

101.1 THE CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLD: Psalm 101:1-2

INTRODUCTION. Beloved brothers and sisters, visitors and friends, boys and girls: Psalm 101 used to be called *The Householder's Psalm*. You can see why when you look at verse 2: **Psalm 101:2c** "I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;"

INTRODUCTION/CON(TEXT).

PLUMER: "Some old writers call this *The Householder's Psalm*."

PLUMER: "In the seventeenth century and perhaps earlier, it was customary among pious people to have a sermon preached at the setting up of each new family, or at the occupation of a new [home]. Old books give us accounts of these discourses. Some of them are expositions of this Psalm. Nor is this perverting Scripture. A good king in his dominions ought to be like a good father and head of a family in his house. We have here the principles on which David would rule the nation." — **Plumer, William Swan. Studies in the Book of Psalms (p. 1626). Counted Faithful. Kindle Edition.**

A Psalm of David.

QUESTION. Why does David, in his resolutions focus so keenly on His conduct within his own household?

ANSWER 1. Because David knows how you behave in your household reveals who you really are. It is easy to put on a show when out and about or at work, but those who live with you know who you really are.

ANSWER 2. Because David knows the health of the households determine the health of the Church and the Nation.

THIS IS WHY C.R. WILEY HAS A BOOK HE TITLED "THE HOUSEHOLD AND THE WAR FOR THE COSMOS."

THIS IS WHY THE ENEMIES OF CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH, AND PEOPLE WHO OPPOSE MANKIND IN GENERAL, HAVE SOUGHT OUT TO DESTROY THE NUCLEAR FAMILY—AKA THE CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLD.

THEY MUST THINK SOMETHING LIKE THIS:

If we can get women to buy into the Feminist movement, then women will not submit to or be a helpmate to their husbands, and therefore destroy a crucial part the Christian household.

If we can get men to buy into the Feminist movement, then men will not provide for, protect, or lead their wives and their children, and therefore destroy a crucial part the Christian household.

If we can get men and women addicted to adult entertainment [porn], then we can destroy the way men and women view (and engage in) intimacy and distort this God-given gift, and therefore destroy a crucial part the Christian household.

If we can get everyone enslaved to debt then everyone will feel pressured to have dual incomes, and we can get daycare and government schools or just other people to raise their children rather than their parents, and therefore destroy a crucial part the Christian household.

OR If we can get women to buy into the Selfcare/Selflove movement, then we can get daycare and the government or just other people in general to raise their children rather than their parents, and therefore destroy a crucial part of the Christian household.

OR If we can get the men and women to buy into the Homeschool movement but their heart and energy is not in it, then we can make sure the children are not well educated while the parents think they are doing a good job, and therefore destroy a crucial part of the Christian household.

If we can get the civil government to do what the church should do (and do it terribly)—namely, charity—we can create a welfare state which incentivizes women to have children but not get married, and therefore destroy a crucial part the Christian household.

David says, "I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;" The enemies of Christ and His church say, **"We cannot let that happen!"**

ADDITIONALLY, if we can get a pragmatically driven church movement, we can get the institutional church to do the spiritual education of our children rather than their parents in the home, and therefore destroy a crucial part of the Christian household.

Why does David, in his resolutions focus so keenly on His conduct within his own household? Because David knows the health of the households determine the health of the Church and the Nation.

DOCTRINE. Faithful Christian households are crucial for the health of the

church and the nation.

OUTLINE.

TODAY:

FOUR FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS TO BEST HELP UNDERSTAND THIS PSALM (Psalm 101:1-2).

NEXT SUNDAY, LORD WILLING:

NINE RESOLUTIONS FOR THE CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLD (Psalm 101:3-8).

I. FOUR FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS TO BEST HELP UNDERSTAND THIS PSALM (Psalm 101:1-2).

Notice the **PARAMETERS** of this Psalm in verse 1:

I) This is a song dealing with both love and justice (Psalm 101:1).

Psalm 101:1 "I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will make music."

- **PLUMER.** "This first clause of the Psalm [expresses] David's *intended kindness* to the upright, and his *just severity* to the wicked, both of which he would manifest in the administration of his kingdom." — **Plumer, William Swan. Studies in the Book of Psalms (p. 1626). Counted Faithful. Kindle Edition.**
- **CALVIN:** "To sing of mercy and of judgment is equivalent to declaring in solemn terms, that he would be a just and an upright king." — **Plumer, William Swan. Studies in the Book of Psalms (p. 1626). Counted Faithful. Kindle Edition.**
- **POOLE:** "Possibly ... the sense may be this, I will praise thee, O Lord, as for all thy excellencies, so particularly for those two royal perfections of mercy and justice, or judgment, which thou hast so eminently discovered in the government of the world, and of thy people Israel; and I will make it my care and business to imitate and follow thee, as in other things, so especially in those virtues which are so necessary for the discharge of my trust and the good government of thy and my people." — **Plumer, William Swan. Studies in the Book of Psalms (p. 1626). Counted Faithful. Kindle Edition.**

NOTE, to be a faithful Christian household, there must be charity and judgment; kindness and severity; steadfast love and justice.

Notice the **THEME** of this Psalm at the beginning of verse 2:

II) This is a song dealing with how to walk in a manner pleasing to the Lord and presents holy resolutions (Psalm 101:2a).

Psalm 101:2a "I will ponder the way that is blameless."

- *KJV*. "I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way."
- **EDWARDS**: "I will give instruction upon the right conduct of life;"
PLUMER: "No other mode of explaining the clause seems to have so much to support it." — **Plumer, William Swan. Studies in the Book of Psalms (p. 1626). Counted Faithful. Kindle Edition.**

Notice the **DEPENDANCE** of this Psalm in the next part of verse 2:

III) This is a song dependent on the Lord's presence and power (Psalm 101:2b).

Psalm 101:2b "Oh when will you come to me?"

- **CLARKE**: "I can neither walk in this way, nor grow wise unto salvation unless thou come unto me by thy grace and Spirit; for without thee I can do nothing." — **Plumer, William Swan. Studies in the Book of Psalms (p. 1626). Counted Faithful. Kindle Edition.**

Notice the **SPECIFIC FOCUS** of this Psalm in the last part of verse 2:

IV) This is a song specifically-focussed on the Christian household (Psalm 101:2c).

