

Paul H. Dixon  
God's Purpose for the Wife  
circa 1979

Transcript

Paul H. Dixon:

Yesterday, we got into some discussion about God's purpose for the home. And we decided that primarily, it was for His own glory, and we decided many things that God wants to do in the home regarding companionship and sexual enjoyment, and reproduction. We decided to what marriage was in the sight of God. And today we're going to look, we're going to begin a three-part series in God's plan for the home.

You cannot talk about God's plan for the home without talking about God's people. So today we're going to talk about the wife and her responsibilities in the home. Tomorrow... I almost hate to announce this because we might have some dropouts. Tomorrow, we're going to talk about the men and their, the husband, and his place in the home. And then the next day, Friday, we'll deal with the place of children in the home. And then finally, on Saturday, we'll look at God's place in the home.

But today we start on this matter of the people in the home and God's plan for the home, and I'd just like to make some general observations about people as a whole. Two Christians do not make a Christian home, believe it or not. Sometimes we have the idea that because Christians are there, therefore there must be a Christian home, but that's not so. They have to be special kinds of Christians, and there have to be certain things implemented if they're really going to have the Christian home.

Now, I do believe that a Christian home is made up of two saved people. I made a study one time, I'll give you one reference, Second Corinthians 6:14-16. If you'd just like to jot it down. I made a study one time of the sins of the Bible, and the result of that study was there is no sin recorded in the Bible that ever brought such severe judgment as the sin of God's people marrying the heathen.

In fact, you'll find out that the flood came about as a result of that sin. It was a result of the women of the world intermingling with the giants and the land that brought on the flood, that was finally the straw that broke the camel's back. That was the last thing, God said, "I've had it with you people," and God judged the world with the flood.

And so I don't think there's any sin since the sin of Adam and Eve that has ever brought such catastrophe upon the world as that of Christians marrying non-Christians. Every period of idolatry has always been preceded by a period of saved marrying unsaved. That's the way it always works. You just go through the Old Testament to find it.

The only basis for fellowship when you have a saved person married to an unsaved person, is that it is based upon the old nature. Ever think about that? That's all. When a Christian marries a non-Christian, the only basis for fellowship is that it revolves around the old nature. There's nothing spiritually that two people can fellowship about if the other is unsaved. When a Christian marries a non-Christian, it's unfair to yourself, it's unfair to your mate. It's unfair to your children, and it's unfair to God.

I also say this, especially girls, watch it. Some of these fellows will make a profession of faith just to get you. I see it all the time. A guy is not really interested in the things of the Lord, but he finds out that the pastor will only marry Christians, or he finds out that here's a girl with some convictions and she wants him to be saved. So he says, "Okay, I'll get saved." He makes a profession, but it's not genuine. And after they're married for a short season, you find out that it wasn't real, has no interest in things of the Lord.

I heard some girl saying, "Well..." I find it more with girls than I do with fellas. They say, "Well, I'm dating this unsaved fella, but I don't plan to marry him until he gets saved, and I'm praying for him, and I'm just believing God." It sounds so posh. You don't really believe God's going to answer that prayer, do you?

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Because down deep inside, you're saying, "Lord, if you don't answer that prayer, I'm going to marry him anyway." And you really think that the Lord's going to answer that kind of prayer? No way.

I'm not saying that there aren't some who marry the unsaved and the grace of God, that partner does get saved, but my experience has been that's very seldom. Generally, you're just asking for trouble when you marry a non-Christian. All right. I believe a Christian home involves two saved people. It also involves two people led of God to be married.

The Lord wants you to marry a saved person but He just doesn't want you to marry any saved person either. Just like I said, the wife compliments the husband and the husband compliments the wife. And so not all women would be for every man, and not all Christian men would be for every woman. I firmly believe that God planned Pat just for me. I doubt very seriously that there would be any woman who would quite fit my temperament and my ministry, and all the Lord has for me but my wife, and I feel the same way for my wife, as far as a husband.

Now, if something would happen to one of us, then we would have to find out in God's plan, if there might be another person who would fit in after we died to take on and would also fit in when done. That's of course, in the will of God. The important thing is you make sure that it's God's choice for you, the Christian you marry. And then it also involves two mature people.

