

IV. MASCULINE MALES

1. Masculine men lead

A. In the partnership of two spiritually equal human beings, man and woman, the man bears the responsibility to lead the partnership in a God-glorifying direction.

1. Before the fall

- Genesis 2:15-16 – God gave Adam control over the Garden of Eden
- Genesis 2:18 – Woman created as a helper (not equal) suitable (equal) for man.
- Genesis 2:18, 21-22 and 1 Corinthians 11:7-9 – Woman created for the man (equal) and from the man (not equal).
- Adam welcomed Eve as “bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh (equal), yet also named her (not equal) as he did the animals over whom he had dominion.
- Genesis 2:23 – Eve’s identity in relation to man as his equal and helper was defined by man.
- Genesis 2:24 - Because the woman was created from man’s flesh, their **re-union** in marriage is a ‘**one-flesh**’ relationship (equal), but the man **initiates** the relationship through leaving and cleaving (not equal).
- This paradox of equal in value, but unequal in role can be seen clearly in the Godhead – within the Trinity the Father leads, the Son submits to Him, and the Spirit submits to both, but the three Persons are fully equal in divinity, power, and glory.

2. At and after the fall

- Genesis 3:6 – Eve was deceived by the serpent and led the way to sin – she **usurped** Adam’s headship and he **forsook** (abandoned, deemed unnecessary) his responsibility.
- Romans 5:12-21 - Adam is **blamed** for the fall because of his headship.
- Genesis 3:16 - Eve is **sentenced** to pain in the maternal role & a ‘**desire**’ (same word used in **Gen 4:7**) to usurp her husband’s authority (as she did in the fall).
- Adam is sentenced for sin at two levels
 - a) He listened to the woman (gave up his **role**)

b) He **ate** the fruit. (**Genesis 3:17**)

2. Masculine men and the curse on the work role

A. The work role is cursed.

1. When men desire to accumulate more than God's provision, or resent how hard they have to work to provide, they are falling under the work role curse.
2. Men choose to live under the curse of the work role in the following ways:
 - Genesis 3:18-19 – When self-identity is **tied** to competing (with others for resources) in the world of work.
 - Exodus 16:19-20 – When men try to **hoard** 'manna', insecurity is created, leading to greed, dominance and control.
 - Luke 3:12-14; 1 Timothy 6:6-10 – Men become emotionally drained when they are not **satisfied** (never enough), or when they desire to accumulate more material goods than God has provided.
 - **Genesis 2:15, Lamentations 3:39** – When men **resent** how hard they have to work to provide, they are falling under the work role curse.

3. Masculine husbands love

A. Love as Christ loves (Ephesians 5:25).

1. Just as the **church** was the model for the wife's submission (**5:24**) so is Christ the model for the husband's love.
 - The husband must give of himself as Christ gave Himself for the church. Christ's giving was **personal**, **sacrificial**, and for the **benefit** of His bride.
 - Christ's redemptive work for the church obviously cannot be imitated precisely by the husband, but it makes sense that if Christ wanted to present the church to Himself "**in all her glory**" the husband should work to make his wife and marriage **glorious**. **5:27**
2. Sanctify and cleanse her by the washing of the Word (Ephesians 5:26)
 - His responsibility is to use the Word of God to "wash" his wife (2 Timothy 3:1-7).
3. Protect her from sin (Ephesians 5:27)
4. **Love as his own body (Ephesians 5:28)**
 - The church is denoted as Christ's **'body'** (**5:23, 30**) thus, this further illustrates the command to love as Christ loves the church.
 - The wife is his own flesh (see Genesis explanation above).

- **5:29**-If the husband loves his wife he loves his own body. As he **'nourishes'** (*ektrephei*) and **'cherishes'** (*thalpei*) his own flesh, so he should act toward his wife. The word *thalpo* literally means, **"to keep warm."** This same verb is used in ***1 Thess 2:7*** to describe how a nursing mother tenderly **cares** (*thalpo*) for her children.
- ***No one hates his own body – the husband must exercise all headship in love and always for the wife's good. (Colossians 3:19)***