Psalm 101:2c "I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;"

- **PLUMER**: "The walk of a man is the tenor of his life. A perfect heart is an upright, undefiled, sincere, whole heart. Compare Joshua 24:14; Psalm 119:1; Ezekiel 15:5. Within my house, in my own family. David was a public person, and besides his private family had his ministers and attendants, and in his own house arranged and managed public affairs." — **Plumer, William Swan. Studies in the Book of Psalms (p. 1626). Counted Faithful. Kindle Edition.**

Let me give you five truths concerning how crucial the Christian household is and use them for personal application:

(i) The household is crucial for cultivating holiness that spills over into the church and the nation.

- **RICHARD BAXTER:** "You are not likely to see any general reformation, till you procure family reformation. Some little religion there may be, here and there; but while it is confined to single persons, and is not promoted in families, it will not prosper, nor promise much future increase."

- **HERE ARE SOME UNAVOIDABLE TRUTHS TO EMBRACE:**

As the pastors go, so go the men (1 Peter 5:1-5).

As the men go, so go the women (Ephesians 5:22-31; Genesis 3:1-7).

As the men and women go, so go the children (Ephesians 6:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Proverbs 22:6).

As the men, women, and children go, so goes the home (Psalm 101:2).

As the home goes, so goes the church (1 Peter 2:5).

As the church goes, so goes society (Isaiah 1:21-23).

THE HOUSEHOLD IS AT THE CENTER OF ALL OF THIS!

If you weaken any of these links, the whole chain is weaker.

(Go back through and examine each person)

What our world desperately needs right now is

*godly pastors who zealously shepherd,
strong and able men who lovingly lead,
gentle and quiet women who submissively help,
blessed children who humbly obey,
households who walk with integrity,
churches who boldly proclaim, and
civil governments who stay in their lane.*

(ii) The household is crucial for being a safe place to find

sustenance in hunger,
fellowship in loneliness,
comfort in chaos,
correction in sin,
gospel in repentance,
refuge in suffering,
hope in sadness,
and
healing in sickness.

(Go back through and EXHORT each household)

(iii) The household is crucial for establishing the worship of our

triune God—Father, Son, and Spirit.

Joshua 24:15 "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Psalms 118:15 "Glad songs of salvation are in the [dwellings] of the righteous."

- **1689 PREFACE:** "There is one spring and cause of the decay of [Christianity] in our day. . .and that is the neglect of the worship of God in families."

ENCOURAGEMENT TO FAMILY WORSHIP

(iv) The household is crucial for salvation and sanctification.

Husbands and fathers, as those who desire to be, hear me clearly:

You have to instruct your wife and your children in both the Law of God and the Gospel of God, for both salvation and sanctification.

(I.) You have to instruct your family in the Law of God for salvation (Romans 7:7).

- **Romans 7:7** "If it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin."
 - **BOYS AND GIRLS**, the Law like a mirror reveals our sin.

(II.) You have to instruct your family in the Gospel of God for salvation (1 Peter 1:23-25; Acts 2:38-39; John 6:40).

- **1 Peter 1:23-25** "23 You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 24 for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, 25 but the word of the Lord remains forever." And this word is the good news that was preached to you."
 - **Acts 2:38-39** "38 Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."
 - **John 6:40** "For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."
 - **BOYS AND GIRLS**, the Gospel like soap washes our sins away.

(III.) You have to instruct your family in the Law of God for holiness (Romans 7:12).

- **Romans 7:12** "The law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good."
 - **BOYS AND GIRLS**, the Law is like a map showing us where to drive.

(IV.) You have to instruct your children in the Gospel of God for sanctification
(Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 3:18).

- **Galatians 2:20** "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."
 - **2 Corinthians 3:18** "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."
- **BOYS AND GIRLS**, the Gospel is like fuel in your vehicle giving you the energy to get where the map shows you should go.

(EXHORT THE MEN TO LEAD AND THE WIVES TO BOTH FOLLOW AND HELP)

(v) The household is crucial for training up future generations—our boys to be godly masculine men and our girls to be godly feminine women who server the Lord when our heads are under the clods.

- **CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON:** "If we want to bring up a godly family, who shall be a seed to serve God when are heads are under the clods of the valley, let us seek to train them up in the fear of God by meeting together as a family for worship."

Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ephesians 6:1-4 "1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 "4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

HELPS

- **101:1**, Psalm - Ralph Erskine - THE MILITANT'S SONG; OR, THE BELIEVER'S EXERCISE WHILE HERE BELOW - The Works of Ralph Erskine (6 vols.) Free Presbyterian Publications and Tentmaker Publications, 1991, 2004. Originally published as The Sermons and Other Practical Works of the Late Reverend Ralph Erskine, A.M., Dunfermline. Consisting of Above One Hundred and Fifty Sermons, Besides Poetical Pieces. Also, Fourteen Sermons on Prayer. To which is Prefixed, and Account of the Author's Life and Writings (7 vols.). William Tegg, London, 1865. vol. 1 pg. 470
 - **101:6, Psalm** - Thomas Watson - Sanctification - A Body of Divinity, Banner of Truth (HB) pg. 240
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PURITAN QUOTES ON THE CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLD

- "A godly man will endeavour to get grace into his whole house, and to work out impiety from his family: He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house, Psal. 101.7. A godly man's house is a little Church, not a little hell." — **Burgess, Anthony. *Spiritual Refining: Or a Treatise of Grace and Assurance* (p. 417). London: Printed by A. Miller for Thomas Underhill, 1652.**
- "The master of a family is to see to it, that God be worshipped in his house, that prayers be made, the Scriptures read, and his children and servants catechized and instructed in the principles of religion." — **Gouge, William. *Of Domestical Duties* (p. 18). London: Printed by John Haviland for William Bladen, 1622.**
- "A family is a little church, and a little commonwealth, at least a lively representation thereof, whereby trial may be made of such as are fit for any place of authority, or of subjection in church or commonwealth." — **Gouge, William. *Of Domestical Duties* (p. 5). London: Printed by John Haviland for William Bladen, 1622.**
- "The worship of God is to be set up in families, as well as in churches: yea, the very setting up of a family, is for this end, that it may be a nursery to the church, and a constant place for God's worship." —

Perkins, William. *A Golden Chain, or the Description of Theology* (p. 750). Cambridge: Printed by John Legate, 1600.

