Husbands, we shower, shave, comb our hair, we take care of our body and so should our wives!
- b. Let us practice the same care and how we love our bodies with the wife

B. Leading with responsibility

1. It is to be a director and not a dictator
 - a. In no way does the Bible promotes the idea of an abusive husband, physically or mentally. The Bible, the word of God does NOT allow for the husband to be rough with to his wife (**Colossians 3:19**).
 - b. Often the husband will treat his wife like a servant by saying, "bring me that, make me this" (Some will say "but the wife has to do everything with respect to the food and taking care of the home, if the husband does them the woman may rebel against us")
 - 1) They speak like the pagan princes and army officers of the king Persian Ahasuerus (**Esther 1:16-17**)
 - 2) When Christ washed the feet of His disciples (**John 13:1-17**), did Jesus run the risk for His disciples to rebel against Him?
 - c. A typical response will be, "well, but the Bible says that my wife needs to submit to me", that is absolutely true the Bible says that. The Bible does NOT say that the husband should force his wife to submit to him. Contrary it says, "Husbands, love your wives..." (**Ephesians 5:25**).
 - d. Lead with love, just like Christ leads and loves. Christ always does what is best for the other person (**Philippians 2:4ff**).
2. Being aware what happens around the family
 - a. Basically is to know what the kids are doing, send them to do a task (clean their room and instead they are playing).
 - b. Many fathers fall asleep while watching television, spend their time alone in their hobbies wrapped up on his little world and the kids are left alone, not knowing their problems and needs.
 - 1) They do not know and when problem comes, "I did not know that he/she was in drugs, problems at school, etc."
 - 2) They condemn themselves with this excuse.
 - c. A father should be aware of the family needs (he will listen to them!)
3. It is to have the children under control (**1 Timothy 3:4**; only for the elders?)
 - a. Children should play but also they should be able to sit and be quiet at the appropriate time.
 - b. Set limits, time, rules and to carryout punishment for breaking the rules and also the reward for keeping them
4. As we lead let us also lead by example!
 - a. A good leader will lead with his example more than with his words (consider **Nehemiah 5:10, 14-15**).
 - b. Exemplify morality
 - 1) Kids are looking for models to imitate, heroes, etc.
 - 2) Why should I let the television do that for me?
 - c. Children will also imitate inappropriate behavior, that is which is bad
 - 1) Fathers, let us be careful with bad habits (unwholesome words, anger, bad temper) rather our communication should the opposite (**Ephesians 4:28**) it should be only to edify!
 - 2) Teaching in the moment
 - (a) Our family watches when we deal others, returning a faulty product, changing the tire of the car, a malfunction to the car in the highway, dealing with an angry person, will scream back at that person?

- (b) In view of (**Ephesians 4:28**) should we be criticizing the church, complains against some members and or preacher? What are we teaching our family with such behavior, complains and criticizing others? Remember what happen to Israel? (**1 Cor. 10**)
- 5. Make the decisions for the family
 - a. A wise leader takes note of everyone. Consults with the spouse and kids
 - b. At the end, the husband will have to make the decision. Accept the consequences of a wrong decision (confess the error, seek a solution, learn not to make the same error).

C. To keep, maintain the family

- 1. Spiritual training of the family (**Ephesians 6:4**)
 - a. Very important, we have already seen in the previous lessons (**Deuteronomy 6:5-7**; see also Psalm 78 for the father to do)
 - b. Sad to see, but many fathers just leave this responsibility or task to the wife completely. Yes a woman may have teach and have a great success on a child but it is NOT totally her responsibility to do so it is the husband's!
 - c. The real Christian man will not hide or hurdle this great responsibility.
 - 1) You do not have to be a great teacher, but we must first learn what the Bible of God says and do what it says. How are we going to teach respecting God and His word, attending if we ourselves do NOT do it!! How are we going to teach our children about loving each other, respect among family members is we ourselves mistreat our spouses? We do not have to go to a distant country to evangelize we must start with our OWN homes!
- 2. Material necessities (**1 Timothy 5:8**) – two extremes:
 - a. The husband who wastes his money on himself or in unwise inversions
 - b. Consenting a child with too many things
 - 1) The father who is busy working trying to buy things for the son and has no time for him
 - 2) It is one of the matters in which the husband has to make a decision
 - (a) There has to be a limit to what the family wants

D. Respecting our wives

- 1. Notice how she should be respected (**1 Cor. 7:3-5**).
- 2. She should not be treated harshly
 - a. Consider (**Colossians 3:19**)
- 3. The wife is also a human being
 - a. Unfortunately it is not so in some countries, she is capable to give good advice and to make decisions.
 - b. Some husband exclude what their wife has to say totally dismissing her
- 4. She deserves courtesy, good treatment
 - a. Do you remember when you where courting her?
- 5. Patience
 - a. It is necessary when the baby is crying, the telephone ringing other children making noise, etc.
 - b. Patience is necessary when it is time to get ready for church and sometime you wonder how come she is not ready in time?
 - 1) It takes time to get the family ready, bath 1, 2, 3 or more kids and plus herself
- 6. She deserves praise
 - a. Consider (**Proverbs 31:28-29**)
 - b. Also see (**1 Peter 3:7**) to give them the honor, honoring them
 - 1) Often we just focus on the word "weaker" (physical strength)
 - 2) How would you treat a vessel that is expensive and fragile? With care of course, we put it on a place where everybody can see it, we honor it

- c. Praise or just criticism
- d. She has defects and we do too!
- 7. She deserves an educated treatment, to be treated right!
 - a. Once again see (1 Peter 3:7)
- 8. Her soul has the same value as yours
 - a. Yes, there are physical and emotional differences
 - b. There are differences in our tasks
 - c. But also they are “fellow heir of the grace of life”
 - 1) They are of much value as man have before the Lord
 - 2) As husbands we must render them the honor or otherwise, our prayers may be hindered.

CONCLUSION:

A. God has given the order in the home. The husband is the head of the family.

- 1. Let us remember, with authority comes responsibility. Many want the authority without the responsibility! As husbands we are going to render our deeds to God of what we have done and also about the responsibility He has entrusted us with!
 - a. Have we loved our wives as Christ loved the church?
 - b. Have we directed our families and not being a dictator
 - c. Have we maintained our family?
 - d. Have we respected our wives?
- 2. Husbands, let us remember that even though we are head of the woman, we are subject to Christ meaning that I am under subjection as well to Christ first and also to the needs of my wife and children.

B. Have you submitted yourself to the Gospel of Christ? Why not?

*Victor Alvarado
Hermiston OR USA*