Of course, this is something that's very subjective. I can't tell you exactly what makes mature people. I can't tell you that you have to reach a certain age. There are some people 25 who are not mature, and there are some people 18 and 19 who are quite mature. Some people are mature about some things, not mature about others, but all I'm saying is that it better not just be on a whim that you get married.

I don't think you Chinese people probably need this counsel as much as us Caucasians. It seems like you Chinese maybe you go the other way, and you not only get mature. You get ancient before you get married, John, but not kidding you, hey. I think we ought to have special prayer meetings for John and see if we can't help him. Don't feel sorry for him, girls.

Today, as we begin to look at the wife, I'd like to say something that I said yesterday that I believe bears repeating. And that is that the first and most important factor to remember about a Christian home is that sinners live there. And so while we're talking about the responsibility of the wife, let's not be so idealistic as to not accept the fact that she does have a sinful nature.

And while we're talking about the responsibilities of the husband, remember that he too is a sinner, and the children in that home are going to be sinners, are not going to be perfect, and we need to have that understanding. One thing as Christian, we know that we can admit our sins to one another. We can confess our sins to God, and we can't have victory in our Christian lives, but we all have problems.

First Corinthians 10:13, "There hath no trial taken you, but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tried above that you're able, but will with the trial also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." We're all going to have trials, that's just part of it. We've already decided that in our study of James, so problems are going to come.

Well, let's begin to talk about the wife. It's an amazing thing. Adam had all the animals. Adam had God, but still, there was something missing until there was Eve. That's the way it is. That's the way it is for us as fellas. I believe that we need that wife in our lives, and that wife needs that husband in her life to be complete. So we're going to start with that old cliché, "Ladies first." All right.

We'll talk with the ladies, and then tomorrow, we'll start with the men. Let's turn over to Ephesians chapter five and look at the keyword for the wife. There's going to be a keyword for the husband.

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Keyword for the wife, Ephesians 5:22 through 24. "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church, and He is the savior of the body. Therefore, as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything."

So the keyword here for the wife is submission. Now, the word submission in the Greek language is a military term. It has the idea of a soldier who's in the army being submissive to the general or to those who are over him. And I think there are many analogies that we could draw from this, but it's good to recognize this. So three times in this passage we read, it talks about submitting. Back in verse 21, it even talks about "submitting yourselves, one to another, in the fear of God."

Remember that submission is not slavery. The idea is not that there's a man there in the home and that he runs the roost, and the wife is his slave, that she no longer can use her mind, that she has nothing to say. She can't use her mouth, that the man is there and everything is for him, and the wife has absolutely nothing to contribute, but rather it's the idea of yielding humble and intelligent obedience to an ordained power of authority.

This is what God has in mind. God has said that the way things are supposed to work is for the man to be the head of the home. And the only way he can function as the head of the home is as the wife would submit herself to him. Actually, with the women's lib movement today, they are conveying to us that the way for the woman to have freedom is to break this down. She's supposed to be on an equal par with the man. She's supposed to get the same pay. She's supposed to be able to do the same kind of jobs. She's supposed to be able to have her children. She's supposed to be able to work until right up to the time the child is born. Then as soon as the child is born, put the child in some kind of social agency for them to take care of it, and she can go right back to work. Don't let children interfere. Don't let husband interfere. The wife is going her way. The husband is going his way, and this is supposed to liberate the women.

That's just like saying, "Let's have an orchestra here today. And this section play the clarinet, and let's say you play the trumpets, and let's say that you in here playing the trombones. And over here, we have the drums," and so forth. And I give you some music and we're all supposed to be together, and you have your thing to do, and you have yours and yours, and yours. Someone has the melody and someone has the harmony, and someone hits a rhythm note right in here.

And I say, "Now, you know what, why not you start right on the down beat," but when I start as your conductor, you start doing your own thing and you decide that you're going to play the trombone music, and you decide that you're going to play the... and you get this thing all mixed up. What are we going to have? Havoc. That was designed to give beautiful music. That was designed to give a beautiful orchestra and a sound, and a symphony, now has no value whatsoever, and that's exactly what's coming about with the women's lib movement.

It's going completely contrary to the word of God. You take a train and you put it on a track. You can find that train to the track because that's the way the train was made, and that train will run smooth. That train will have freedom, but you get that train off of that track, and that train no longer has freedom. That train becomes a slave. It can't move, and the women who think they are being liberated are becoming slaves.

