

# Kingdom Man

## *Module 3 - Task 2*

### **YOUR FAMILY LIFE**

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Psalm 128 moves from a man's personal life to his family life in verse 3. God created Adam first, and Adam, as a single man, had to learn how to fear the Lord. That is, God gave him responsibilities and guidelines as an individual before God ever gave him a family. But then in Genesis 2:18, God brought Adam his wife, Eve, and described her as a "helper suitable" for him. The term "helper" could seem demeaning in today's world. Watch Dr. Evans's video response to the following question: "What is the role of a wife in the life of a Kingdom man?"

Now that you understand what ezer kenegdo means, how does that change the way you view the term "helper suitable"?

In what ways can you underutilize and undervalue your wife?

If a man fears God, he will treat and relate to his wife as God intended. This is a three-fold calling. A husband is called to be his wife's savior, sanctifier, and satisfier. A savior will sacrifice his life for the well-being of that which he loves.



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Read Ephesians 5:25. How did Jesus love the church? How can we imitate that love to our wives?

The word sanctify means to set something apart as special and unique. Sanctification is the process of leading a person from where they are spiritually toward where they should be. Within marriage, it is the process of loving and discipling your wife to become everything that God created her to be.

Read Ephesians 5:26-27. What role should Scripture play in your wife's sanctification?

Finally, a husband is called to be his wife's satisfier. This is much more than a sexual call. To satisfy her means to fulfill her desires, expectations, needs, and demands emotionally, spiritually, and physically.

Read Ephesians 5:28-29. Paul is challenging men to treat their wives like they treat their own bodies. In other words, whatever you do for yourself, you ought to do for your wife. What are some things that you do for yourself that you haven't done for your wife?

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When a man answers all three of these calls in his marriage his wife will be “like a fruitful vine” (Psalm 128:3). For a vine to be fruitful, it does three things: clings, climbs, and clusters. A vine will cling to a post for stability and security. When it is secure, the vine becomes free to climb. This means it will spread, grow, expand, and flourish. And when those two conditions have been met, a vine will begin to form clusters of grapes—it will bear fruit. Men, if we create the right environment for our wives, one that gives them security and freedom to grow and flourish, they will produce fruit and everybody around them will benefit.

What is one thing you can begin doing right now to ensure that your wife can flourish and become everything that God created her to be?

When you fear the Lord, your wife isn't the only one affected, but your children will be too. Psalm 128:3 goes on to say your children will be like “olive plants around your table.” If nurtured properly, an olive plant will become an olive tree that can produce olives for over 2,000 years. Those trees can produce olives for that long because their roots run deep.

Men, we want to raise children who have roots that run deep into the Lord, who can stand strong in their faith, and who can produce fruit for the kingdom. But this doesn't happen overnight, nor does it happen by chance. It happens by intentional discipleship. Psalm 128 says that this time of discipleship happened around the table.

The table was not just a place for the family to eat, but it was a place for the man to nurture the family. At the table, the man would spend time teaching, listening, learning, knowing, and leading his family. Yet most families today don't eat dinner together. When they do, they usually don't use it as a time to talk, listen, and teach. We have to compete with TVs and smartphones.



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But if we want our children to be olive trees, we must turn off all the distractions, and spend time nurturing and discipling them. But how do we do this? Watch this short video on Dr. Evans discussing how he disciplined his family at the table, despite having countless pastoral duties, running a national ministry, traveling to preach, and juggling his wife's and four children's schedules as well.

How many nights each week can you commit to having dinner together at the table?

What is one thing you can begin doing right now at the table to lead your family spiritually?

Men, the time you spend with your families should always be your priority. In the biblical culture, this was understood. Men didn't have to be nudged and prompted to spend time engaging their families. They knew it was their responsibility to nurture and disciple them. How can you begin leading your family in a more intentional way?