- "It is not enough for a master of a family to be godly himself, but he must see that his whole house be so too, as much as in him lies: as David, Psal. 101.2, I will walk within my house with a perfect heart." — **Greenhill, William. *An Exposition of the Prophet Ezekiel* (p. 645). London: Printed by M. Simmons for Henry Overton, 1645.**
- "In a family, the governors thereof are to take care that no corrupt communication proceed out of the mouth of any in the family, nor any lying, nor deceit, as David resolved, Psal. 101.7." — **Gouge, William. *Of Domestic Duties* (p. 347). London: Printed by John Haviland for William Bladen, 1622.**
- "Daily prayer in a family, is as daily bread; it is the daily sacrifice that must not be omitted: and therefore David resolveth, Psal. 101.2, to walk in his house with a perfect heart, and to set no wicked thing before his eyes." — **Baxter, Richard. *The Poor Man's Family Book* (p. 289). London: Printed by R. White for Nevill Simmons, 1674.**
- "A Christian's family ought to be a little church, consecrated to God, wherein the word of God is read, prayers are made, and other holy duties performed daily." — **Flavel, John. *The Works of John Flavel* (vol. 4, p. 238). London: Printed for W. Baynes and Son, 1820.**
- "He that is head of a family must look to it, that his house be a Bethel, a house of God, and not a Bethaven, a house of vanity; and this he must do by setting up the worship of God, as David, Psal. 101." — **Caryl, Joseph. *An Exposition with Practical Observations upon the Book of Job* (vol. 1, p. 56). London: Printed by G. Miller for Henry Overton, 1644.**
- "The godly governor of a family will not suffer sin to lie upon any of his household, but will reprove it, and if it be obstinate, will put away the worker of iniquity, as David, Psal. 101.7." — **Manton, Thomas. *A Practical Commentary, or an Exposition with Notes on the Epistle of James* (p. 392). London: Printed by J. Macock for Luke Fawne, 1651.**

STUDY AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Introduction: Psalm 101 as "The Householder's Psalm"

- 1. ****Reflection****: Why does David emphasize walking "with integrity of

heart within my house" (Psalm 101:2c)? How does this focus suggest that private household behavior reveals true character more than public actions?

- 2. ****Discussion****: The sermon notes state that the health of households determines the health of the church and nation. Can you share examples from your community or personal experience where the strength or weakness of households has impacted the church or society?
- 3. ****Application****: The sermon identifies cultural pressures (e.g., feminism, pornography, debt, welfare state, self-care movement) as threats to the Christian household. Which of these pressures do you find most prevalent in your context, and what specific steps can your household take to counteract them?
- 4. ****Group Question****: Historically, Psalm 101 was used in sermons for new families or homes. How might this tradition inspire modern Christians to prioritize biblical principles when starting or maintaining a household? What practices could you adopt to mark such milestones?

Doctrine: Faithful Christian Households Are Crucial for the Health of the Church and the Nation

- 5. ****Reflection****: Why is the household considered foundational to the health of both the church and society? How does this perspective challenge or affirm your current priorities as a family member or leader?
- 6. ****Discussion****: The sermon references C.R. Wiley's book **The Household and the War for the Cosmos**. What does the phrase "war for the cosmos" imply about the spiritual significance of maintaining a faithful Christian household? How does this frame the challenges families face today?
- 7. ****Application****: Identify one actionable step your household could take to strengthen its role as a foundation for the church and nation. How might this step influence your broader community or church?

Four Foundational Truths (Psalm 101:1-2)

****I. A Song of Love and Justice (Psalm 101:1)****

- 8. ****Reflection****: Psalm 101:1 emphasizes "steadfast love and justice." Why is it essential for a Christian household to balance love (kindness) and justice (severity)? What are the risks if one is prioritized over the other?
- 9. ****Discussion****: Plumer, Calvin, and Poole highlight David's commitment to love and justice as a reflection of God's character in his leadership. How can household leaders (e.g., parents, spouses) model God's love and justice in their daily interactions? Share examples of this

balance in action.

- 10. ****Application****: Consider a recent family situation (e.g., discipline, conflict, or decision-making). How could you apply both love and justice to address it? What specific actions would demonstrate this balance?

****II. A Song of Holy Resolutions (Psalm 101:2a)****

- 11. ****Reflection****: David resolves to "ponder the way that is blameless" (Psalm 101:2a). What does it mean to intentionally ponder a blameless life, and why is this mindset critical for leading a Christian household?
- 12. ****Discussion****: The KJV renders Psalm 101:2a as "I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way." How does wise behavior in the home contribute to its spiritual and moral integrity? Share examples of wise or unwise household decisions and their outcomes.
- 13. ****Application****: What is one specific "holy resolution" you could make to align your household more closely with God's standards? How will you ensure accountability for keeping this resolution (e.g., prayer, accountability partner)?

****III. A Song Dependent on the Lord's Presence and Power (Psalm 101:2b)****

- 14. ****Reflection****: David asks, "Oh when will you come to me?" (Psalm 101:2b), expressing dependence on God's presence. Why is reliance on God's grace and Spirit essential for maintaining a faithful household, especially under cultural pressures?
- 15. ****Discussion****: Clarke notes that without God's presence, "I can do nothing." What practical practices (e.g., family prayer, Scripture reading, worship) can households adopt to invite God's presence? Share examples of how these practices have strengthened families you know.
- 16. ****Application****: Choose one way your household can more intentionally seek God's presence (e.g., daily devotions, prayer before meals, Sabbath observance). How might this practice deepen your family's faith and resilience?

****IV. A Song Focused on the Christian Household (Psalm 101:2c)****

- 17. ****Reflection****: Why does David specifically focus on integrity "within my house"? How does this challenge cultural tendencies to prioritize public image over private character in today's world?
- 18. ****Discussion****: Plumer notes that David's household included both his private family and public responsibilities. How can modern Christians apply integrity in both their private family life and public roles (e.g., work, church leadership)? Share examples of consistency or inconsistency you've observed.

- 19. ****Application****: Reflect on your household's current practices. What is one area where you could grow in walking with "integrity of heart"? What practical step can you take this week to address this area?

Five Truths Concerning the Importance of the Christian Household

****i. Crucial for Cultivating Holiness****

- 20. ****Reflection****: Richard Baxter states that general reformation begins with family reformation. Why is the household the starting point for spiritual renewal in the church and society? How does this perspective shape your view of your role in your family?
- 21. ****Discussion****: The sermon outlines a chain: pastors → men → women → children → home → church → society. Which link in this chain do you think is currently the weakest in your community, and why? How can households strengthen this link through intentional actions?
- 22. ****Application****: Choose one role in your household (e.g., parent, spouse, child) and identify a specific way you can contribute to its holiness (e.g., leading devotions, modeling humility). How might this impact your church or community?