But when you go according to the word of God, ladies, and become a New Testament in the New Testament sense of the word, a slave under submission to your husband, it is only then that you can

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know the freedom God has for you because that's the way God made you. That's God's plan, and that's the way God made the home to function, and that's the way God made society to function.

I think the classic example of submission is the church and the individual Christian as they submit to Christ. Women lib would have us to think that a submission to your husband is degrading for the woman. I don't think it's degrading for a Christian to be submitted to Christ. I think that's a privilege, don't you? In like manner, it's not degrading for a woman to be submissive to her husband. That's your glory, that's your privilege, and that's the way it ought to be.

I want you to take your Bibles and turn with me to First Corinthians chapter 11, verse three. There's an interesting verse. First Corinthians 11 three, "I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is the man, and the head of Christ is God."

In Philippians chapter two, it tells us that Jesus Christ submitted Himself, that Jesus Christ was willing to subject Himself and to come down to this earth, and to take upon Himself flesh. Would anyone say that Jesus Christ is a lesser person than God? Would there anyone be so blasphemous to say today, "I believe that Jesus Christ is lesser God than the Father is?" Surely not.

In the same way, is there anyone who can say that the woman is really lesser of an individual? That she is less important to God because she is submissive to her husband? Or that she should be less important to society or anything else? No. Women, you have your place. Men have their place, and you cannot realize the plan of God until you put yourself into that proper place.

Now, I think sometimes we fail to realize what submission is. It is not the idea that you no longer express your ideas, or that you even do not have the privilege of disagreeing with your husband, but the idea is that when there are final decisions to be made, the husband makes that decision. I don't believe that that means that women should not use their minds. I believe that women are gifted. I believe that women are talented, but it all comes back to this thing that the husband is to be the one who makes the final decision.

I like First Timothy, chapter three, verses four and five. If you turn there please. First Timothy 3: 4 and 5. When it speaks about the bishop and the qualifications for a bishop, says, "He's to be blameless, the husband of one wife." Verse two, "Vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given the hospitality, apt to teach. Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre, but patient, not a brawler, not covetous. One that ruleth well his own house."

The word for ruleth is the word for one who manages his own house. And the idea is not that the husband is there as a king, but that the husband is there as a manager. And when someone is really a good manager, he knows how to use other people's talents. The guy who is really the good pastor, who really is a good manager in the church is the guy who's able to know what person is gifted in music. And I would be ridiculous if I were the evangelist this week and said, "Look, I'm running the show. I'm going to do all the singing." You'd be in for a rough week.

And if I were to say, "Well, I'm going to do all the administration. And since I'm here this week, I'm going to run the recreation program. Since I'm here this week, I'm going to run all the scripts. Those people up there, they don't know how to cook. I'm going to go up there and I'm going to do all the cooking. Well, we would've a short camp, an abbreviated camp, I'm sure."

No. The good manager is the one who knows how to put other people to work and use all of their gifts and all of their talents. It's the same way in the home. You got to find out what the gifts are of your children. Know how to manage that home, so the children have responsibilities. And so their being used there. Ought to find out what the gifts are of the wife, and manage that home so that the wife is

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developing those gifts, and so that she is performing properly, and you using everything that she can right there in the home.

Ladies, if you can't submit to your husband, you can't submit to your Lord. They go together. And if you truly submit yourself to the Lord, you can submit yourself to your husband. Now, the next question would be, if we see what submission is, and we're going to come back and allow you to ask questions on all these things after we cover it briefly, but the question is, why is she to be submissive? Did you ever think about that? Why? We see what it is. Why is she supposed to be submissive?

Well, we can just say, "Because it's God's plan." That's true. We could say, "Because that's the way the home runs best. You can't have two heads running a home. You need one and that's the husband." Well, that's true, but there's something else. Did you know, ladies, that you need to submit yourself, not only for God's good, not only for the good of the home, not only for the good of the husband, but for your own good?

For instance, you need to submit yourself because you are vulnerable physically, emotionally, and spiritually, in a way that men are not. You need to submit yourself to your husband because you need the protection of your husband, physically. Many times, you need to be protected from your enemies, and there may be that person who comes to that house and you and your husband are in bed. And all of a sudden, you hear the door knob rattling. And all of a sudden, you hear the broken glass, and what do you say? "Honey, you get up and check it out," right?

