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# Just Do Your Part

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## The Divine Family

Pastor Wil Nichols

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***Sermon: The Divine Family: Just Do Your Part***

***Lesson Text***

Colossians 3:18–24 (AV)<sup>18</sup> Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. <sup>19</sup> Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them. <sup>20</sup> Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Fathers, provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged. <sup>22</sup> Servants, obey in all things *your* masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: <sup>23</sup> And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; <sup>24</sup> Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

***Introduction***

Today I want to begin a new series exploring the significance and importance of the family!

Before God created all the institutions that govern our society: the government, education, work, financial, military, arts, music, and religions institutions, he created the family.

The foundation of everything and every institution is the family.

Genesis 1: <sup>26</sup> And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. <sup>28</sup> And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Now if the enemy can attack and devastate the family to the point that it becomes dysfunctional, then everything that sits on its foundation will become dysfunctional.

Over the next several weeks we want to look at the roles of each of the members of the family and why they are vital in maintaining a strong and functional family unit.

**A Family Needs:**

- The “Strong” Man/Husband (Priest, Prophet, Provider, Protector): Ephesians 5:25–28
  - Ephesians 5: <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; <sup>26</sup> That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup> That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.
  - 1 Peter 3: <sup>7</sup> Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with *them* according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

- The “Priceless” Woman/Wife (Powerful, Priceless, Patient, Prayerful): 1 Peter 3:1–4
  - 1 Peter 3: <sup>1</sup> Likewise, ye wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; <sup>2</sup> While they behold your chaste conversation *coupled* with fear. <sup>3</sup> Whose adorning let it not be that outward *adorning* of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; <sup>4</sup> But *let it be* the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, *even the ornament* of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.
- The “Glorious” Child (Honor & Glorify Their Body, Soul, and Spirit): Ephesians 6:1–3
  - Ephesians 6: <sup>1</sup> Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. <sup>2</sup> Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) <sup>3</sup> That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

But before we dig into the specifics of each of their roles, let's spend today talking about the importance of each of them doing their part.

Over my life I've been part of several successful teams (sports teams, corporate business teams, and church and ministry teams). Now what made us successful is not luck, fortune, or even skill; what made us successful is that every member of the team did his or her part!

What makes a family successful is when each member, regardless of what they face, do their part!

### ***Series and Sermon: The Divine Family: Just Do Your Part***

“Just Do Your Part, Just Do Your Faith, Just Do Your Encouragement”

#### ***I. Just Do Your Part***

Colossians 3: <sup>23</sup> ***And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily***, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

A successful family requires each member to keep doing their part Heartily!

The word “Heartily” here means wholly, willingly, thoroughly, and wholeheartedly!

Too many families have too many family members who have stopped doing their part wholly, willingly, thoroughly, and wholeheartedly because they have experienced one too many losses.

I have been a member of successful sports teams, corporate business teams, and church and ministry teams. Not because we didn't have losses and failures, but because we had members who did their part heartily regardless of losses and failures.

This past week the Golden State Warriors won the NBA championship for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in 8 years. The Journey to this Championship, however, included the worst record in the NBA two years earlier. But unlike other teams who experienced abysmal losing records, they never lost their heart!

One of the key characteristics of a team that loses its heart is they internalize their failure and turn on each other. They stop focusing on their adversary and start blaming each other!

**When families lose their heart, they stop doing their part!** They turn on and blame each other!

But failing or not doesn't make you a failure, losing doesn't make you a loser; that only happens when you lose your heart and stop doing your part!

When Golden State was going through the worst losing record in the NBA two years ago, they never blamed each other, they put their heads down and just kept doing their part! If one got injured, the others kept doing their part. If one quit and left, the others kept doing their part.

Deuteronomy 10: <sup>12</sup> And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,

Psalms 119: <sup>10</sup> With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

Psalms 9: <sup>1</sup> I will praise *thee*, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.

Just do your Part with your Whole Heart, and Let God take care of the rest!

## ***II. Just Do Your Faith***

Colossians 3: <sup>23</sup> And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, **as to the Lord, and not unto men;**

A successful Family also requires each member to keep doing their Faith unto the Lord.

Not only can losing cause one to lose their heart, it can also cause them to lose their faith.

So why do we lose our faith? Because we have our faith in the wrong thing!

I've talked and counseled many people down through the years who have had a crisis of faith, and the one thing that they have almost universally had in common was that they had their faith in the wrong thing.

They were losing their faith in God, but it wasn't God who had failed them; it was a person; it was a job; it was a betrayal; it was loss; it was a failure; it was a hurt.

Too many people have conflated their faith in God with their faith in people, and when people fail them, they feel that God has failed them.

Others conflate their faith in God with success, prosperity, recognition, promotion, winning, power, or authority; and when they lose these things, they lose their faith in God.

My brother once said something that was so profound to me that I've remembered it decades later, and that was: "God is not required to do what we think, He's only required to do what he says!"

And since most people don't really know what God said, they lose their faith based on what "They Said," on what "They Thought," or on what "They Feel!"

We must keep doing our part, and have Faith in God and what God said!

Romans 10: <sup>17</sup> So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2 Corinthians 5: <sup>7</sup> (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

Our Faith must be like the Hymnal: "My hope is built on nothing less, Than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ the solid rock I stand, All other ground is sinking sand."

### ***III. Just Do Your Encouragement***

Colossians 3: <sup>24</sup> Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

- The Divine Family requires each member to keep doing their part Whole Heartedly
- The Divine Family requires each member keep their Faith in the Lord
- Finally, The Divine Family finally requires each member to encourage themselves in the Lord.

1 Samuel 30: <sup>3</sup> So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, *it was* burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. <sup>4</sup> Then David and the people that *were* with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

**"There's not Crying in Baseball!"** – A Phrase from the Movie, "A League Of Their Own". It was about a women's professional baseball team where one of the women started crying. The male coach (Tom Hanks), who normally coached men, says, "There's no crying in baseball!"

1 Samuel 30:6 (AV)<sup>6</sup> And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

Encourage yourself in the Promises of God: 2 Corinthians 1: <sup>20</sup> For all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

Encourage yourself in the Power of God: Philippians 4: <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Encourage yourself in the Plans of God: Jeremiah 29: <sup>11</sup> For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

Encourage yourself in the Word of God: Psalm 119: <sup>11</sup> Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

## Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: Just Do Your Part)

### Lesson Text

- Colossians 3:18–24

### Sermon Outline (Notes)

- I. *Just Do Your Part*
- II. *Just Do Your Faith*
- III. *Just Do Your Encouragement*

### Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday’s Sermon?)

#### I. Getting to Know “Me”

1. Did you celebrate the Juneteenth holiday? What did you do? Do you plan to celebrate Juneteenth in the future? If so, how?
2. Share one thing you’ve learned about a group member during this Growth Group session.

#### II. Into the Bible

1. The Apostle Paul, according to Ephesians 4:1-3, teaches believers the attitudes they should have in their Christian walk. In Ephesians 4:1, the term “walk” is *peripateo*, which literally means “to walk about.” Define how the following attitudes are important for growth and maturity for Christians as they “walk about” in their daily lives representing Christ: i) Lowliness; ii) Meekness; iii) Longsuffering; iv) Forbearing one another; v) in Love; vi) Unity of the Spirit; and vii) Bond of peace.

#### III. Life Application

1. **Just Do Your Part:** How do we determine that what we are doing is God-led activity as opposed to flesh-led activity?
2. **Just Do Your Faith:** In Mark 9:24, the father of a demon-possessed boy said, “Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.” What do we do when we believe God can do it, however we question whether or not He will do it for us?