****ii. Crucial for Being a Safe Place****

- 23. ****Reflection****: The sermon lists ways the household provides sustenance, fellowship, comfort, correction, gospel, refuge, hope, and healing. Which of these roles resonates most with you, and why? How has your household (or one you know) fulfilled this role?
- 24. ****Discussion****: How can a household balance being a place of correction (addressing sin) and a place of gospel (offering grace)? Share examples of how this balance has been achieved or struggled with in family settings.
- 25. ****Application****: Identify one way your household can better serve as a "safe place" for its members (e.g., creating space for open communication, offering comfort during hardship). What steps will you take to implement this?

****iii. Crucial for Establishing the Worship of God****

- 26. ****Reflection****: Joshua 24:15 declares, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Why is family worship central to a Christian household's identity and mission? How does this align with the 1689 Preface's warning about the neglect of family worship?
- 27. ****Discussion****: What are some practical ways households can incorporate worship of the Triune God (Father, Son, Spirit) into daily life? Share examples of family worship practices that have been meaningful in

your experience or others'.

- 28. ****Application****: If your household does not currently practice family worship, what is one simple step you could take to start (e.g., reading a Psalm together, singing a hymn)? If you already do, how can you deepen this practice?

****iv. Crucial for Salvation and Sanctification****

- 29. ****Reflection****: The sermon emphasizes that fathers must instruct their families in both the Law and the Gospel for salvation and sanctification. Why are both necessary, and how do the analogies (Law as mirror/map, Gospel as soap/fuel) help clarify their roles?
- 30. ****Discussion****: How can parents (or future parents) balance teaching the Law (revealing sin, guiding holiness) and the Gospel (offering grace, fueling sanctification) in their children's spiritual education? Share practical ideas or challenges you've faced.
- 31. ****Application****: Choose one aspect of spiritual instruction (e.g., teaching the Law for holiness, sharing the Gospel for salvation). How can you incorporate this into your household this week? For example, could you discuss a Bible verse at dinner or pray with your children about repentance?

****v. Crucial for Training Future Generations****

- 32. ****Reflection****: Spurgeon emphasizes training children to serve God "when our heads are under the clods." Why is it vital for households to focus on raising godly men and women for future generations? How does this connect to Proverbs 22:6?
- 33. ****Discussion****: Deuteronomy 6:4-9 calls for diligent teaching of God's commands in everyday life. What are some creative ways households can integrate biblical instruction into daily routines (e.g., during meals, car rides, bedtime)? Share examples that have worked for you or others.
- 34. ****Application****: Identify one way your household can better train children (or future children) to be godly men or women (e.g., modeling biblical masculinity/femininity, teaching a specific virtue). What specific action will you take to begin or strengthen this training?

Beloved brothers and sisters, visitors and friends, boys and girls: Psalm 101 is called or used to be frequently called The Householder's Psalm. The Householders Psalm. So this is something that in years past, when a new family would be established either at a wedding or even when a family would move from one home to another they would sometimes have a Christian a pastor come and preach this psalm at the foundation of a new household or the creation of a new family And the reason is obvious once you look at it look at the end of verse two in Psalm 101 and see that David writes or sings rather I will walk with integrity of heart within my house I will walk with integrity of heart within my house Now this this psalm is likely written at the beginning of David's reign And these are principles by which he will rule his household and rule the nation of Israel while he is king And there's overlap with that because a godly king protects provides for leads the kingdom that he's in charge of in much the same way that a husband protects provides for leads his family that he's in charge of There's a lot of overlap between a king and a husband father They don't have the same instruments given to them A king has a sword to execute Well the father has a rod to discipline It's different applications but there's overlap with all of this William S. Plumer who has written the best commentary I think ever on the book of Psalms he says "In the 17th century and perhaps earlier it was customary among holy people to have a sermon preached at the setting up of a new family or at the occupation of a new home Old books give accounts of these discourses Some of them are expositions of this psalm Psalm 101 He says "Nor is this perverting scripture because a good king in his dominions ought to be like a good father and head of a family in his house." We have here he says the principles on which David would rule the nation The principles on which David would rule the nation But notice within those principles and within his holy resolutions this is a a psalm of just he's resolving this is what I'm going to do and this is what I'm going to do It doesn't mean he thinks I'll do it perfectly and I'll never stumble or I will never fail But he's saying this is what we're aiming for This is what I'm aiming for Holy resolutions Notice within these resolutions he has a keen focus on his conduct within his own house. His conduct within his own house Imagine you were to examine somebody that you're going to vote for in a presidential election you know city council state senate US Congress whatever it may be What if your first question is how does this man conduct himself within his own household Let me see his wife Does his wife a godly woman who loves the Lord and bears the marks of being cared for provided for protected and led Let me see his children How godly are his children Does he care for his children Does he lead them Does he walk with integrity within his house Let me just talk to his ask his wife a couple questions Ask his children a couple questions and see what do his children think about him What does his wife think about him I think if you were to present that to David David would say that's exactly what you should do That's exactly what you should do And David is resolving to walk with integrity of heart within his house So what I want to do is look at this psalm and see what we can learn from it And I think we need to do that in two weeks So Lord willing next Sunday we'll get to uh verses 3 through 8 where he really gets into the resolutions

