

The Family

"Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ **Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.** ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged."
Colossians 3:18-21

"God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race. The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation. Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents."
Baptist Faith and Message (2000) Article XVIII. The Family

"Recognizing that one of the greatest battlefields and proving grounds of our faith in Christ is right within the home, we are committed to strengthening the spiritual lives of families as they seek to become beacons of light for Christ within our community."
East Cooper Baptist Church, Core Values, Importance of Family

"WE AFFIRM that divinely ordained differences between male and female reflect God's original creation design and are meant for human good and human flourishing. WE DENY that such differences are a result of the Fall or are a tragedy to be overcome."
Nashville Statement, Article 4

"At the heart of mature masculinity is a sense of benevolent responsibility to lead, provide for, and protect women in ways appropriate to a man's differing relationships."
Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood, John Piper, Chapter 1

"If headship means 'power' in any sense, then it is power to care, not to crush; power to serve, not to dominate; power to facilitate self-fulfillment, not to frustrate or destroy it. And in all this the standard of the husband's love is to be the cross of Christ, on which he surrendered himself even to death in his selfless love for his bride"
Men and Women in Ministry: The Meaning of Headship, Sam Storms, pg. 232

1. Male headship is not self-exaltation but servanthood.

"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church."
Ephesians 5:25-29

2. The gospel of grace reverses (substantially) the curse of the fall from Genesis 3:16-17.

3. Male leadership is not the power of a superior over an inferior and does not equate to autocratic decision making.

Headship involves:

1. Responsibility to protect, encourage/admire, and tenderly pursue your beloved. (Be a "Boaz type of man": Ruth 2:11-22, 3:10, 4:9)
2. Authority to serve.
3. Leading by example.
4. Honoring those you lead (with knowledge-1 Peter 3:7).

<https://cbmw.org/about/statement-on-abuse/>