He's the head of the house. Let him get hit over the head, right? Surely, no one would think of sending the wife to check it out. That you need to be protected physically, not only from your enemy, but for your friends. I don't know, but I think most of you will find it. Many times the girls have a real problem, even with their friends. And sometimes the husband has to step in and say, "Hey, look, let's get some things straightened out."

I remember one time, my wife called me and there had been a problem with some man in the church who'd just done some things that were not right. For instance, he was in charge of setting up young people who were coming in and staying in various places they require. And he had called my wife and he says, "Now I want you to keep a trio." And so she was to keep that trio, and she diligently cleaned the house until two o'clock in the morning. That's my wife, probably some of you girls are like that. She doesn't want anyone coming in there without everything being in ship shape. No dust. Everything's got to be just right.

Here she worked till 1:00, 2:00 in the morning, getting everything right, [inaudible 00:21:38] she's ready to feed the trio that'd be coming on Saturday. Maybe at one o'clock, two o'clock, they're not there. Four o'clock, they're not there. Six o'clock, she gets concerned. And she calls that guy up and she says, "Oh, I forgot to tell you, they're staying someplace else."

Well, she was a little bit upset, and some other things had happened that had just kind of built up, and she called me and she was quite disturbed. And so when I got back from my evangelistic meetings, this fella happened to also be a friend of mine. I sat down and I talked to him, and I shared with him some of these things. And to this day, he is still one my best friends. And he tells this story to other people. He tells how much it helped him, but my wife, no doubt could not have done this.

I don't think generally, women are made up so that they're able to come to somebody like that. That's the man's responsibility. And so again, this is for your own good. I think we see it even with children. Did you know, ladies, you need to be protected from your children? That's right. And when the man is the head of the home, you can be protected from those children.

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Sometimes women, the children can run all over them if that man doesn't step in there and say, "That is enough." And let me say this fellas, you should not only, the children should not only get the idea that you are the head of the home and that the wife is submissive to you. But one of the things, it would really hurt me if my boy treated me disrespectfully. But if I even get the hint that he is not treating my wife with the proper respect, it is "Katy, bar the door," because I am trying to train him to respect womanhood, and the way he's going to learn that is in the way that he treats his mother.

I remember I had a good friend who was... he was a teacher at Temple and pastor to church. Later, he pastored a church, left the school and pastored in South Carolina, and he invited me for meetings. He had two of the sharpest kids, two boys, maybe nine months apart, a year apart. They grew up together, talented. The one boy was just like his mother and the other boy was just like his dad.

Well, the boy who was just like his dad joined the Marines. And I'm sad to say he was in Vietnam for maybe a month and was shot down a helicopter and killed. Just a tremendous guy. And when I was with him that time for meetings, he had come home and he was ready to leave for Vietnam. The last time his dad saw him, I saw him at the same time. We waved goodbye every turn, but he was such a sharp kid.

And his name was Stanley Green. And Dr. Green, listen, when he was there in that house, I couldn't believe it. Here's this young Marine at home, and every time his mother wanted to sit down, there was that young Marine pulling that chair under the table for his mother. Everything was, "Yes, ma'am. No, ma'am. Yes, sir. No, sir." Right answer and it wasn't because he was in the Marine.

That's something I really appreciate about the South. I'm a Yankee too and whenever I get in the South, you'll find even adults saying to people, "Yes, sir. No, sir. Yes, ma'am. No, ma'am," and I appreciate that courtesy. But this fella, like I say, this was just what he was trained in the home. Not the way he was trained in the Marines.

One day, Dr. Green told me this. He said, "When Stan got in high school, Steve was in high school. I came home one day and I heard Stan say something and back talk to his mother." He said, "He was bigger than I was. I grabbed him by the nap of the neck, held him up against the wall, and just lifted, worked him over just like that." He said, "I dropped him down," and he said, "I told him, 'don't you ever do that.' His brother, Steve, was over there on the couch yelling, 'Don't do it dad, don't kill him. Don't hurt him.'"

