

Sermon Based Life Group Guide – May 18, 2008

-Men, Women and the Glory of God-

Discuss: Ladies: How would you counsel a friend who asks, "What should I say to my daughter if she asks, Mom what does it mean to be a woman and not a man?" Men: How would you counsel a friend who asks about their son?

Our sexuality permeates one's individual being to its very depth. What it means to be a man and to be a woman is more than anatomical differences.

Robert's sermon revealed the Biblical nature of manhood and womanhood. The different roles of manhood and womanhood were created by God. The differentiated roles of men and women predates the fall in Eden. It was after the fall the roles were corrupted.

Study together:

1. Where in Genesis 1:26-28 does it suggest male/female equality as God's image bearers and vice-rulers on the earth?
2. Read Gen 2:18-25, who was created first? What and where are the two commands given to Adam found? (ans: eat; don't eat).
3. Who is created to be Adam's helper? Why?
4. What are they to do together?
5. In Gen 3:1-9, Why do you think when God is looking for them in the garden does God call only to Adam and not both of them? Do you think it is for the same reason God holds Adam and not Eve accountable for sin in the garden (read the reasons in Gen 3:17)? Why do you think or not think this paraphrase portrays God's Gen 3:17 intention, "because you abandoned your headship, because you did not obey me and stop the whole incident."
 - As God-appointed head, Adam bore the primary responsibility to lead their partnership in a God glorifying direction.
 - Satan struck at Adam's headship.
 - Adam in essence was saying, "You decide, Eve. You lead the way. Wouldn't you rather be exercising headship?"
6. The Apostle Paul interpreted the 3 chapters the same way. Why else in Romans 5 would Paul blame Adam for sin entering the creation through Adam's failure and not both Adam and Eve?

Application: In a partnership of 2 spiritually equal human beings—man and women, the man bears the primary responsibility to lead the partnership in a God glorifying direction. A man, just by virtue of his manhood, is called to lead for God. A woman, just by virtue of her womanhood, is called to help for God.

1. Does God call men to headship because women are incapable of leading? Support your answer with examples.
2. Is a single mom incapable of being a head of her home? Why do you think that?
3. What practical steps might you or your life group take by leading, providing for, and protecting single moms and single women at WHBC? What do you think might be the Biblical reasons for doing that?