

Small Group Guide

THE CROSS AND CHRISTIAN MANHOOD

The Church at Brook Hills

Dr. David Platt

June 16, 2013

Genesis 1-3; Romans 5:12-21

MAIN TRUTH

Message Outline

THE CROSS AND CHRISTIAN MANHOOD

Genesis 1-3; Romans 5:12-21

God's Design for Men...

- God created men and women with equal dignity (**Gen. 1:26-27**; Ps. 8:3-8).
- God created men and women with different roles (**Gen. 2:15, 18-23**; 1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 5:23).
 - Man was created to be the head. **Leadership role**
 - To lead with love.
 - To provide and protect.
 - Woman was created to be the helper. **Help-meet (mate), v. 24**
- God created men and women as a reflection of the Trinity (Gen. 1:1; Jn. 1:1-4; **Jn. 5:19-23**).
 - This is loving leadership in the context of beautiful relationship.

Christlike Devotion in Men...

- Christ and Manhood (Gen. 3:15)...
 - Jesus perfectly models true manhood. **Philippians 2:5 - 8**
 - Jesus mercifully saves us from our sin and from ourselves.
 - Jesus personally makes us into the men God created us to be.
- The Cross and Manhood (**Rom. 5:12-21**)...
 - The cross compels us to initiate humble, hard-working leadership in our lives.
 - Strive for purity (**1 Pet. 1:13-16**; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).
 - Practice spiritual disciplines.
 - Flee sexual immorality. **All forms, even appearance of**
 - Fight material idolatry.
 - Cultivate personal integrity.
 - Take responsibility (Gen. 2:24; Eph. 5:25; Mk. 12:29-31).
 - For starting a family, and edifying, encouraging your family (glue of family)
 - For shepherding a family.
 - Spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, physically, and relationally
 - For yourself, personal well-being
 - Provide (**1 Tim. 5:8**; 1 Thess. 4:10-12; 2 Thess. 3:6-13; Prov. 6:6-11).
 - Protect (Deut. 20:7-8; 24:5; Josh. 1:14; Jdg. 4:8-10; Neh. 4:13-14; Jer. 50:37; Nah. 3:13; **Mat. 2:13-14**).
 - Honor women (**1 Pet. 3:7**).
 - Train boys to be men (**Titus 2:6-8**).
 - The cross compels us to show selfless, sacrificial love for our wives (**Eph. 5:22-33**).
 - Love your wife faithfully.
 - Love your wife effectively.
 - Love your wife carefully.
 - Love your wife completely.

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- The cross compels us to desperate dependence on grace that only Christ can give (**1 Cor. 15:10**).

Message Summary

In light of Father's Day, we pause our study of 1 Corinthians to consider how the cross of Christ affects our understanding of manhood. Genesis 1-2 indicates God's design for men, which includes being equal with women in dignity but different from women in their role as the head of the family. However, when Adam and Eve's disobeyed God in Eden, sin distorted God's design for men by leading men to either abdicate their responsibilities or to abuse their authority. While manhood is marred by sin, God sent Christ to perfectly model manhood, to save us from our sin, and to make us into the men and women God created us to be.