

House Rules

In this house, men lead
like Jesus

Pastor Jeff Atherton



Genesis 2:15 NLT

The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it.

Ephesians 5:25-33 NLT

For husbands, this means *love your wives*, just as Christ loved the church. He *gave up his life for her* to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. And we are members of his body. As the Scriptures say, "*A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife*, and the two are united into one." This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

1. God gave men RESPONSIBILITY before RELATIONSHIP

A man of God PRIORITIES his WIFE

2. Biblical MANHOOD and LEADERSHIP is SACRIFICIAL

3. LEADERSHIP sets the SPIRITUAL

4. Leadership is MEASURED by LOVE

AUTHORITY without Love is ABUSE

Love without LEADERSHIP is LOST

LEAD with LOVE, or LOSE the GARDEN

Talk About It: *Small Group*

Students

1. What's the difference between a leader who serves and one who rules for themselves?
2. Why is Adam's silence in the garden such a big deal?
3. What are ways you can help set a Godly tone in your home?
4. How do you see Jesus lead with love in the Bible?
5. Who do you look up to as a Godly example, and why?

Adults

1. How does the Genesis 2 account of Adam shape your view of leadership in the home?
 2. In what ways have you seen leadership succeed or fail based on the spiritual tone set by the husband/father?
 3. How does sacrificial love change a relationship?
 4. Which biblical father in the list inspires you most, and why?
 5. What is one way you can "guard your garden" this week?
-

GOING DEEPER - Bible Study

Primary Texts: *Genesis 2:15; Ephesians 5:25-33; John 13:1-17*

Observation

- What are the verbs in Genesis 2:15 that describe Adam's calling?

- What actions does Christ take toward the church in Ephesians 5:25-27?

Interpretation

- Why is love central to leadership in the home?
- How does Jesus' model contrast with the world's definition of leadership?

Word Study

- Tend (abad) — "to work, serve, cultivate"
- Watch over (shamar) — "to keep, guard, protect"
- Love (agapao) — "to choose for the good of another"

Connection to the Gospel

- Adam failed to protect; Jesus protects perfectly.
- Christ restores the crown to its rightful form — shaped by humility and sacrifice.

Application

- Where are you tempted to lead for yourself instead of for others?
- What's one way you can take responsibility before relationship this week?
- Pray: Lord, help me lead like Jesus — protecting, serving, and loving first.

REMEMBER:

The gospel is the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ... That he died on the cross for our sins and rose again on the 3rd day to defeat sin and death!

Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something -
GO BE THE CHURCH!

[Click here to claim your free RightNow Media account - a gift to you from Pipeline.Church!](#)