and we see what holy resolutions we should glean from Psalm 101 But today I think we just need to focus on the fact that the Christian household is crucial not only for your individual lives but the Christian household is crucial for a healthy church and a healthy nation If you don't have healthy households you won't have healthy churches If you don't have healthy households you won't have healthy churches and therefore you won't have healthy commonwealths You won't have healthy states you won't have healthy nations So let me ask and answer this question first and then I think it will become obvious why we need to spend time pondering the way that is blameless seeking the Lord's strength and asking or resolving that I will walk with integrity in my house Why does David in these resolutions focus so keenly on his conduct within his own household I've alluded to both of the answers already but let me make them real clear Why does David in his resolutions focus so keenly on his personal conduct within his own household Well answer one because David knows how you behave in your household reveals who you really are Men how you behave within your household reveals who you really are Women how you behave within your own household reveals who you really are Children the same goes for you How you behave at home reveals who you really are I let me give you a quick example Some of you children some of you when you are you know with the church on Sundays or at co-op on Thursdays and I see you I see amazing things Some of you I see amazing things I'm like these children seem to be they pay attention well They're sharp They're memorizing their catechism and scripture They know these stuff And then I'll I'll go to a parent of some child like that be like "I'm very impressed by your son or daughter." And sometimes the response is "Oh you wouldn't be if you saw them at home." Parents you know what that's like too Some of you maybe it's the same for adults It's like man she seems like a godly woman And if you were to really dig deep the husband might go "Uhhuh she's different at home." Or the same uh a man presents himself really well It's easy to present yourself out when you're out and about in your vocation even at church as being a godly man a godly woman or a you know obedient child But the real test is what are you like at home That reveals who you really are You can fake it in public because you don't have to be in public a whole lot But it's at home that people see you all day or it's at home where people see you when you're tired It's at home when people see you when your guard is down David knows this and is resolving I will walk with integrity of heart within my household Not just within the nation but it starts at home And so even this this overlaps into the qualifications of pastors of elders of overseers in the church When Paul gives the list of qualifications you could summarize it by look in his house first Are his children obedient submissive Are they believers Are they revilers Has he pastored his own home faithfully before you can would even think about him pastoring a portion of the household of God the family of God in a local church The same thing It matters The home matters So that's the first answer David knows how you behave yourself in your household reveals who you really are And it doesn't really matter if you are evil at home Doesn't matter what you do in your vocation or public But secondly David focuses so keenly on his conduct within his own household in this householders psalm

because he knows the house the health rather of households determines the health of the church and the health of the nation The health of the household determines the health of the church and the health of the church then determines the health of the nation This is why CR WY a man who's still alive today has a wonderful little book titled The Household and the War for the Cosmos The Household and the War for the Cosmos Additionally and negatively this is why the enemies of Christ and his church and those who oppose mankind in general have sought out to destroy the nuclear family aka the Christian household It is the stated purpose of specific organizations to dismantle the nuclear family And that's just another way of saying what God reveals in scripture about a household and how they should be structured a mother a father children how they function We have to dismantle that The enemies of Christ and the opposers of mankind say they must think something like this because they instinctively know if we can destroy the Christian household Even those who might not even be Christians yet but because they have grown up in a Christianish society their household was functioning like a Christian household as far as man leading protecting providing the wife helping submitting the children obeying all of that The enemies of Christ know if they can destroy the Christian household then the church will be weak And if the church is weak then the nation will be open to all forms of wickedness They know that So they must think something like this If we can get women to buy into a feminist movement then women will not submit to or be a helpmate to their husbands and therefore destroy a crucial part of the Christian household They must think something like "If we can get men to buy into the feminist movement then men will not provide for protect or lead spiritually their wives and their children." And therefore we can destroy a crucial part of the Christian household David says "I will walk with integrity of heart within my house." How my house functions and you can see you can see in the rest of the psalm he doesn't just mean "I'm going to be a good guy at home Look at his re just look how it applies and what he's not going to allow in his house and the function of his household I will walk with integrity of heart within my house Verse three I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless I hate the work of those who fall away It shall not cling to me A perverse heart shall be far from me I will know nothing of evil Okay there's him personally Now it goes beyond just him personally And look at the next part Verse five Whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy Whoever has a hotty look that means prideful and an arrogant heart I will not endure I will look with favor on the faithful in the land that they may dwell with me He who walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me So it's not just him personally and I'm going to be a a holy man personally but it also extends to what he's going to allow to happen in his household The enemies know David says "I will walk with integrity of heart within my house." The enemies of Christ in his church say "We cannot let that happen." If we can get men and women addicted to adult entertainment adults I'm using that euphemistically then we can destroy the way men and women view and engage in intimacy and distort this God-given gift And if we can do that we can destroy a crucial part of the Christian household Adults are

you tracking with that reason I didn't use a specific word David says "I will walk with integrity of heart within my house." And the enemies of Christ and his church say "We cannot let that happen." They must think something like "If we can get everyone enslaved to debt then everyone will feel pressured to have dual incomes and we can get daycare and government schools or just other people to raise their children rather than their parents and therefore destroy a crucial part of the Christian household." Or if we can get women to buy into the self-care self-love movement then we can get daycare and the government or just other people in general to raise their children rather than their parents and we still get to destroy a crucial part of the Christian household Or if we can get men and women to buy into the homeschool movement but their heart is not really in it and their energy is not engaged in it then they can feel like they're doing something right and constantly justified in their minds while their children grow up and aren't well educated to the glory of God adults It's not enough just to send your Christian or your kids to Christian school if you're not engaged in it It's not enough to say like "Well I don't want the government schools to be raising and indoctrinating my children with secular humanism Therefore I'm going to homeschool them." Fixed Like no You your heart has to be in it and you have to actually put your energy towards it I think the enemies of Christ and his church love when Christians decide to homeschool but do a really poor job educating their kids because the whole time in their mind it's like I'm homeschooling though. David says "I will walk with integrity of heart within my house." His enemies Christ's enemies his church's enemies say "We cannot let that happen." If we can get the civil government they think to do what the church should do and do it terribly I might add namely charity Charity is the job of the church It's the job of private citizens individuals giving to the poor That's the job of individuals and the church That's not the job of the civil government But the enemies of Christ and his church think if we can get the civil government to do what individuals and Christians should be doing and what we should just let them do and the government does it terribly We can create a welfare state which incentivizes women to have children but not get married and therefore in that way we can destroy a crucial part of the Christian household. Additionally it it gets even crazier today It's like if we can convince adolescents that because they're awkward if it's a boy well if you're awkward or weird you must be a girl Or if we can convince girls who are awkward and weird that well you you know you're an adolescent you must be a boy If we can do that we can destroy the Christian household If you can't figure out if you're a man or a woman it's easy to destroy the household Additionally if we can get a pragmatically driven church movement that cares more about people attending events and like keeping people in the pews if we can get that pragmatic driven church movement then we can get the institutional church to do the spiritual education of the children rather than the parents at home So the parents I'm bringing up my children in the ways of the Lord like how I send them to all these church functions rather than teaching your children theology in the home rather than discipling your children yourself which is not the institutional church's duty it is your duty parents David says I will walk with

