

**Pastor Jim Jackson, 4/2/23**  
***the fam pt. 1—Harmony At Home***  
**Eph. 5:15-6:4**

**God builds the FAMILY**

God cares about how the church and home functions. The home was originally designed to be relationships of harmony between people. When God created Adam, He built him with needs that were only met by another person (Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:18-25). At the first wedding in Eden, God presented Adam with a wife He made from Adam's own flesh. *God made men and women to compliment not compete with one another.* This first family shared a common God, a common calling, and a common desire to meet each other's unique needs. God built men and women to live together, love together, and last together in harmony. Even after sin entered history, through God-ordained roles, every home can still find harmony and peace. *God doesn't create chaos, we do* (1 Cor. 14:33)!

**God designs HARMONY in the home**

Though God could've made Eve from the ground like Adam, God created Eve in a way where she was equal but different from him. As a man and husband, Adam's role wasn't to be a dictator or intimidate his wife, but to lead and love her. As a woman and wife, Eve's role wasn't to control or manipulate her husband, but to help and support him. *Men and women are equal in value but different in role* (1 Pet. 3:7). The husband is to be submissive to his wife's needs and she is to be submissive to her husband's needs while children submit to the authority of their parents. Willing submission (Gr. *hupotasso*, military term 'to line up under') is the heart of God to keep order in the church and home. *God built men to lead and love, women to respect and respond, and children to obey.*

**God desires TEAMWORK at home**

God designed men and women to have a fulfilling life together by marriage. Friends-with-benefits or living together isn't marriage, it's immoral roommates. *Marriage is a physical and spiritual commitment that invites God's blessing* (Heb. 13:4)! Like players on a team with equal human value but are different in role so the team can win, homes should be working together to help and not hurt each other. God gifts each person in a home differently so when they serve with their gifting there is peace and not pain. *Even though imperfect, God wants every home to be functional and fulfilling!*