



REDEEMING  
HOPE

# Households that Change the World

How everyone can join God in His global vision to restore everything

November, 2020

## Series Overview

*"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33 ESV)*

Every person alive exists within a household. Whether you are single, married, a parent, divorced, part of a blended family, widowed, or adopted, you have a last name, are a family unit, and as such are a household. This gives you a unique and special place in world history. In our culture, there are two competing narratives on the household: the secular and the religious.

The modern/secular narrative of the household idolizes individualism above all else and struggles to imagine a happy life with the loss of independence that comes with marriage, children, and familial obligations. At the core of the secular view is that the smaller and more mobile, the better. Independence is king. The self is sovereign. And any partnership or involvement in the household must serve to benefit the independence of both parties or else it must be cut off. The religious perspective looks down on the secular in judgement and wonders: "how can you know true love without having children?"

The traditional/religious narrative of the household idolizes the nuclear family above all else and struggles to imagine a worthwhile and meaningful existence filled with love apart from a spouse and bearing children. In this view there is no honor without a large and expanding family, children are worshipped as the central focus of the household, and the appearance of stability and comfort is elevated to the detriment of authenticity and sacrificial service to others. The secular perspective looks down on the religious in disdain and wonders: "how can you be truly happy without being independent?"

In these pursuits of happiness and love there is a distortion of God's intended purpose and design for the household. In fact, each of these perspectives build their own kingdom: either of happiness through the idol of freedom or love through the idol of marriage and children. But Jesus comes and makes a better way for us, called the Gospel, that rejects both independence and the family as an idol. The Gospel brings us into a true knowledge of happiness and love that is filled with self-sacrifice, optimism for the future, and a proper and balanced view of all households as a way of joining God in His global vision to restore and redeem the world.

The Gospel counters the modern/secular narrative by stating that marriage, children, and growing households are an act of faith that God is going to restore and redeem all things. We don't have to be fearful of losing independence, but look to Jesus who laid down all of His freedom to form a new household of faith called The Church. We submit to King Jesus, and find our happiness in joining Him in His Kingdom work. Then, growing a household becomes a joy and a means to join God's growing influence in the world through the legacy of marriage and children.

The Gospel counters the traditional/religious view by stating that the nuclear family is simply a tool in God's repertoire to bring His Kingdom into the world. Jesus was single, died a virgin, and yet lived a complete and satisfactory life filled with unconditional love and affection for others. Singleness is a sign and means of faith, knowing that spiritual heirs are just as important as biological in God's Kingdom. Our future is not rooted in an earthly household continuing in perpetuity, but rather in our Kingdom investment. Children are not an idol for us to lay our lives down to, but rather a gift for us to steward and care for. And we can know true love through prioritizing the Kingdom of God above all other things.

God is redeeming and restoring the entire world back to Himself, and our households have the invitation and calling to join Him as He changes the world with the Good News of Jesus.

The question is: Do you want to join Him?

## \*Specific Background for Series\*

Some people in Clarksville feel left out, abandoned, or ostracized by the established church either through singleness, divorce, or widowhood. The established church has a tendency to worship or idolize the nuclear family to the detriment of caring for everyone regardless of their household size or dynamic. **We want to address the religious culture's worship of the family and help all people see how they have a meaningful, important, and valuable place in God's family.**

Some people in Clarksville want to seek their own personal freedom, worshipping individualism and their own pursuits to the detriment of self-sacrifice, service to others, or even a commitment to being faithful to their own household. This causes them to be immensely selfish in their relationships, rejecting their role in God's Kingdom as singles, husbands, wives, fathers, or mothers and then substituting their own temporary kingdom in its place. **We want to call out selfishness in the household and challenge people to lay their lives down to use their freedom in Christ to serve one another.**

Some people in Clarksville have never been taught or shown what a Gospel-centric husband, father, wife, or mother actually is. They have based their expectations off of their childhood family dynamics or what they perceive other families are doing, and thus have a misinformed understanding of their role and their spouses role in the family. This lack of clarity can cause unmet expectations, unreasonable expectations, and family conflict. **We want to clarify what the Bible says about family roles, give a clear invitation for how individuals within the family should act, and also give clear expectations on how they should expect their spouse to act in light of the Gospel.**

## Occasion, Purpose, and Message

### OCCASION

*What prompted the writing of this series?*

Bob Dylan says, "We all gotta serve somebody". We are all serving either King Jesus or an idol, and we are all building our kingdom or His Kingdom. This series is an invitation for us all to see the opportunities in our households to come into the Kingdom of God and labor for His vision of renewal to flourish and thrive...and for us to be able to join Jesus within our households as He is changing the world.

