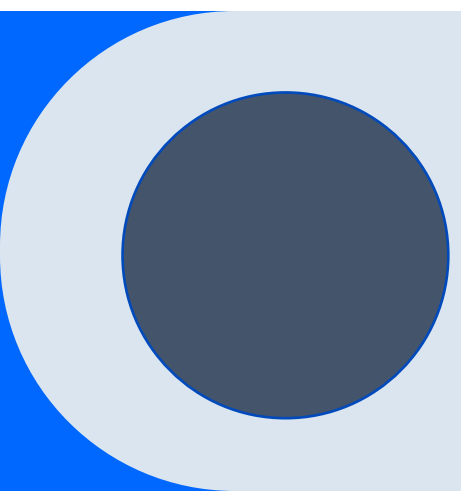





**What is the answer to many
of the world's problems?
It Should be a Parent!**



River of Life Community
Mother's Day 2023



Never before have Dads and Moms been so critical to our society!

- The family is the foundation of all God does
 - The Church is only as strong as the households that make it up
 - Society is only as strong as the households that make it up
- The Family as defined by Scripture is being attacked and undermined by govt. and other institutions
 - Dads and Moms – We need to rise up into God’s calling!
 - That call also goes out to Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles and Spiritual Dads and Moms



God's First Design for Structure, Government, & Human Flourishing

Genesis 2

21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. **22** And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. **23** Then the man said,

“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.”

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. **25** And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. – ESV

- ✓ So, before God established nations, before Israel & Temple worship
- ✓ God created Marriage and Family!
- ✓ God's basic unit for establishing His design and purpose in the world!

God's Design for Marriage & Family

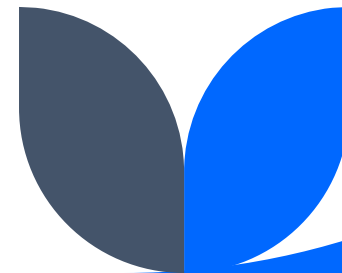
Malachi 2:15 Didn't the LORD make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are his. And what does he want? Godly **children** from your union. So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth.- NLT

God gives parent's stewardship over the lives of their children

Genesis 18:19 For I have chosen him (Abraham), that he may command his **children** and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.”- ESV

Deuteronomy 11:18 “So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. **19** Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. **20** Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, **21** so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors.

22 “Be careful to obey all these commands I am giving you. Show love to the Lord your God by walking in his ways and holding tightly to him. - NLT



Children Belong to God – Parents are stewards of God’s authority

1Chr. 28:8 “So now, with God as our witness, and in the sight of all Israel—the LORD’s assembly—I give you this charge. Be careful to obey all the commands of the LORD your God, so that you may continue to possess this good land and leave it to your **children** as a permanent inheritance. - NLT

Psa. 78:4 We will not hide these truths from our **children**; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about his power and his mighty wonders. **5** For he issued his laws to Jacob; he gave his instructions to Israel. He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their **children**, **6** so the next generation might know them—even the **children** not yet born—and they in turn will teach their own **children**. - NLT



“

Children Belong first to God
for now and eternity!

Parents are stewards of
these precious lives. As
stewards – we will answer
to God!

”

Children Belong to God

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. **2** “Honor your father and mother.” This is the first commandment with a promise: **3** If you honor your father and mother, “things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth.” **4** Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord. - NLT

Colossians 3:18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord. **19** Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly. **20** Children, always obey your parents, for this pleases the Lord. **21** Fathers, do not aggravate your children, or they will become discouraged. - NLT



House Churches

➤ Discussion

- How can we strengthen parents and families in our church and community?

➤ Prayer

- Pray especially for Moms & Dads in our community.
- Take time to pray prayers of blessing over children and teens in your house church. Be open to hear and speak words about identity & God's Purpose

