

Bereans Bible Institute
Module IX – The Christian Home
Lesson 2 – Put on Your Big-Boy Pants

I. God's purpose for the man.

A. Everything God made He declared 'good.' (Gen. 1:25)

B. It is NOT GOOD for the man to be alone (Gen. 2:18)

1. There are exceptions

a. Those fully dedicated to God's service (Matt. 19:10-12)

b. During the time of tribulation (1 Cor. 7:1,7,10,26)

C. God created mankind as 'male and female' in the image of God (Gen. 26-28)

1. to reproduce as husband and wife,

2. to take dominion over the earth (Gen. 1:26-31)

D. God gave the man the responsibility as 'head'

1. God put the man in charge of Eden (Gen. 2:5-9,15-17).

2. God created the woman to be his helper (vs. 18-25)

a. Called 'woman' because she was taken out of man (vs. 22-23), not independent creature (v. 19).

II. After Adam: The man's first responsibility: SEPARATE from father and his mother (Gen. 2:24).

A. A new 'HEAD' (patriarch) of a new 'generation'

1. The man cannot assume his role until he establishes himself as head of a new family.

2. His wife cannot assume her role as his helper until he cuts the apron strings, and establishes himself as independent from his parents. Only an independent man (like her father should have been) can lead her and earn her respect.

a. If his parents continue to 'parent' him by manipulating him (a fathers' high expectations, or a mothers' guilt trips), his wife cannot 'follow' his lead.

b. His WIFE (his new family) must become his first external priority.

c. Christian parents should help him cut the apron strings, not hinder him. The 'parenting' is finished on his wedding day.

d. He should seek to establish new family traditions, not just bring his wife along for his old family traditions.

3. God did not say that the woman must leave her parents because she will need time to transition away from being in subjection to her father.

a. This does NOT mean that the man becomes attached to the wife's family.

b. It means that the man becomes a family 'HEAD' [patriarch] and the wife begins to follow her new 'head' instead of her father.

c. It is the man's responsibility to cut his own ties before he can lead his wife to become able to trust him and respect him as her head.

4. The goal is for the man and woman to become "one flesh" (v. 24), which is impossible until the former ties are severed.

a. This does not mean that a man no longer 'honors' his parents. He does not allow himself to be manipulated or guilted by them.

b. A man's 1st responsibility: Put on your big-boy pants; become your own man so that you are equipped to LEAD your wife as her sole 'HEAD.'