

Does Your Family Function Like the Trinity?

I. Within the context of the family, Christian fathers should fulfill some of the unique roles of God the Father.

- For those home without a father, allow Psalm 68:4-6 to comfort you. God is more than happy to fill in where the earthly father has left a void.
- It is the men whom God tasks with the spiritual education and discipleship of the family, and He does it in both the Old and New Testaments.
- Too many women have been forced to mirror God the Father simply because the men aren't doing their part. This is a sad and unacceptable reality in the church today. May God do a revival in all of us and help us to fill the work to which He's called us.
- On the other hand, if you're a wife and/or mother listening today, and your husband is not mirroring God the Father in your home, you can do two things. First, you can encourage your husband to subscribe and follow along with this podcast. But, more importantly, you can pray for your husband and be an example of a woman who understands and fulfills the roles God has given her to do. I Corinthians 7 — Be who you're supposed to be and trust God to do the rest.

II. Within the context of the family, Christian mothers should fulfill some of the unique roles of God the Son.

- Ephesians 5:22, 24; Colossians 3:18
- God the Son functions in total submission to God the Father, and in the same way that Christ exalted the Father in the eyes of His followers, the wife is to exalt the positive attributes of the husband before the children.
- Wives and mothers can mirror the second person of the Trinity by accomplishing the will of the Father in the home.
 - Regardless of what the husband does, wives are to — first and foremost — accomplish the call of God the Father in the home.
 - Assuming the husband is not asking the family to sin, the wife should be the First Follower to accomplish what the husband has asked. Wives are in an amazing place, just like Jesus was, to model obedience and zeal. When wives and mothers zealously endeavor to make sure the Christ-honoring expectations of the husband are met, they are instilling in their children an invaluable and necessary understanding of biblical authority and how God created the world to function.
 - Wives have the express privilege of being the perfect member of the home to daily minister to the husband and children.
 - Jesus was the one member of the Trinity to take on human flesh so He could live and die and rise again to purchase salvation. Also, while He was here, He ministered to His people in a unique way by healing them and preaching to them and casting out demons.
 - Mothers, your bodies were equipped by God to care for your infant children in a way that men's were not. Wives were also given to their husbands to compliment and complete them.
 - These unique functions and the whole of human history are a tribute to the fact that if anyone is going to stay home so as to dedicate themselves to the intentional, premeditated discipling of her children, it just makes sense for it to be the wife and mother.

III. Within the context of the family, Christian children should fulfill some of the unique roles of God the Holy Spirit.

- First, children should live in submission to their father. This is evident. In the same way the Holy Spirit submits to the will of the Heavenly Father, so too should children submit to their earthly fathers in all that is Christ-honoring. I have to add that caveat because we're all sinful; just bear in mind that I'm not saying children don't have to obey unsaved or sinful parents. No, they have to obey everything their parents say unless the parent wants the child to do something that is a clear violation of Scripture.
- Second, children should live in submission to their mother. John 17:13-15
 - I know all this talk of submission and obedience is super-distasteful to the world, and maybe even to you because you've had authority figures who have hurt you. But, my friends, Jesus Christ — God of the universe — and the Holy Spirit — equally God of the universe — both submit to the will of the Father.
 - If there were ever an example of a being Who didn't have to submit to anyone, you would think it would be God . . . but within the Godhead, He created a beautiful model of authority, headship, submission, and hierarchy all while maintaining perfect equality and unity.
 - Wives are not inferior to the husbands. Children are not inferior to their parents.
 - We're simply called to mirror God, and therefore mirror the Trinity as we fulfill the unique roles God has given us.
 - This is a beautiful and holy calling. This should not be shirked nor fought. Ephesians 6:1 tells us, "*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right,*" and Colossians 3:20 adds, "*For this pleases the Lord.*"
- And finally, children should be an active testimony in this world.
 - I think children are a beautiful picture of this. Dads need to be a testimony at work. Moms can be the same with everyone with whom they interact, but children are unique in that their parents work to equip them so they can be sent out. Psalm 127:3-5
 - Children are frequently compared to arrows that are shot out. They're not retained like a sword or spear. They're sent forth so they can leave their parents, cleave to their spouses, and start the process anew.
 - This is how the Holy Spirit functions. Theologically speaking, "*The Father eternally generates the Son and together with the Son spirates (which means to make common the undivided essence) the Spirit who eternally proceeds from both the Father and the Son (Psalm 104:30; John 14:26; 15:26; Romans 8:9).*"
 - In much the same way that Christ sent the Holy Spirit into the world to be a blessing and comfort to His people and conviction to the world, I hope we're preparing our kids to have a similar testimony in the world.

May we men be a fitting example of God the Father in our homes. May you ladies so bear the image of Christ that you beautifully exhibit Him in your lives. And may all you kids take upon yourselves the holy calling to function like the Holy Spirit in your homes.