Fighting For Your Family Series

“Rebuilding the Foundation of Family” Pt 1

Nehemiah 4:14 / Genesis 1-3

6/8/25

When we look at the alarming statistics—skyrocketing divorce rates, rising sexual immorality, the confusion surrounding gender, and the moral decay in our culture—it’s clear: The FAMILY is under attack. But even more so, Christian families are under attack. As Christian parents, we are called to stand firm, to fight for our families in a world that seems to be falling apart.

Nehemiah 4:14b

*Then as I looked over the situation, I called together the nobles and the rest of the people and said to them,* ***“Don’t be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!”***

Can there be a more urgent, relevant topic than this? We live in a culture that has lost sight of what family even means:

* Is a family just a group of people living under the same roof?
* Is it simply defined by shared space or legal status?
* What happened to the biblical model of a father, a mother, and children working together under God?

Sure, the traditional family still exists in places—but it’s no longer the cultural norm. And that’s exactly why we need this series.

The purpose of this series is to restore God’s vision for the Family. My prayer is simple and powerful:

* **That husbands and wives, parents and children, would be reconciled—not just in their minds or actions, but deep down in their hearts and spirits and love and respect for one another would return.**
* **That families would rediscover the power of daily prayer together and the true benefits there are in doing so.**
* **That we would begin to live out God’s original blueprint for family—not just inside the church, but as a testimony to a watching world.**

But this won’t just happen. It will require intentional prayer, obedience, and action. Each message in this series will come with a personal assignment. If we listen without applying God’s truth, nothing will change in your family or home and the enemy will continue to tear our families apart.

The first thing that we need to do is to ask God what has to be changed in our hearts personally? Be willing to allow God to change you. Is bitterness, anger, or pain in your life? Can you trust God to bring healing so that you can love again, so that you can continue to live in a meaningful way, despite the past? This change will be for you and your family. Your spouse, your children, grandchildren. Your whole family!

The intention of this series will not be to beat anyone down, but to show the need we have of God and His guidance as we lead our families. To understand the need we have for God to be in the center of our homes and life.

My prayer is that this series strengthens marriages, reconciles divided families, and builds strong Christian families who stand firm against attacks, selfish motives, and societal pressures.

The Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy sits 183 feet 3 inches from the ground on the low side and 185 ft 11 on the high side. The tower began to lean during construction in the 12th century, due to soft ground which could not properly support the structure's weight. It worsened through the completion of construction in the 14th century. By 1990, the tilt had reached 5.5 degrees. The structure was stabilized by remedial work between 1993 and 2001, which reduced the tilt to 3.97 degrees.

* **If a something is crooked at the foundation, then it will always have issues.** In other words, when the foundation begins wrong, everything goes wrong.

I mentioned each message will have an assignment...Normally it’ll be at the end of the message, but today I’ll give it to you upfront.

* Your First Assignment: The Love Chapter
* **Read 1 Corinthians 13**

**Read it every day this week—if you’re a young person or single read it alone. If you married, read it together with your spouse. If you have kids, read it a few times this week with them. But just don’t read it, pray it, meditate on it, let it shape how you love your family.** Simply say, “This is what love looks like,” “Love is patient, love is kind…”— Let these words become the foundation of your home.

To rebuild the family correctly, we must re-establish its foundation.

* Genesis 1:27

***“So, God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God, he created them; male and female he created them.”***

From the beginning:

* **Men and women were created in the image of God.**
* **They were both given purpose and dominion over the earth.**
* **They were equal in value but created with different roles.**

This equality and distinction are foundational. When we blur the lines of gender and roles, we undermine God’s design. Our culture says these differences are oppressive or outdated—but God says they are beautiful and purposeful.

This is the foundation of the family...Man & Woman...Period. Today the world is saying that a family is whatever you want it to be... Again, remember the problem of a faulty foundation...like the Leaning Tower of Pisa...It wasn’t the design that was flawed, it was the foundation that was flawed.

Families today are like that tower—visibly leaning, unstable—because the foundation has shifted and is flawed. If we don’t rebuild on God’s truth, we’ll continue to see marriages crumble, children rebel, and homes fall apart.

I'm about to discuss the Bible, and I believe it will make sense if you hear me out. Please note, this topic may be viewed as counter-cultural or sexist, but it is God's Word.

God’s Design for Roles in the Family

The Bible states that men and women have equal value and should rule together, but it also indicates different roles for them. Adam is described as having a responsibility for his wife and family. Genesis 1 provides a summary of the creation of Adam and Eve. Genesis 2 offers more details and the sequence of events, noting that Adam was created first.