And he said, "I picked him up again and I worked him over the second time, just for good measure, dropped him down." And he said, "I went in the bedroom." He said, "I cried like a baby." He said, "They didn't see me." He said, "I cried like a baby." And he said, "My wife came in." They called her MG. Her name was Martha Grace, and he said, "MG." He said, "Listen." He said, "I just lost my boys." He said, "I just lost my boys." He said, "I made a terrible mistake." He said, "I shouldn't have done this."

She said, "No, you didn't, Carl." She said, "You just wait. You didn't lose your boys." He said, "About a week later, the boys came in, said, 'Dad, could we talk to you?'" He said, "Sure." They sat down. Stan said, "Dad, I just want to thank you." He said, "Dad, you gave me exactly what I needed."

He said, "In fact..." He said, "You don't know how close both of us were to blowing it." And he said, "It really helped us for you to just wake us up, show us that we still ought to respect you and to respect mom. We really want to thank you, dad. I think this is a responsibility that every man has until those children leave our home, is to teach them a proper respect for that mother.

So the woman needs to be protected, not only from her enemies and not only from her neighbors, but also from her children. This involves physical protection. This involves emotional protection, and let me say this, men. When we think about these wives being the weaker sex, they're going to go through some emotional times that you are not going to understand.



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In fact, you will find that there's going... As you study this, and I want to encourage you to get books and read about this, there's especially one time during the month when they're not going to function like... they're just not going to do things like they always do before. They're all going to seem almost like two different people, and you need to understand that, and you need to work on understanding it.

And the reason a lot of young couples have such troubles when they first get married is that they don't understand that. It's something you shouldn't find out five years after you're married. It's something you ought to begin understanding before you get married. And I want to encourage you, after you get married, to sit down and talk about it with one another and be open with one another. Try to explain to that guy how you feel and how you function physically, and why this affects you psychologically and emotionally. And I believe both will benefit from it, but the woman is going to have some emotional problems that the man is not going to have. And so women, you need submit yourself to that husband because he needs to protect you emotionally. He also needs to protect you spiritually.

I'd like for you to look at First Timothy, chapter two, I guess we're still there if you have your Bibles open, beginning with verse nine, "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety, not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array, but which becometh women professing godliness which good works. Let the women learn in silence with the all subjection, but I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." Why? "For Adam was first formed, then Eve."

One of the reasons why you're to submit yourself is because of the order of creation. Adam was formed first, then Eve. There's a second reason. "Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression," because she was the one who listened to Satan. And right there in the garden, we get an inkling that women somehow are more prone to listen to Satan and to have a tougher time spiritually than men.

Now you may say, "But that doesn't seem to work out in the church. In the average church, it's the women who are doing... you can depend more upon the women than you can the men." Yeah, but look at it this way, how many false calls were started by men? How many were started by women? And you get to checking this out and you'll find out again and again, it's the women who have started the calls.

You also check out this thing of the charismatic movement, and who is it that dominates the charismatic movement and the tongue speaking? Nothing short of the women. I've been in some of those old line, classical Pentecostal churches, and invariably, the men just sit there and the women do all the speaking in tongues, and the women do all the getting up and testifying, and it's generally the women.

Now, I have not attended any of the new Pentecostal gatherings, so I don't know that much about it. I think men are having more of a part now, but I think women still dominate. I know this, that most of the prayer meetings that I've heard about that have been started, that's usually how it works. They'll start a prayer meeting around your church and they'll invite some of your people to come out. And after all, we all pray.

Maybe they'll even attend your church and this woman will seem so spiritual, and she talks so well. And she'll say, "Come to my house for a prayer meeting, ladies." And usually the ladies get started first, and they start praying, and then tongues comes in. And the next thing, they get a few men to come in and tongues start. Sometimes even get the pastor, and pastors have gone off in tongues. I've been in churches where Baptist pastors have gone off in tongues. How'd it start? Some woman started prayer meeting.

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Women need to be protected spiritually, and that's why we even see it here in First Timothy, chapter two, the man's responsibility over the woman in teaching. So I think that we could look at many other passages. I'll give you some verses that you might jot down. Genesis 3:16-19, First Corinthians 11:1-15, and First Corinthians 14:34.

Now, when we talk about the husband being the leader in the home, I think we also recognize that this carries over into the church. The women are to submit themselves to the men in the church. The women are to submit themselves to the men in the community. I am not for a woman president. I believe that the man ought to be the president, and the man ought to be the leader. This is not just something for the home, but it's for all society.