### PURPOSE

*What does this series hope to accomplish? What was the expected outcome?*

We want to see singles empowered to embrace their God-given singleness for His glory and advancing His Kingdom. They are not simply unmarried, but rather in a specific place to be used by God to partner with Him as He is changing the world. Singles can experience true love in the family of God, and true happiness in service to Him and growing His Kingdom.

We want to see husbands embrace their God-given role as leaders and model servanthood in their household. Like Jesus, they are sacrificing their freedom, comfort, and convenience to serve their family. Out of the trust that generates from selfless service, they lead and grow their family's influence and direct their family's energies towards investing in God's Kingdom first. Husbands are ensuring their household is seeking to come under the authority of Jesus, while also dying to themselves and loving their wife more than themselves.

We want to see wives embrace their God-given role as helpers to model submission in their household (which is neither unquestioned obedience nor to be ignored). Like Jesus came under the authority of His Father, wives are coming under the authority of their husbands to respect and follow him as they both serve and advance the Kingdom of God by following Jesus together. They prioritize their relationship with their husbands above every other human relationship (including children)

without seeking to control or dominate. Wives are modeling holiness for their household as they come under the authority of their husbands, sacrificing freedom and comfort to model how the church submits to Jesus.

We want to see fathers embrace their God-given role as leaders who compassionately love and care for their children, training them up to seek God's Kingdom first. Like their Heavenly Father, they are emotionally available, calm, sober-minded, practice justice, train their children in righteousness, and unconditionally love them with a steadfast love. They see their children as little disciples and themselves as disciple-makers. Fathers uniquely disciple each of their children to join the Kingdom of Jesus through modeling the Gospel in their own lives, spending intentional time in God's word, leading their family to participate in a local church, and planning self-sacrificing service together as a family.

We want to see mothers embrace their God-given role as nurturers who boldly care for and disciple their children in the Gospel of grace. Like the Holy Spirit, mothers are in a unique place to sustain and accomplish the family direction that the father has initiated through his obedience and submission to God. They see their children as their first and primary disciples, teaching them what is good, holy, and proper while modeling holiness and prudence in all things. Mothers are passionately pursuing God, growing in wisdom, nurturing their children, avoiding gossip, and partnering with their husbands to lead their children to joining God's Kingdom efforts.

## Major Theological Concepts

Household

Family

Covenant

Kingdom

Sacrament

## Thematic/Timeline Outline

11/1/2020	A Single Household
11/8/2020	Husbands in the Household
11/15/2020	Wives in the Household
11/22/2020	Fathers in the Household (Dre Bargs)
11/29/2020	Mothers in the Household (Shawn Bargs)

A Single Household  
Husbands in the Household  
Wives in the Household  
Fathers in the Household (Dre Bargs)  
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## Artistic Elements

Design ideas:

- Nodes coming out of a center node.
  - Households, large and small, are coming out of the center (Christ) which has a broad reach.
  - You can go farther with a smaller household
  - You can have a larger impact with a larger household
  - Both are important and connect back to the center node
- Houses and households but one is unique and set apart, different
  - We are called to be different, impactful, etc

FINAL GRAPHIC





## HOUSEHOLDS THAT **CHANGE** THE WORLD

### Resources and Sermon/Textual Notes

#### Resources:

- When Two Become One - [Notes](#), [Teaching](#)
- Called to Family - [Notes](#), [Teaching](#)
- The Purposes of Marriage - [Notes](#), [Teaching](#)
- Singleness - [Notes](#), [Teaching](#)
- Young Adults - [Notes](#), [Teaching](#)
- Adults, Fathers, Mothers - [Notes](#), [Teaching](#)
- [Was Jesus Married? Evidence from the Bible](#)
- [Men as Husbands - Mark Driscoll](#)
- [Paul Trip - How Selfishness Affects A Marriage](#)
- [Why Get Married? - Paul Tripp](#)
- [Marriage Is Disappointing - Paul David Tripp](#)
- [Paul David Tripp - Your Marriage And Genesis](#)
- [What God Has Joined Together by John Sartelle](#)
- [Hating Family by Thomas Brewer - Luke 14](#)
- [The Ordinary Christian Family by Tedd Tripp](#)
- [Family vs. Culture by Gene Edward Veith](#)
- [Three Ways with Families - Tim Keller](#)
- [Tim Keller - What do you tell pastors about their families?](#)
- [Tim and Kathy Keller | Marriage in Gospel Focus | TGCW12](#)
- [Love and Lust - Tim Keller](#)
- [Headship and Submission - Kathy Keller](#)
- [Can a Mother Forget? - Tim Keller](#)
- [Wives: What Submission Does \(And Doesn't\) Mean - JD Greear Ministries](#)
- [Six Things Submission Is Not - John Piper](#)
- <https://summitchurch.com/Content/ExternalSite/Messages/5d-Gods-Purpose-for-Gender-Eph-5-21-32.pdf>