* Genesis 2:7. “*Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.”*

God didn’t create the woman here. Adam is created first and is given the command to work and keep the Garden.

* 15. “*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’”*

God didn’t tell Eve that. God says, “This is to you, Adam, because you have ultimate responsibility for your wife,” all the way through this passage.

* While the Bible doesn't explicitly state Adam telling this to Eve, Eve clearly understood the command. When she spoke with the serpent, she mentioned God's command about not eating from or touching the tree.

Then God creates the animals, and what does God do? He brings to Adam the birds of the heaven and animals of the field, and whatever the man called them that was its name. That indicates his authority. In the Old Testament the ability to name something or someone showed your authority. So, Adam here has authority over all of the beasts. He calls them and names them.

Then of course, as you know the rest of the story, Adam falls asleep. God takes a rib, and He creates the woman, and you’ll notice that He looks to the man now and He says, “What are you going to call her? You also have authority here,” and it is Adam who says (in verse 23), “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman because she was taken out of Man.”

So, God says, “Okay, that’s what you call her. That’s what she shall be.” **Adam has ultimate responsibility.**

According to the Bible, men and women are seen as equal in value. The role of a woman is important, as she is meant to be a suitable partner for her husband. In terms of authority, she works with him, while he holds ultimate responsibility before God. This perspective is based on biblical teachings.

**Husbands – All responsibity for the family is given to you by God**

**Wives – Your ultimate responsibility is to God and then to the husband. You are to be a suitable helpmeet for your husband.**

Why is it that there is such a massive attack against this in our culture? Well, one of the reasons is because people confuse “ability with roles”.

* Years ago, well known Prime Minister of Britan, Margaret Thatcher, also known as the “iron lady” ruled Britain, in a way which no one could question her leadership ability? But when she went home, she had a responsibility to compliment her husband and to encourage him. She had to be a helpmeet for him in the home because someday when they stand before God, she would be accountable for her position as a wife, not just Prime Minister. And though she was known as world leader, her husband was the one who is going to be accountable for the way in which he led his wife spiritually, and the way in which he brought up his children. The ultimate responsibility was on his head and not hers.

Another reason for the confusion and flawed foundation in this type of order is the misunderstanding of the word submission. The word “submit” often generates strong reactions in today’s culture, so it is important to clarify its meaning:

* **Biblical submission is not about being a doormat. It is mutual Love & Respect for one another.**
  + **Ephesians 5:21 “*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ”***

Some interpret the word "submit" as implying being subservient. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that a man can demand submission from his wife. The imagery is not that of a servant and a master. You see the very reason that God, when He created the woman, created her out of the side of the man and not out of his feet was so that people would understand she’s not to be under the man’s feet to trample on, but she is created out of his side so that she can walk with him through life side by side.

Now there’s something else I have to say about this submission since it is such a controversial word. It is a discerning submission.

* A wife does not have to submit even if her husband asks her to do something immoral or illegal. Why? Because the Christian wife should realize that she has an obligation to Christ 1st, which is even greater than the obligation to her husband.
* There are wives today around the world who are Christians whose husbands are totally opposed to their faith. The wife shouldn’t give up her relationship with Jesus, but she has to learn under the good hand of God and by grace how to still exercise her life functions of support and being a helpmeet, even though she retains her faith.

Another reason the foundation has been flawed is because husbands, as part of our responsibilities, are not loving and honoring their wives as the Words commands...the Bible does have some very clear instructions on this to us. It’s actually a full-time job.

* Eph 5:25 - “Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the Church.” Honor your wives that your prayers be not hindered.”

This is a huge part of the responsibility of the man. As the one God has entrusted to care for my wife, I am commanded to love her as Christ loved the church and honor her, or my own prayers will not be answered until I do this.

Another flawed foundation point is that as the husband or the wife, or even the children, that MY NEEDS ARE MOST IMPORTANT and need to be met ALWAYS!

* God has blessed me tremendously with my wife. While I have ultimate responsibility for her and my family before God, I am responsible for caring for her needs over my own. In the 31 years that we have been married we have spent a lot of time and energy meeting each other’s needs as unselfishly as possible because of our love for one another.
* There are couples today who are not meeting each other's needs and are not being attentive. One partner may say, "My spouse doesn't care. Though we live under the same roof, it's like we're roommates and not involved in anything together." As partners together before God, it is important to overcome selfishness and address each other's needs promptly.

