

A Disappearing Fatherhood

**Deuteronomy 6:1-25; Ephesians 4:29,
6:1-4.**

Today's Challenge

- **Men today face challenges that men in the past haven't had to because the world has changed so drastically over just the past 50 years.**
- **Men no longer have to be the "hunter-gatherers" as in the past. We just go to the store.**
- **Men are taught that their masculinity is now "toxic" and need to be reeducated.**
- **Women are more prone to not marry and have a man to protect them and help raise the children. They can do that on their own.**

So what does the Bible say?

- **Deuteronomy 6 is very clear about the responsibility of the father. Their first responsibility is to teach their son/s to have a relationship with His Creator and to know His Word.**
- **Deuteronomy 5:16 is the 5th commandment. It is the first commandment that relates to family and has a promise. If this commandment is followed, then God's blessing can flow.**
- **Fathers are to teach their sons, not only God's Word, but how the Word applies to all of life. He is to teach what is the good way to live life and how to worship correctly.**

Respect

- **If a father will teach his son the Word, he will learn to respect God and respect the people around him. Respect includes not only good manners, but how to live an ethical and moral life. If he lives in such a manner, he will be blessed and know why he is blessed. His family will be in order and the work of his hands will be enriched. Living such a life will bring him peace and prosperity.**
- **Being taught the Word will also help him see the failures of previous generations and why they suffered for not obeying God's Word. This way, they will learn from their mistakes and make less of their own. Isn't this how it should be?**

New Testament teachings on order.

- **I Corinthians 11:3** relates the ordering of mankind. Christ is the head of all mankind, and He has placed the human order of man being the head of the woman.
- **Ephesians 5:22-25** is another passage that places us in order. Christ first, man, woman, children. But all this is wrapped up in sacrificial love!
- **Colossians 3:18-21**. Follows up with good advice.
- **Note the Godhead has order too: Father, Son, Holy Spirit.**
- **I Timothy 5:8** speaks on working.
- **I Peter 3:7** is a prayer warning to the man.

Conclusion

- **The view of the Bible from start to finish is for the man to be the head of the household, with the spiritual aspect being foremost.**
- **If the man will fulfill his duties, won't life be so much better? The wife will be happier, the children will be happier, and the man will feel sufficiently blessed and happy too! That is how our Creator planned for life to be: blessed.**
- **Point of this message? Men, be the men you were created to be, not more and not less. We're not the "boss" but a conduit for our families and friends to be blessed. Let Jesus be the "boss." He does it so much better than we do.**