

## Fast and Easy Giving

Grace Romanian Church









insecurity through excessive control or picky supervision or oppressive domination has missed the point of the analogy in Ephesians 5. Christ does not create that kind of wife.

4. Mature masculinity does not have to initiate every action, but feels the <u>responsibility to provide a general pattern of initiative</u>. In a family the husband does not do all the thinking and planning. His leadership is to take responsibility in general to initiate and carry through the spiritual and moral planning for family life. I say "in general" because "in specifics" there will be many times and many areas of daily life where the wife will do all kinds of planning and initiating. But there is a general tone and pattern of initiative that should develop which is sustained by the husband. A Christian man is obligated to lead his family to the best of his ability.  $\dots$ If his family has purchased too many items on credit, then the financial crunch is ultimately his fault. If the family never reads the Bible or seldom goes to church on Sunday, God holds the man to blame. If the children are disrespectful and disobedient, the primary responsibility lies with the father . . . not his wife. . . . In my view, America's greatest need is for husbands to begin guiding their families, rather than pouring every physical and emotional resource into the mere acquisition of money.

#### Anunturi:

- 9 septembrie, ora 11am, Conferința "My story for His Glory"
- 15 septembrie, începe Youth.
- 17 septembrie, Church Picnic, Rolling Hills Park, Ypsilanti. Sunshine Pavilion.
- 23 septembire, ora 10am întâlnire cu cei ce predică și cei ce dau îndemnuri.
- 24 septembrie, începe Sunday School.
- 30 septembrie, Conferința pt surori, Discovering Your Spiritual Gift
  - invitat Lidia Schiopu, 9:30am-4:30pm 272 N Hewitt Rd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197 Pastor Senior: Iulian Jecu +1(734)-307-5194

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# **GRACE ROMANIAN** PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

SEPTEMBER, 2023

Monthly Program

## The Meaning of Masculinity, by John Piper

1. <u>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</u>.

Jesus said, "Let the greatest among you become as the youngest and the leader as one who serves" (Luke 22:26 ESV). 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 just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her" (Ephesians 5:23, 25–26). 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. So it will be again and again for mature men as they take up the responsibility to lead.

2. Mature masculinity does not assume the authority of Christ over woman, but

- advocates it. The leadership implied in the statement "The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church" (Ephesians 5:23) is not a leadership that gives to the man all the rights and authority that Christ has. The analogy between Christ and the husband breaks down if pressed too far, first because, unlike Christ, all men sin. Christ never has to apologize to his church. But husbands must do this often. Moreover, unlike Christ, a husband is not preparing a bride merely for himself but for another, namely Christ. He does not merely act as Christ, but also for Christ. At this point he must not be Christ to his wife lest he be a traitor to Christ. Standing in the place of Christ must include a renunciation of the temptation to be Christ. And that means leading his wife forward to depend not on him but on Christ. And practically, that rules out belittling supervision and fastidious oversight. She also stands or falls before her own master, Jesus Christ.
- 3. Mature masculinity does not presume superiority, but mobilizes the strengths of others. No human leader is infallible. Nor is any man superior to those he leads in every respect. Therefore a good leader will always take into account the ideas of those he leads, and may often adopt those ideas as better than his own. This applies to husbands at home and elders in the church and all the other places where leadership is critical. A leader of peers may be surrounded by much brighter people than himself. He will listen and respond. And if he is a good leader, they will appreciate his initiative and guidance through the ups and downs of decisionmaking. The aim of leadership is not to demonstrate the superiority of the leader, but to bring out all the strengths of people that will move them forward to the desired goal. In Ephesians 5:28-29 the wife is pictured as part of the man's body as the church is part of Christ's body. So in loving his wife a man is loving himself. This is clearly an application to marriage of Jesus' command, "Love your neighbor as yourself." This rules out a leadership that treats a wife like a child. A husband does not want to be treated that way himself. Moreover Christ does not lead the church as his daughter but as his wife. He is preparing her to be a "fellow-heir" (Romans 8:17 ESV), not a servant girl. Any kind of leadership that in the name of Christlike headship tends to produce in a wife personal immaturity or spiritual weakness or

"... Dumnezeu v-a ales pentru mântuire, în sfințirea Duhului și credința adevărului."

2 Tesaloniceni 2:13f

### Joi (7pm) Midweek service

7 Dan S.	Ziua Domnului	2 Tesaloniceni 2
14 Cornel S.	Trăind în rânduială	2 Tesaloniceni 3
21 Pavel P.	Totul este deșertăciune?	Eclesiastul 1
28 Iulian J.	Truda vieţii	Eclesiastul 2

#### "Dumnezeu este Judecătorul!"

Duminică, 3 No services

Sâmbătă, 9 CONFERINȚA "My Story For His Glory" (11:00-17:00) invitați - Mika Varga & pastor Nelu Filip

Duminică, 10
am: îndemn
Dan S. & Pavel P.
Melu Filip (pastor Biserica Poarta Cerului, TM, presedinte CCP-BDA)
pm: îndemn
Florin C. & Dan S.
Mesaj
Richard P.
Identity Theft? Daniel 1:1-21

**Duminică**, 17 CHURCH PICNIC - Rolling Hills Park, Ypsilanti - ora 11am

Duminică, 24 Psalmul 65 Deschiderea noului an școlar la ȘCOALA DUMINICALĂ am: îndemn Moise Z. & Cornel S.
mesaj Dan S. Rolul muzicii în închinare Daniel 3:1-18
pm: îndemn Adrian P. & Giuliano C.
mesaj Iulian J. Cântarul lui Dumnezeu! Daniel 5:1-31

- 5. Mature masculinity accepts the burden of the final say in disagreements between husband and wife, but does not presume to use it in every instance.
- 6. Mature masculinity expresses its leadership in romantic sexual relations by communicating an aura of strong and tender pursuit.
- 7. Mature masculinity expresses itself in a family by taking the initiative in disciplining the children when both parents are present and a family standard has been broken.
- 8. Mature masculinity is sensitive to cultural expressions of masculinity and adapts to them (where no sin is involved) in order to communicate to a woman that a man would like to relate not in any aggressive or perverted way, but with maturity and dignity as a man.
- 9. Mature masculinity recognizes that the call to leadership is a call to repentance and humility and risk-taking.