Let me share this with you. It seems like some of your Chinese homes are a lot like our southern homes. I don't think I notice this as much in the north as I do in the south. In fact, sometimes I go into a home in the north, and all we have to do is have a meal. And I can say, "You folks are from the south, aren't you?" I'm not trying to generalize, but I'm just saying I see this more, and that is when we start to have grace, the woman speaks up and calls on somebody to pray. That shouldn't be. The husband ought to call on somebody to pray.

Now, I know why this happens. Many times the home, the wife was a Christian first. And so then the husband gets saved, but I just think this is, again, an indication of a place where the man ought to take the lead. Let that husband call on someone to lead. When we think about women and their need for protection, did you ever stop to think that the church is probably failing today in the area of protecting the widows?

In other words, this is a principle that's laid out in scripture, Acts chapter six, verse one. Remember? The Grecians started complaining because their widows weren't being taken care of. In James, chapter one, verse 27, those of you who've been in the book of James with me, what did James say? That real religion was to visit the widows. First Timothy, chapter five, verses three through 16 has a great deal to say about the widows.

So the point is that just as the woman needs protection by the husband, when the husband leaves the scene, that woman is still in need of protection, and the church ought to be willing to step in to provide it. I think we need to work this over. I don't say that I've got some plan that's the easy solution. I just think we ought to work on something and do far more than we are doing today.

I think it also comes to do with a single person. Many times, there's a person who gets a divorce. Though I am not for divorce, I think that especially the children in that home need the father image. And we as a church ought to look into that and see if we can't help out. I think it's the same way when a husband dies.

Many times, we have little boys that are growing up in our churches and there just isn't any father at all for them. And some of the guys in the church ought to take it upon themselves to take him out on Saturday, take him fishing, take him to a ball game, spend some time with him because that guy really needs the father image.

I think it's true even when a husband has gone for a prolonged time. I really appreciate the guys in the churches where I've been. As I said, I'm not saying that we won't have problems in our family down the way, because our family's made up of sinners like yours. I'm not saying that my boy's going to come out great, because I believe if any of our kids make it, it's by the grace of God, considering the parents that they have.



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But so far, things have gone well for us. I know a lot of evangelists who've had trouble with their children. I know a lot of pastors who've had trouble with their children, but Scott, I don't even think he knows that he has an abnormal home situation. We haven't told him yet, and he hasn't complained. I don't think he knows about it. I'm not going to tell him.

The thing is for one thing, I try to plan my schedule. I know one person, I preach one night on the home in a church, and some man must have gotten under conviction. And when I got finished, he mumbled under his breath. He says, "What does he know about the home? He's never there." And some lady turned around and says, "Well, he probably calls home every night."

So B.R. Lakin, he was an evangelist. And he called home every night, long distance. And somebody says, "Isn't that really expensive?" He says, "Cheaper than alimony." But I recognize that many evangelists have had problems in their homes. Tell you how I work on it. I'm very conscious of this. I believe that God's given me this ministry, but I need to use my mind to try and work out the best schedule.

So number one, I've never gone more than two weeks. I take one meeting, eight days, another meeting, seven days, I go home. Get home on usually Sunday night after the service or Monday morning, and I'm there until Saturday night when I leave for my next meeting, never gone more than two weeks. We moved to Cedarville because so many of my meetings are located in that part of the country, that by being in Cedarville, I go to about 75 churches in the state of Ohio alone, that many times now, I'm able to commute, drive back and forth after the meeting every night.

Also, I'm so close that usually, one of those two meetings I can drive home during the week one night to see the family, or if I start on a Monday, I've been out in New Jersey. I fly in on Monday to Ohio, someplace, it's 300 miles away. After I preach Monday night, I borrow somebody's car, drive home, see the family. It's just great. It's helped a great deal. So we work on this thing. Same way with my boy.

What I'm trying to point out, I am one of those who fits into this category, like the military man who might be gone for a prolonged time. Well, in all the churches, there've always been fellas who have just seemingly taken Scott under their wing. They're always glad to take him to a hockey game, glad to take him to a ball game, and it's really been a great help.

