

MARRIAGE FAMILY CHILDREN

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The Holy Spirit directed the ministry to focus on **“Equality, Order, and Balance” in Marriage and Family.**

Equality in The Godhead

There is equality between the Persons of the Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

They are all equal and equally:

Holy	Righteous	Self existent	Eternal
Unchanging	All knowing	All powerful	Present everywhere
Creator	Unable to be compared	Unable to be excelled	Sustaining all things
Love	Mercy	Goodness	Truth
		Wisdom	Justice of all Authority

Genesis 1:1-3, Matthew 28:19, John 15:26, John 14:1, John 14:26, John 10:30, John 10:38, Philippians 2:6, John 8:58, John 1:1, Titus 2:13, Revelation 1:8, Isaiah 9:6.

Order in the Godhead

As well as equality, there is **order between the Persons of the Godhead**, as they work together in the process of creation, sustaining the whole of creation, and in the work of redemption of the fallen universe. **The Father acts as the Initiator of Purpose, the Son acts as the Word or expression of God’s Purpose, and the Holy Spirit is the Executor and Performer of God’s Purpose.** The Father Purposes, the Son declares it, the Holy Spirit does it.

In Order, the Son submits to the Father, and the Holy Spirit submits to the Father and to the Son.

1Corinthians 11:3, John 14:28, John 4:34, John 16:13-15, John 16:7, John 15:26.

As there is Equality and Order in the Godhead so there is Equality and Order in marriage.

Firstly, there is equality in Marriage. *Ephesians 5:18 - 21.* In the fullness of the Holy Spirit there is joy, thanks giving to God the Father in the Name of the Son, **and submission to one another in the fear of the Lord.**

Husband and wife are equal before God, in His love, mercy, goodness, salvation and grace. **The angel Gabriel visited Mary** and spoke to her about being the Mother of Jesus. *Luke 1:26-38.* **The angel visited Joseph** and explained to him that Mary’s pregnancy was by the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 1:18-25.* (Notice that they were betrothed, v18, and although they were not living together they were called “husband and wife”. V19,20)

“The betrothal in Jewish law, involved a formal binding contract before witnesses. The betrothed abstained from sexual relations, and the woman remained in her father’s house until the wedding ceremony.”

(New Spirit Filled Life Bible. Editors, Jack Hayford and others. Comment on *Matthew 1:18-20*).

“The fear of the Lord,” *Ephesians 5:21, implies surrender and service to God,” Psalm 112:1, 128:1.*

In Christian marriage both husband and wife are serving the Lord, fearing the Lord, and submitting to one another as the Holy Spirit speaks to them and shows them what to do. Other references to submitting to one another and order: *1Peter 5:5, Galatians 5:13, 2Corinthians 4:5, 1Corinthians 9:19, John 13:5-15, Philippians 2:3, Romans 12:10.*

Secondly, there is order in marriage. *Ephesians 5:22 - 33, 1Corinthians 11:3, Colossians 3:18,19, 1Peter 3:1-8.*

The husband is to lead the family unit. The wife is to respect his God-given responsibility and help him in it. **The husband is the head of the family. The wife is the heart of the family.** *Psalm 128:3.* The children are the Lord’s reward. *Psalm 127:3.* They are like olive trees around your table. *Psalm 128:3.* Abraham’s destiny and calling in God could only be fulfilled if he led his family in the ways of God. *Genesis 18:19.*

Thirdly, there is balance in marriage. As the wife accepts her husband as the leader of the family unit, the husband is to **love his wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her.** This is a very big responsibility for the husband. **To love is to seek the highest good of your wife.** It is to follow what Christ did for the church, v26, and to daily share God’s cleansing, washing Word with your wife. It is to seek to bring your wife to full spiritual maturity. v27. This is how men are to love their wives. It is to forgive your wife all the time. *Mark 11:25,26.* It is to release your wife from all condemning judgment. *Matthew 7:1,2.* It is to pray blessing on your wife all the time. *Luke 6:27,28,35 – 38.* Jesus commanded us to do these things to one another. (See No 311, Pastor Notes. www.pastornotes.com)

The Christian marriage is a picture of Christ and the church. v32. Three times it says “husbands love your wives.” v25,28,33. Three times it says, “wives submit to your husband’s role as the leader.” v22,23,24.

Finally children. The commandment of the Lord is for children to honour and obey their parents. This is the first commandment with promise, *Ephesians 6:2, Exodus 20:12,* “that it may be well with you and you will live a long life.” The Father is responsible to gather his family, once a day, to sing praises to God, pray and teach God’s Word. *Ephesians 6:4, Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Psalm 78:1-7, Genesis 18:19.* It is God’s promise for all your children to be saved, *Isaiah 54:13, 49:25, 44:3,4,* and they will be. Never stop claiming the Promises Of God, in FAITH, for each one.