**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | God's Plan for the Man |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Psalm 128:1-6 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1782 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. Not everyone who is a male is a real man, a godly man.
		1. A person can be born a male, but it takes maturity to be a man.
			1. We are young only once, but we can be immature forever.
		2. We are talking today about real, masculine, godly, and Biblical men.
	2. If there is anything in shortage today, it is real men.
		1. Real men who will say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
			1. Joshua 24:15
	3. It is better to marry a man who is poor and doesn’t have a cent but who is worth a million than to marry a man who has a million and not worth a cent.
	4. A person has to develop to be a man, a real man of value.
	5. Psalm 128:1-6
	6. What is real manliness, and what is God's plan for the man?
		1. Just like we receive a book of instructions when we purchase a new refrigerator, God has given us a book of instructions as well.
			1. It is the Word of God, and from the Word of God we are going to find God's plan for the man.
	7. There is a basic fundamental difference between men and women.
		1. The devil is doing all that he can do to blur that distinction.
		2. Genesis 1:27
		3. There are those who are trying to tell us that there is no fundamental difference between men and women, and they are doing this in the name of equality.
		4. Men and women are equal, but they are not the same.
			1. Equality and worth are not sameness of function.
		5. Men and women are different in many ways.
			1. Their bodies are different.
			2. Their minds are different.
			3. They are different from the composition of their blood to the development of their brains.
				1. This means that they think and experience life differently.
			4. It has been said that men and women differ in every cell of their bodies, and the chromosome combination is the basic cause of the development into male and female.
		6. God made them different, and He made them different for a purpose.
	8. In today’s message, we will look at Psalm 128 to find out what a real man should be according to Scripture.
2. A real man will have a faithful walk (psalm 128:1)
	1. Psalm 128:1
		1. This talks about the pattern that a father is to set before his children.
		2. He is to be a worshipping father and a godly husband.
		3. He should have a personal walk with Almighty God.
			1. His wife and children need to see him walking with God.
	2. In the home, the man is a figure and a picture of Almighty God.
		1. Jesus taught us to call God, “Our Father.”
			1. If a child has a father, then the child will think that God is like daddy.
		2. We are taught to pray to God our Father.
		3. The husband represents Almighty God to his children and the Lord Jesus Christ to his wife.
		4. The Bible says that God sent His Spirit into our hearts crying, “Abba Father.”
			1. "Abba Father" means "Daddy Father.”
			2. Romans 8:15
		5. Ephesians 5:22
			1. Wives are to submit to their own husbands as unto the Lord Jesus Christ.
		6. The reason men ought to live godly lives is that they are modeling before their families what Almighty God is like and what the Lord Jesus Christ is like.
	3. 1 Corinthians 11:3, 7
		1. This passage tells us that while God the Father and God the Son are co-equal and co-eternal, God the Father is the head of God the Son.
			1. While the husband and the wife are of equal worth, the husband is the head of the wife.
		2. The man is the image and glory of God, and the woman is the glory of the man.
			1. In the home, the man pictures Almighty God.
			2. The woman pictures the church, which is the bride of Christ.
	4. The man should never get the idea that religion and spirituality are primarily for women and children.
		1. God demands more spirituality from the man than He does from the woman.
		2. If the home is not right, then the man shares the primary responsibility.
			1. The man is the head of the home.
				1. And if he represents God in that home, then he should walk in His way.
	5. One of the chief characteristics of Almighty God is faithfulness.
		1. One of the chief problems in America today is the unfaithfulness of men.
			1. Many men have become dropout dads and failing fathers.
				1. Many children are not living with their natural fathers, and some grow up in homes without any fathers.
				2. A majority of men in prison grew up without a father.
		2. God’s faithfulness includes promise making and promise keeping.
			1. Our God is a covenant God.
			2. All of the Bible hangs upon the faithfulness and promises of God.
			3. When a father makes a promise, he has created a small sanctuary of trust within the jungle of unpredictability.
			4. Stu Weber has said that fathers and husbands need to learn faithfulness and to stand by their promises.
				1. When marriage is not fun, stay in it.
				2. When parenting is over your head, stay at it.
				3. When work is crushing your spirit, don’t let it beat you.
				4. He also says that the heart of staying power is sacrifice; giving one’s self up for the good of another.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of this.

The Lord Jesus Christ could have turned away from the cross, but He stayed the course all the way to Calvary.

When He could have come down from the cross and sidestepped the suffering, He stayed.

When He could have called armies of angels to deliver Him, He stayed.

He stayed all the way, until the moment He cried out that it was finished.