integrity of heart within my house and you need to see why this is important because the enemies of Christ in his church say that must not happen and they're doing everything they can to keep you and I from having a Christian household They they not only subtly do it they've said the quiet part out loud now for years They've said "Oh yeah that's what we're doing We want to destroy the nuclear family." So why does David in his resolutions focus so keenly on his conduct within his household because he knows the health of the households determines the health of the church and the nation I will walk with integrity of heart within my house So what truth should we learn from just this overall theme of Psalm 101 It's that faithful Christian households are crucial for the health of the church and the nation If you would just grab that grab that that would be sufficient Faithful Christian households are crucial for the health of the church and the nation So let me show you the four foundational truths to best understand this psalm And then Lord willing next week we'll look at the eight resolutions the four foundational truths Look look at the beginning of the psalm in verse one Notice the parameters of this psalm The parameters You might have noticed as we read through it it's like really happy things and really brutal things Like the faithful in the land they will dwell with me I love Christ's people It's like yeah And he goes and the wicked I'm going to cut their head off You go Oh it's what he he says it He gives you the parameters of the psalm in verse one I will sing of steadfast love That's has said in the Hebrew That's covenant love God's never ending love for his covenant people in Christ Jesus I will sing of steadfast love and justice It's like I'm going to sing of the love of God in Christ Jesus and the love that I have for the saints that belong to Christ and the justice that will be afflicted on the wrongdoer He gives you the parameters of the psalm right at the beginning I will sing of steadfast love and justice of kindness and severity of mercy and judgment of steadfast love and judge justice So it's a song dealing with both love and justice That we are to be kind loving towards Christ's people towards righteousness and we are to be severe and brutal towards wickedness and sin. Note to be a faithful Christian household there must be charity and judgment There must be kindness and severity There must be steadfast love and justice If all you ever do in your household when someone even does something wicked is say "Oh it's okay." But there's no form of judgment of justice of discipline of severity at all That's not a healthy household a faithful Christian household there has to be charity and judgment kindness and severity steadfast love and justice Look how David says "We love what is righteous and we're going to hate what is evil." Notice not only the parameters love and justice notice at the beginning of verse two he shows the theme of this psalm or you could say like the direction of it He's letting you know what he's doing in this psalm Notice the theme He says "I will ponder the way that is blameless." Your translation could say something like "I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way." That's a poor translation Even those who only had that translation I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way Those like William S plumber They had that translation and then looked at the Hebrew and said "No this means I will give instruction upon the right conduct of life." What the English Standard Version puts

forward is helpful I will ponder the way that is blameless What's he doing there He's saying I'm telling you what the whole psalm's about I'm going to sing about the way that is right and pure I'm going to sing about resolutions a faithful Christian household should have So he's not just saying I'm going to behave myself wisely in a perfect way but he's saying I will ponder the way that is blameless I'm about to put forward in this psalm holy resolutions that you and I should hold to to have faithful Christian households I will give instruction upon the right conduct of life plumber says "No other mode of explaining this Hebrew clause seems to have so much to support it than that." Just so happens that the translations that come out a little bit later get it right Hit the nail on the head I will ponder the way that is blameless So this is a song dealing with how to walk in a manner pleasing to the Lord I will ponder the way that is blameless That's what he's doing in the psalm He presents holy resolutions I'm resolved to do this This is what I'm aiming for So there's there's the theme How to walk in a manner pleasing to the Lord especially within your house The parameters are love and justice extremes Then notice the dependence of this psalm in the next part of verse two He just says almost out of nowhere "Oh when will you come to me Oh when will you come to me Speaking to the Lord Best way to understand what is what is he doing there He's not saying when is Jesus second coming going to happen Like well Jesus hasn't come first yet He's not saying when is the Messiah going to be born No he it's a cry for divine aid and assistance for the presence of the Lord and the power that comes from the presence of the Lord Adam Clark points out that he's saying "I can neither walk in this way nor grow wise unto salvation unless you come unto me by the grace by your grace and spirit Without you I can do nothing." This is a whole psalm about these resolutions and how to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord how to walk in your Christian household And he's just like "Lord I need you I need you to empower me to do this So it's a dependent psalm and none of these resolutions should be sought after by white knuckling it It's like I'm resolved to do this because before he even begins the resolutions it's like Lord I need your help How long until you come to me Empower me When will you come to me Empower me to walk in these ways Now notice the verse the the end of verse two that I've already drawn your attention to multiple times There's the specific focus The specific focus I will walk with integrity of heart within my house It's a song specifically focused on the Christian household Now let me give you five truths concerning how crucial the Christian household is and use them for application in our everyday lives Five truths concerning how crucial the Christian household is and use them for personal application So I've already in the introduction I've tried to labor to show you why this is important Why the enemies of Christ seek to destroy So I've put it we could say I've put it negatively already but now let's put it positively Why does David focus on the Christian household And here's five truths First the household is crucial for cultivating holiness that spills over into the church and the nation The household what happens within your house what happens with your family that lives in your dwelling place it's crucial for cultivating holiness that spills over into the church and the nation Richard Baxter pointed out you are not

likely to see any general reformation reformation in society he's talking about you are not likely to see any general reformation till you procure family reformation some little religion there may be here and there but while it is confined to single persons and not promoted in households it will not prosper nor promise much future increase The household is crucial crucial for cultivating holiness and it never stops there It spills out into the church and into the nation Here are some unavoidable truths that are self-evidently true and also backed by scripture unavoidable truths that you need to embrace As the pastors of your local church go so go the men As the pastors go so go the men Because the pastors are the ones who are teaching who are feeding who are leading and who first Peter 5 says are setting the example for the flock So you see a church filled with weak passive men who don't take up their holy and godly duties You see a church filled with weak men I am going to point right to the pastors and say "Well yeah that's probably what they're modeling for them As the pastors go so go the men As the men go so go the women." This is an unavoidable truth that you have to embrace As the men go so go the women because the husband is the head the covenant head of the wife And it's the wife's job to humbly submit to her husband And so as the men go so go the women you see an unhealthy wife mother I'm going to point to the husband and say "You may be trying really hard but this is your responsibility." Because just like Adam you're responsible for your wife to love her to nurture her to cherish her to seek her sanctification above all That's your job If there are weeds it's your job to pull them As the pastors go so go the men As the men go so go the women And as the men and women go so go the children As the men and women go so go the children You see children who are dysfunctional You see children who are disobedient who are difficult Parents it's your fault. It's your fault We just all have to accept the responsibility and not immediately jump to qualifications It's like well don't just jump to all the qualif of of course there can be exceptions to every rule I know some godly women mothers wives godly women whose husbands are wicked And so there's exceptions to every rule As the men go so the go the women You can say "Well I know a woman who has a ungodly husband." Yes there are exceptions But the general rule is all of this The general rule with your children If your children are insufferable it is your fault As the parents go so go the children As the men women and children go so goes the home The household And who makes up the church Household As the home goes so goes the church If you have a bunch of dysfunctional households ungodly households you are not going to have a godly local church. And as the church goes so goes society Society is downstream from the church. The household is at the center of all of this And those are unavoidable truths that you need to reckon with you need to embrace you need to see If you weaken any of those links the whole chain is weaker Any of those links that go you got weak pastors it's going to be really hard to have strong men You got weak men it's going to be really hard to have strong women You got weak men or weak women it's going to be really hard to have strong children You got weak households it's going to be impossible to have a strong church You got a weak church it's going to be impossible to have a

