

Series: Calling

Message: Called To Family

*Scripture: Genesis 1:26-28a, Ephesians 1:17, 2:18, 3:14-15,
4:17-6:4, I Corinthians 7, Psalm 127, Romans 11:36*

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The Big Idea

The world views family matters as matters of choice, for the sake of personal happiness and fulfillment. But in reality, our families are holy ground. Family choices and circumstances are God's calling - for His own glory, for our greater good and our deeper joy. Family, as God made it and redeems it, is a calling to reflect Who He is as Creator and Redeemer.

Two Foundational Truths

1. The very idea of "family" comes from Who God is. (Gen. 1:26 - 27, Ephesians 3:14 - 15, 1:17, 2:18, 4:6)
2. The power to live out our family callings comes from the power of the Spirit of His Son. (Galatians 4:4 - 7) We can lay down our lives for each other, only in the power of the One who laid down His life for us.

Guiding Truths

1. Our families are not to be an idol, an ultimate love, a pseudo Savior or Lord. Parents, husbands and wives, sons and daughters can never meet the deepest needs of our hearts.
2. Singleness (whether by choice or circumstance) and marriage are both callings to serve.
3. Marriage is to only be "in the Lord", and sexual intimacy set apart for marriage.
4. Divorce? Only for adultery.
5. Called to be parents? Your children belong to God. Be afraid, and then relax.
6. In learning to honor our parents, we learn to honor God.
7. Family calling above and before the calling to work.

Genesis 1:26 - 28a (NIV84)

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number."