John 19:30

* 1. A real man is one who has a faithful walk before Almighty God.
1. a real man is known by his fruitful work (psalm 128:2-3)
	1. Psalm 128:2
	2. God's plan for the man is to provide for his family.
		1. Genesis 3:19
			1. God is speaking to the man in this passage.
			2. God is not saying that it’s going to be easy, which is why He gave men a tough exterior.
		2. God made the woman to be the nurturer.
			1. Titus 2:4
		3. Provision goes beyond food, clothing, and housing.
			1. If a man thinks that he has done his job just by giving his kids things and putting his wife in a beautiful house, then he is wrong.
				1. He is to provide the emotional and spiritual security of the home.
		4. A husband is not only to be a provider but to also be a provisionary.
			1. He is to consider what his family really needs.
				1. He is to pray for, hope for, and work towards those needs.
	3. A man’s fruitful work is to be both a provider and a protector.
	4. Psalm 128:3
		1. A man is to have a sense of well-being when his wife and children are dwelling securely.
			1. This is why God made a chromosomal difference in male and female.
				1. Men tend to be tough and strong; women tend to be gentle and tender.
				2. The man tends toward logic and linear thinking; the woman tends toward emotion and verbal communication.
				3. The man tends to be a risk taker; the woman prefers security and order.
				4. The man is more insensitive; the woman is more sensitive.
				5. The man looks toward the future; the woman is concerned with here and now.
				6. The man tends to be more skeptical and suspicious.

This is the protector in him.

* + - * 1. The woman tends to be more believing.

This is the nurturer in her.

* + - 1. All of the above attributes are right because that is the way God made them.
				1. This doesn’t mean that a man is to be rude and crude; he can be a man and be tender.

The Lord Jesus ran the money changers out of the temple.

Matthew 21:12-13

The Lord Jesus was also meek, tender, and gentle.

The little children could come and sit in His lap.

Mark 10:13-14

* 1. God made the man to be the provider and the protector.
		1. Psalm 128:2-3
1. a real man is known by His family worship (psalm 128:4-5)
	1. Psalm 128:4-5
		1. He is a man who seeks God’s blessing; therefore, he becomes God’s blessing.
		2. The blessing goes beyond his own family and to the nation.
			1. America will never be right until our homes are right, and our homes will never be right until the fathers get right.
	2. The fathers are the ones who are to lead their family to worship the Lord.
	3. God has made the man to see the big picture, and to say, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”
		1. Joshua 24:15
	4. Psalm 128:3
		1. The picture here compares the wife to a tender vine and the children to olive plants.
			1. They both need to be cared for and cultivated.
			2. A vine is very fruitful, but it needs support.
				1. It needs something to lean upon.
			3. In the Middle East, olive trees are a source of productivity and wealth.
				1. But the olive trees need to be cultivated.
			4. How are we to cultivate our children?
				1. Ephesians 6:4

Don’t provoke them.

This means that we are not to exasperate, frustrate, wound, or humiliate our children.

It has been said that rules without relationships make rebellion.

The opposite of provocation is nurture.

The word for “nurture” in this verse gives the idea of tending a garden.

This takes discipline, instruction, demonstration, and time.

Psychologists tell us that if a father does not spend time with his daughter, then her chances of becoming frigid or promiscuous are greatly increased.

We may say that we don’t have time, but duties do not conflict.

* 1. The husband’s chief assignment from God concerning his wife is to make her a more radiantly beautiful Christian.
	2. The husband is to be the pastor in the home.
		1. He is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church.
			1. Ephesians 5:23
			2. Mutual submission is a contradiction in terms.
				1. In general, Christians are to mutually submit; but in the home, there is headship.
				2. Anything with no head is dead, and anything with two heads is a freak.
			3. If this is concerning to the wife, then it is due to both her sin nature and the husband’s sin nature.
				1. Her sin nature wants to rebel.
				2. His sin nature wants to rule.
			4. God made the husband to love his wife as Christ loves the church and died for the church.
				1. Most women do not mind submitting to a man who loves his wife enough to die for her and who shows it by the way he lives for her.
	3. A great problem in America is not primarily rebellious women, but it is failing men.
		1. Men failing to be the men that they ought to be.
1. A real man and his future wealth (psalm 128:6)
	1. Psalm 128:6
	2. Real wealth is not a fancy car or a big house.
		1. Real wealth is our children and grandchildren.
			1. And if they love Jesus, then we’ll have them for all eternity.
		2. Psalm 128:5-6
			1. This is our future wealth.
	3. Many people don’t want to have children so that they can afford more things.
		1. Children do not make a rich man poor; they make a poor man rich.
			1. The rich man cannot take his money to Heaven, but a Christian can take his saved children to Heaven.
				1. This is his wealth.
	4. Psalm 78:5-7
		1. Our faith is to be carried on from fathers to sons to grandchildren.
2. CONCLUSION
	1. In America today, we need some real men.
		1. Men who will love God with all of their hearts.
		2. Men who will be faithful and who will stick it out through the hard times in life.
			1. Men who will stay to the end.
		3. Men who will be providers and protectors for their families, as God enables them.
		4. Men who will teach their children to walk in the ways of God.
	2. We need to ask God to give us Christian homes.
	3. The only way to have a Christian home and the only way to be a real man as God intended is to first surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
	4. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	5. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. Acts 16:31
		5. John 3:16