godly society because they're the beacons of light in that society whom God has saved by his grace and given his word and spirit Any of those links if they're weakened the whole chain is weaker So pastors pastors would be pastors What kind of example are you setting for the men that you shepherd That's something that Brandon and I and Nate who's on vacation today that's something that we have to frequently examine What kind of example are you setting. This is something we have to examine and repent when we realize I'm setting a bad example Up until just a few years ago I was setting a terrible example for the men in this church by the way that I was taking care of my physical body I was eating poorly I wasn't exercising at all And I was just making the excuse that most of us make I just don't have time I was treating my body like a garbage can and just kind of avoiding it because it's like I'm not that overweight And even you even many of you have said like I never thought that you were fat but now when I see a picture of you then and now it's like yeah you're kind of fat It's like I know I didn't take care of my body I didn't model for the men in our church like we need to be strong healthy providers protectors who best use this body God has given us to glorify him And so we have to examine ourselves What kind of example are are we setting for the church And I have to go I'm setting a bad example I need to repent and start laboring to set a good example Pastors what kind of example are you setting Not just with physical health but in all spheres Pastors and would be pastors are you the kind of man that you can say "Follow me as I follow Christ." Or are there aspects of your life you say "Well don't follow me in this." Men what kind of example are you setting within your home What kind of leadership are you offering in your home Women what kind of example are you setting Women what what are you doing when it comes to your husband Would someone look at you men Let's start there and say that is a provider and a protector and a leader of his family He sacrificially loves and leads his family Would they say that about you men Now women would they look at you and say that woman is a gentle and quiet spirit who submits to her husband as the church does to Christ and is his helpmate in all he does Sounds extreme right It's like no that's just First Peter 3 and Ephesians 5 Children boys and girls look up at me What are you doing when it comes to your mom and your dad Do they tell you to do something and you argue Or is your first response yes ma'am or yes sir Or is it like I know better than them Children your duties right now are to obey And you are not near as smart as you think you are Your your job is to obey to obey your parents And the Lord promises a blessing for them All of you think about your household How goes your household Is your household a beacon of light where holiness lives And that's what everyone's aiming for to live holy devoted to the Lord enjoying the Lord's blessings glorifying the Lord for what he's given and what he's done in Christ Jesus It's like we're trying to make our house something that cultivates holiness that just shoots out into the church and the nation or if what happens within your household gets imported into the church or into the nation would you be like "Uh-oh we might be worse off if that happens." What our world desperately needs right now is godly pastors who zealously shepherd strong and able men who lovingly lead gentle and

quiet women who submissively help blessed children who humbly obey households who walk with integrity churches who boldly proclaim Christ's law and gospel and civil governments who stay in their lane That's what our world needs and it begins or the center of all of that is the Christian household So the second truth about how crucial the Christian household is that I want to draw your attention to is that the Christian household is crucial for being a safe place a safe place men and women but even probably and especially you women cultivating a safe place to be A place that you can find sustenance in times of hunger fellowship in loneliness comfort in chaos a place that you can find correction when you're in sin where you can find gospel in repentance where you can find refuge in times of suffering where you can find hope in sadness and healing in sickness The household is crucial for being a safe place a refuge for individuals Your household should be like that's the place we love to be I love being at home because that's where we find sustenance and hunger That's where we find fellowship in loneliness comfort and chaos correction and sin gospel and repentance refuge and suffering hope and sadness healing in sickness So men and women husbands fathers wives mothers and future would be husbands and fathers and would be wives and mothers Make sure that you're doing what you can to see that your household is a safe place that you find and give sustenance in times of hunger A place where there is fellowship A place where there is comfort not chaos There should be comfort in the home So because there's chaos in the world there's going to be chaos in your vocational duties There's going to be chaos all over And the home should be a place that is like there's peace No matter what else is going on we have peace because of the Lord Jesus Christ Our love for him our love for one another that we are laboring to make sure things are in order and our household is a blessed place of comfort not chaos Your house needs to be a place that sin finds no quarter No quarter for sin David's saying "You slander people you're out of my house Bye I don't put up with that." I mean look back Look what he's saying Not only I won't do things he says "As a king whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy." Makes me feel a little bit better when I have to look at my sons The how I really get on to my sons is if they do anything even accidentally to hurt one of my daughters and I go up to them and say "You hurt one of my daughters I will destroy you." And then I read David say that I was like "All right I feel a little bit better." Whoever has a hotty look and an arrogant heart I will not endure So sin finds no quarter no safe place for sin There's always going to be correction in sin but there's also always got to be gospel good news of what Christ has done to save sinners Those are not opposites You correct sin and always give gospel for repentance This is sin You need to turn from it and trust in Christ Yet again trust in Christ that he lived without sin like you haven't lived like that he died in place of sinners like you deserve to die That he rose again from the dead to be your savior and king Trust in him That's the good news Christ has done this for sinners So trust in him It should be a place your household should be a place where there it's a refuge in times of suffering When you're suffering I want to be at home It should be a place where you can have hope injected into you in

