



Rooting Our Headship in the Fear of God

Week 1 Discussion Guide

Synopsis

In our first lesson, we reflect upon Ephesians 5:21-22. In these verses the Apostle transitions his readers from the general duties and affections of all believers to the particular duties required of godly men, women, and children, within a household. At the center of our duties before God is the fear of God. This is not a servile fear of punishment, but a filial fear of sonship. For a husband, true headship, and true leadership in one's calling, is grounded and rooted in the fear of God. This steady motivation produces joyful obedience, humility, and faithful governance of the home.

Questions for Preparation Before the Message

1. Describe your understanding and experience of the phrase "the fear of God."
2. What do you believe it means when Paul writes in Ephesians 5:21 that one way we demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit is by "submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ?"
3. List out five to ten particular duties you are responsible for as the head of your household.

Questions for Reflection After the Message

1. What is really under the hood of your life? If you were to, metaphorically speaking, lift up the hood of your life, what do you feel you would discover right now? What evidence do you see in your tone, patience, priorities, or presence that speaks to this?
2. Today we discussed the difference between filial fear of a son to his father and servile fear of a servant to his master? One of the best ways we can evaluate what kind of fear is driving us is by how we handle our sin? Filial fear is quicker to run to God in repentance because of its assurance of love, while servile fear is very slowly



in repentance because of its insecurity. Which kind of fear do you believe more greatly drives your relationship with God?

3. How might your wife and children describe your leadership at home? Do they experience a version of you primarily flowing out of deep roots in God? Why or why not?
4. Today we spoke about a focused attention to our particular duties as men. Where are you most tempted to be passive, distracted, or disengaged in your particular duties? What might it look like to take strides in improving this area of your life?

Main Idea of Message

Every faithful home begins with a man who fears the Lord rightly.

Outline of Message

1. The fear of the Lord forms a man
 1. Filial Fear
 2. Servile Fear
2. The fear of the Lord fills a man
 1. Submission of Reverence
 2. Submission of Service
3. The fear of the Lord focuses a man