And I believe they're doing exactly what the New Testament teaches, that the church has a responsibility to fill in the gap whenever there's a lack of that father image. I don't believe the word of God has changed. I'll give you some verses, Galatians 3:27 and 28. Colossians 3:18, First Peter 3:1. All of these still teach that the woman is to be submissive to the husband.

Now I want you to see the result of a liberated woman. Have you ever wondered what a liberated woman looks like? One picture of a liberated woman is that gal on TV who comes wilding up with the cigarette between her hands saying, "You've come a long way, baby." Now that is not a real liberated woman. That's a woman who's in bondage. She's in bonded to that little weed.

But I want you to see a liberated woman in Proverbs chapter 31. 31st chapter. This is the result of submission. If you want to know what a submissive woman will be, look at the 31st chapter of the book of Proverbs. Now, remember, Proverbs has told us about some adulterous women and some wicked women, has given us warnings about them, but I want you to see Proverbs 31, verse 10, how he closes this.

"Who can find a virtuous woman? Her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband that safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil." Listen, he doesn't need to go out and look for other women because of the wife that God has given him. Incidentally, girls, I recommend reading Anne

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Landers. I don't agree with everything Anne Landers says, but many times Anne Landers talks about some practical things that we're not willing to talk about in the church.

And time and time again, she talks about the man who runs off with the secretary, or the man who runs off with another woman. And the thing that she constantly emphasizes is you wives complain about it, and yet you get married and you let yourself get all out of proportion. And you got all dressed up for him before you got him, and now that you've got him, you just let yourself go, and your hair looks bad all the time. And you're just a sight and you just don't fulfill your obligation and fulfill his sexual needs.

You don't just have him to blame. You also have yourself to blame and you'll notice this woman, the husband has no need of spoil. This woman meets his need. He doesn't need anybody else. He doesn't have to look at anybody else. "She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands." She is careful to work around the house and fulfill her obligations.

"She's like the merchants' ships, she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household and a portion to her maidens." She gets up before he goes on a fishing trip and fixes him homemade biscuits. "She considereth a field and buyeth it." Hey, I didn't think that women were supposed to have anything to do with money.

Some people talk that in the home, the man's supposed to do all the purchasing and all the budgeting. Evidently, this woman has something to do with money. Listen, I think generally speaking, the husband is probably more gifted in the financial affairs than the woman. My wife doesn't want anything to do with the finances and I enjoy it. And so I take care of them all, but let me say this, fellas, I keep her abreast of everything that's going on. We have our budget that we work on, and I'll be glad to talk about this type of thing in the course of this study on the home, on the budgeting, and the financial matters, but we work on this.

I have a certain amount that she gets every week. She gets that much to go for groceries and for shopping, and for school lunches and so forth, and we work on this principal. I also let her know where the life insurance policies are. If I dropped... Listen, a lot of men have dropped dead with a heart attack at my age, and the wife didn't know the first thing of where they stood financially. We have an obligation to inform them and let them go and keep things in order.

This woman, she was gifted though, financially. Listen, if you fellas are not gifted financially and your wife is a wiz at math, you better let her write the checks and balance the checks at the end of the month. This is one of her gifts. This is one of her talents. You're managing the home. She's not somehow overriding you, but you are using her within that situation. She buyeth it. She got involved in real estate, believe it or not.

There was a woman who was a real estate woman, and she was going out and buying fields. Now, I know that there's a great issue today over whether women should work. Naturally, since my wife does work, I would justify it. You would recognize that if... There was a time when I felt very definitely that a woman should not work. I went back to what Timothy said about a woman being a chaste keeper in the home. And I said, "That's where a woman ought to be, shall be keeper of the home."

Then one day I realized that I know some women who don't work, but they don't keep the house. They aren't chaste keepers of the home, and yet I found out that my wife really, who's just a super girl, and is just so talented in so many areas, that she is able to function as a school teacher, and yet ably function also in the home.

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And especially in my situation, being gone, it keeps her occupied, keeps her involved. That's just great for her, and she's able to pour into other lives. The point is that here was a woman who was a virtuous woman, who was a submissive woman, and yet she was also involved in the economy and, "She considereth a field and she buyeth it, with the fruit of her hands she planteth the vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms."

I don't know whether she lifted weights or what, but she drank the...