times of sadness Hope in times of sadness And it should be a place when you're sick that's where I want to be because that's where I can heal That's where I can get better The household is crucial for being a safe place Thirdly the household is crucial for establishing the worship of our God The household is crucial for establishing the worship of our God our triune God father son and spirit The house should say and especially the head of the house you fathers should say "As for me in my house we will worship the Lord." As for me and my house we will worship the Lord Like Psalm 118:15 says "Glad songs of salvation are in the dwellings of the righteous the household is crucial for establishing the worship of our triune God He is worthy of it." The preface to our confession of faith that was written in 1677 published in 1689 1689 Second London Baptist Confession of Faith In the preface this is what they say There is one spring and cause of the decay of Christianity in our day The writers of our confession there's one spring and cause of the decay of Christianity in our day And that is the neglect of the worship of God in our families the neglect of family worship Daily family worship Men you should lead your family in family worship every day If you need help in that we'll give you free resources short reads send you sermons help you think through that and how to put that into practice You just got to ask If you're not worshiping the Lord daily with your family in your household you need to start today And if you don't know how just ask for help today and we got a lot of help that we can give to you The household is crucial for establishing the worship of our God The household is also crucial fourthly for salvation and sanctification Parents your kids should be getting saved at home not at VBS Your kids should be getting saved because they have literally heard you tell them the gospel hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of times They've heard you tell them the law and what they deserve for their sin hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of times It should probably be so that your Christian or your kids look back and go "I can't even remember a time that I didn't confess my sins and trust Christ as my savior." Okay And may God save all of them from a really young age But the household is crucial for that Husbands and fathers and you who desire to be hear me clearly You have to instruct your wife and your children in both the law of God and the gospel of God That's your duty Men your duty Instruct your wives your wife and your children in both the law of God and the gospel of God what God requires of us and what God has done in Jesus Christ to save us You need to instruct your family in the law for salvation Show them the law and how far they fall short of God's requirements Like Paul says in Romans 7:7 "If it had not been for the law I would I would not have known sin." Meaning I wouldn't have been confronted with my own sinfulness if I had not compared myself to the perfect law of God and gone I fall terribly short Boys and girls the law of God what God requires of you and me it reveals first of all that you have not done what you should do and you deserve death for your sin against our holy God The law reveals our sin All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God The law is like that mirror So men you have to instruct your family in the law so that they see how far far they fall short of God's standard and what they deserve for their sin against God which drives them to go what do I do then Then you show them the beauty of Christ

crucified and risen You preach the gospel to them So you have to instruct your family in the gospel of God also for salvation so that they would come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ You instruct your family in the law and the gospel of God and God will use that to cause them to be born again Tell them "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself Turn to Christ Believe on Christ you'll be saved This is the will of my father." John 6:40 that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life and I will raise him on the last day Boys and girls the law is like the mirror It exposes your dirty The gospel is the soap that helps you wash it all away The gospel is the good news of what Christ has done to save sinners like you and me Your family needs to know the law of God and the gospel of God for salvation but also for holiness The law doesn't only reveal our sin The law also shows us after we are united to Christ through faith forgiven of our sins counted righteous The law shows us how we live in a manner pleasing to the Lord So you need to teach your families the law of God for holiness not so that they can obey in order to be saved but because they've been saved freely and fully in Christ Jesus This is now how you obey and live for his glory It's like a map That's why Paul says in Romans 7:12 "The law is holy and the commandment is holy and righteous and good." The law is good So long as you don't try to use it to save yourself If you use the law to obey the Lord and delight in the Lord because you want to glorify the Lord it is good You need to instruct your children and your wives men in the gospel of God not only so that they get converted but so they further grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ The gospel is the fuel by which we live the Christian life Paul didn't need to be reconverted Then in Galatians 2:20 he says "I've been crucified with Christ It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me Paul's talking about living for Christ And it's all saturated with what Christ has already done for him The gospel is that fuel to live the Christian life It's like the fuel in your vehicle giving you the energy to get where the map shows you you should go Men you have to lead in teaching your wife and your children in your household the law of God and the gospel of God Wives you have to help help your husbands You are even with your children far more than your husbands So you're going to additionally teach your children So the household is crucial for salvation and sanctification for getting converted and growing in grace And lastly the household is crucial for training up future generations The household is crucial for training up future generations We're training our boys to be godly masculine men and our girls to be godly feminine women who serve the Lord When as Spurgeon says when our heads are under the clouds Spurgeon says "If we want to bring up a godly family who shall be a seed to serve God when our heads are under the clouds of the valley let us seek to train them up in the fear of God Proverbs 22:6 not spoken to the pastors not spoken to the children's ministers not spoken to the civil government not spoken to anyone else but spoken

to the parents Train up a child and the way he should go And even when he is old he will not depart from it Ephesians 6 1-4 Children obey your parents in the Lord for this is right Honor your father and your mother This is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land Fathers do not provoke your children to anger but bring them up Train them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Here O Israel the Lord our God the Lord is one You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart with all your soul with all your might And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart You shall teach them diligently to your children Not take them to Moses and Moses will teach your children Not take them to Aaron and Aaron will teach your children You teach your children You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates The household is crucial for training up future generations The household is crucial for salvation and sanctification It's crucial for establishing the worship of our triune God that he deserves for creating us and for sending his only son to redeem us at the cost of his precious blood The household is crucial for being a safe place and it's crucial for cultivating holiness that spills over into the church and the nation Beloved no matter how big or small your household is every single one of us can do our part trusting in Christ Jesus alone and saying along with David I will walk with integrity of heart within my house Let's all each individually do that Pray with me Our father in heaven we thank you for your word We thank you for Psalm 101 especially the end of verse two We were able to focus on today And we ask you to be able to resolve with David that you would give us the strength to say "I will walk with integrity within my house." We know that your enemies and our enemies want the household to be destroyed And so help us to stand firm to see the lies of the enemy and to see the righteousness that we should walk in by your spirit We ask you to help us to do that Help us have godly Christian households and may you be glorified in it We ask you to save those who are not yet united to Christ through faith We thank you for those that you have saved We ask you for those who are sick that you would heal them those who are suffering that you would comfort them Those who are straying from you that you would convict them of their sin Bring them back to faithfulness Those who are striving forward we ask that you strengthen them so that they continue to walk in a manner pleasing to you We ask that you purify our local church Help us to have healthy households that lead to a healthy church that leads to a healthier nation Help us to do our part and be faithful and trust you with the results I ask you to save every single one of our children Open their eyes to the beauties of Christ crucified and risen and enable them persuade them to trust in him alone for salvation We offer up all these songs and the baptisms that we experience the offerings that we give the Lord's supper that we partake of We offer up all of these in Christ's name And we ask you to receive them as sacrifices of praise for your glory And everybody said

END of transcript.
