



Fast and Easy Giving

Grace Romanian Church



and which in Christ can be borne lightly (Matthew 11:30). The word “responsibility” is chosen to imply that man will be uniquely called to account for his leadership, provision and protection in relation to women. This is illustrated in Genesis 3:9 when God says to Adam first, “Where are you?” Eve had sinned first, but God does not seek her out first. Adam must give the first account to God for the moral life of the family in the garden of Eden. This does not mean the woman has no responsibility, as we will see. It simply means that man bears a unique and primary one.

“ . . . TO LEAD . . . ” One problem with language is that words tend to carry very different connotations for different people. Hence the word “lead” will sound strong and domineering to some, but moderate and servant-like to others.

1. Mature masculinity expresses itself not in the demand to be served, but in the strength to serve and to sacrifice for the good of woman. Jesus said, “Let the greatest among you become as the youngest and the leader as one who serves” (Luke 22:26). Leadership is not a demanding demeanor. It is moving things forward to a goal. If the goal is holiness and Heaven, the leading will have the holy aroma of Heaven about it—the demeanor of Christ. Thus after saying that “the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church,” Paul said, “Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her” (Ephesians 5:23, 25). Jesus led his bride to holiness and Heaven on the Calvary road. He looked weak, but he was infinitely strong in saying NO to the way of the world.

Anunturi:

- Church Picnic, 26 august, Rolling Hills Park, Ypsilanti. Sunshine Pavilion. 11am.
- Sunday School începe pe 10 septembrie.

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GRACE ROMANIAN PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

August, 2023

Monthly Program

The Meaning of Masculinity, by John Piper

Here we take the definition of masculinity a phrase at a time and unfold its meaning and implications.

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.

“AT THE HEART OF . . .” This phrase signals that the definitions are not exhaustive. There is more to masculinity and femininity, but there is not less. We believe this is at the heart of what true manhood means, even if there is a mystery to our complementary existence that we will never exhaust.

“ . . . MATURE MASCULINITY . . .” A man might say, “I am a man and I do not feel this sense of responsibility that you say makes me masculine.” He may feel strong and sexually competent and forceful and rational. But we would say to him that if he does not feel this sense of benevolent responsibility toward women to lead, provide and protect, his masculinity is immature. It is incomplete and perhaps distorted. “Mature” means that a man’s sense of responsibility is in the process of growing out of its sinful distortions and limitations, and finding its true nature as a form of love, not a form of self-assertion.

“ . . . A SENSE OF . . .” I use the word “sense” because to be masculine a man must not only be responsible, but sense or feel that he is. If he does not “sense” or “feel” and “affirm” his responsibility, he is not mature in his masculinity. The word “sense” also implies the fact that a man can be mature in his masculinity when his circumstances do not put him in any relationship where he actually has the possibility to relate to any woman. The word “sense” also implies that a man may not be physically able to provide for or protect his family and yet be mature in his masculinity. He may be paralyzed. He may have a disabling disease. His wife may be the main breadwinner in such a circumstance. And she may be the one who must get up at night to investigate a frightening noise in the house. This is not easy for the man. But if he still has a sense of his own benevolent responsibility under God he will not lose his masculinity. His sense of responsibility will find expression in the ways he conquers self-pity, and gives moral and spiritual leadership for his family, and takes the initiative to provide them with the bread of life, and protect them from the greatest enemies of all, Satan and sin.

“ . . . BENEVOLENT . . .” This word is intended to show that the responsibility of manhood is for the good of woman. Benevolent responsibility is meant to rule out all self-aggrandizing authoritarianism (cf. Luke 22:26). It is meant to rule out all disdainful condescension and any act that makes a mature woman feel patronized rather than honored and prized (cf. 1 Peter 3:7). The word “benevolent” is meant to signal that mature masculinity gives appropriate expression to the Golden Rule in male-female relationships (Matthew 7:12).

“ . . . RESPONSIBILITY . . .” The burden of this word is to stress that masculinity is a God-given trust for the good of all his creatures, not a right for men to exercise for their own self-exaltation or ego-satisfaction. It is less a prerogative than a calling. It is a duty and obligation and charge. Like all God’s requirements it is not meant to be onerous or burdensome (1 John 5:3). But it is nevertheless a burden to be borne,

“Rugați-vă neîncetat.” 1 Tesaloniceni 4:16

Joi (7pm) Midweek service

3 Dan S.	Reflectări asupra slujirii	1 Tesaloniceni 2
10 Moise Z.	Bucuria unei slujiri rodnice	1 Tesaloniceni 3
17 Iulian J.	Sfințirea în lumina răpirii	1 Tesaloniceni 4
24 Pavel P.	Ziua Domnului și misiunea Bisericii	1 Tesaloniceni 5
31 Cornel S.	Rugăciuni pentru biruință	2 Tesaloniceni 1

Credință și suferință

Duminică, 6 Psalmul 60 **CINA DOMNULUI**

am: îndemn	Florin C. & Cornel S.		
mesaj	Dan S.	Grădina Ghetsimani	Matei 26:36-46
pm: îndemn	Adrian P. & Dan S.		
mesaj	Moise Z.	Job, a genuine character	Job 1:1-12

Duminică, 13 Psalmul 61

am: îndemn	Sebastian M. & Iulian J.		
mesaj	Pavel P.	lov, integritate în suferință	lov 2:1-10
pm: îndemn	Andrei L. & Dan S.		
mesaj	Samuel Bacoșcă		

Duminică, 20 Psalmul 62 **Binecuvântare de copil** Giuliana Grace Burcușel

am: îndemn	Ioan C. & Dan S.		
mesaj	Iulian J.	lov, sau provocările unui tată!	lov 1:13-22
pm: îndemn	Moise Z. & Cornel S.		
mesaj	Richard P.	Job, rebuked in suffering	Job, 33:1-33

Duminică, 27 Psalmul 63

am: îndemn	Mitică T. & Iulian J.		
mesaj	Cornel S.	lov, revelație în suferință	lov 42:1-6
pm: îndemn	Moise Z. & Dan S.		
mesaj	Adrian P.	Job, restauration in suffering	Job 42:7-17

“Those times when you feel like quitting can be times of great opportunity, for God uses your troubles to help you grow.” Warren Wiersbe

“At the timberline where the storms strike with the most fury, the sturdiest trees are found.” Hudson Taylor

“God had one son on earth without sin, but never one without suffering.” Augustine

“They gave our Master a crown of thorns. Why do we hope for a crown of roses?”

Martin Luther

“Many men owe the grandeur of their lives to their tremendous difficulties.” Spurgeon