One other flaw to the foundation is the responsibilities in the home. Now the division of responsibility in the Bible between husbands and wives, fathers, and mothers, is not entirely clear, and that’s for a purpose because every family is different.

* For example, does she always do the cooking? I’ll just throw this out here at no extra cost, but when Abraham and Sarah had visitors, Abraham was out there helping Sarah prepare the meal. And by the way, Sarah called Abraham lord.
* Of course, there has to be a division of labor but rather than thinking about this is yours or this is mine, why not do everything that you possibly can together?

There is also a growing discourse surrounding the concepts of femininity and masculinity, with some individuals asserting that there are no fundamental differences between men and women. However, men and women were created differently by God

* Biological
  + Females typically have XX chromosomes, while males typically have XY chromosomes. These biological differences, lead to significant differences in physical traits like muscle mass, height, and bone density.
* Emotional
  + Studies have identified some psychological differences between men and women. Ex. Women tend to express a wider range of emotions, including both positive and negative emotions, more outwardly than men. Men, on the other hand, often express emotions more internally or through actions rather than verbally.

Unfortunately, things are declining even more, as the families are now under attack from the Trans agenda. Here is the day where women are becoming like men and men wanting to be women. Talk about completely turning the foundation of Gods standard of creation and the foundation family on its head! Even though this has been around for centuries, it’s only been a few years now that it’s picked up steam and the enemy has turned this into a tornado that is destroying the foundation of the family today.

I’ve said this numerous times, and I stand by it today. You were created the way the God of the Universe created you to be, for a purpose. Let me say this with boldness and authority in God this morning...there is nothing wrong with men being allowed to be men, and women being allowed to be women, but there is EVERYTHING wrong with any thinking that they have to be like the other. It’s a lie from the pit of Hell itself and completely contradicts the Word of God.

And for those who would say that we should be ok with the redefinition of the family where two men, two women, or 2 people playing the opposite roles they were created as can be married because they are in love and can have a “normal” family, where there is no procreation, I warn with a loving heart, God is not pleased with this “flawed” foundation the family is being built on. ***Truth is, when we abandon these truths, we don’t just lose tradition—we lose our stability, our identity, and our future.***

As we wrap up this morning, we see where everything gets messed up. In chapter 3 sin messes this up whole thing up really bad. Adam and Eve sin.

Now we talked about how you should always be in communication, always making decisions together, but husbands, if your wife gives you some bad advice and tells you to sin against God, just as we mentioned earlier about her needing to be committed to Christ 1st, you too have that same responsibility to say no.

* Adam had the responsibility and God went to Adam, “Have you eaten of the tree?” And what does he say? “Oh God, I am guilty. I know I had responsibility for my wife, but I am guilty.” Ha! No, not a chance! He blames the woman! It all began here, folks.
* God comes to the woman and says, “Why did you eat?” She said, “Oh, the serpent enticed me, and I ate.” It’s there in the text. So, the man blamed the woman. The woman blamed the serpent, and the serpent didn’t have a leg to stand on.

And here we see histories 1st conflict built right into marriage. Let’s be honest: marriage is hard. Family is hard. When two selfish people live together and add children into the mix, conflict is inevitable. But when God is at the center, love, understanding, and unity is possible.

Closing:

**This picture of the Umbrella is the “Biblical Order of the Family.” Notice Christ has to at the top, then it trickles down, and each family member has a part to play in building this foundation.** In this day and time, more than ever, we need to learn to allow God to be in the center of our families so we can fight and overcome the sins that try to so easily besets us. We need to build character, respect, and love into our families as we fight off division, lies, and worldly influences.

We’ve covered a lot of info today, but all of which is foundational for us to take back the family!!

* We must recommit to His Foundation & Design.
* We must pray for change—starting in our own hearts.
* We must love our spouses and children intentionally.
* We must stand firm against cultural lies and protect our children from them.

Establishing and reinforcing our family’s foundation on principles of integrity will cultivate a family characterized by strength, respect, and love. This process will be challenging and may encounter resistance. Consistency and commitment are essential, but with steadfast dedication, the family can achieve healing, develop strong bonds, and serve as an example of resilience and mutual support.

Assignment Reminder:

Read and pray through 1 Corinthians 13 every day this week.

Read it aloud with your spouse and children.

Let God’s definition of love shape the way you live.

**Let’s fight for our families—not with anger or fear, but with bold faith, solid truth, and unconditional love. God is able to rebuild what the enemy has tried to destroy.**