

True Masculine Role: Introduction, Part 1

By Robert Vernon

Vernon:

Let me introduce myself formally. You've already heard my name and Bob Vernon. I'm with the LAPD and they give you a little bit of my background.

I I've been with the Department for 20 years and although I'm in administration now most of my time has been spent as we say on the street - a street cop not much as far as staff work or anything like that just working narcotics and juvenile narcotics and juvenile work. And if I have any expertise in area police works in that area. Juvenile narcotics work. And as a juvenile narcotics officer I begin at an early age. As far as my career on the department's concerned. I began getting interested in in family relationships because I noticed something about individuals who were classified as juvenile delinquents.

In my opinion well over 90 percent of them came from what we would call problem homes. And that interested me.

I started wondering why - what happened. What caused this to occur and I started looking into a little bit and this was as my children were just beginning to develop. You know we just had one that was about one year old. And the second one was on the way and we were just beginning our

own lives and I didn't want to have my children turned out to be a juvenile delinquent so I was interested what - what causes all this. What's happening?

Just to give you a little bit more background on myself. In addition to being a policeman I'm a Christian and some people react to that. They say "a Christian cop?" You know like I'll never forget the time I was down on Venice Beach and I stopped a guy for want of a better phrase - a hippie type - you know from New York I could tell by his accent I hadn't seen him around before and so I introduced myself. I said I'm I'm Captain Vernon. He says you're a cop aren't you. I said Yeah he said I thought so. He looked at me you know and I said Well you're not regular around here you.

And he said no. And I said Listen I'm not going to arrest you. Irregardless I ask him this question but I am kind of interested, Is marijuana worth more on the East Coast or on the West Coast is it harder to get out there easier to get out there what you know what's the comparison between New York and here in L.A.. He looked at me and he said I know you think I blow pot. And I said well I just ask. I said I thought you might know at least.

He said well up until a few weeks ago you're right - I really had. He said but I stopped using that stuff two weeks ago. I said OK but can you answer my question. He said well look at all I can

say is I don't know how much it costs out here. I don't know whether it's easy to get because I haven't been interested in it since I've been out here.

He said I know you will not understand what I'm going to say but you see I'm a Christian. And I said I know that you're not going to understand what I'm going to say [laughter] But I'm a Christian. The guy looked at me and he said A Christian cop!?! [laughter] You know. And it was like that doesn't work. You know that two and two don't equal four. And I said Yeah I really am. And he he went on and said a few more things to clarify to make sure I understood what I was saying. He said You mean like like there's a born again kind of Christian. I said Yeah yeah. You mean you you have asked Jesus Christ - he really pinned it down and make sure I knew what I was saying - I said Yeah yeah yeah. And the guy threw his hands in the air you know he's kind of an uninhibited guy and he says Praise the Lord!

And then he came over and started giving me a hug you know. And I was there with two other cops so I [inaudible mumble, audience laughter]. They're looking at me like you know what's what's going on here you know. I think the two are very compatible. In fact I don't know if you've ever noticed it in Romans 13 but it calls police officers - in about the 3rd or 4th verse - ministers of God. Now not too many cops know that you know but that's the truth. That's what the Bible says. And I really believe that. So you know I think we're ministers of God I really do.

Well that's by way of introduction as far as I'm concerned my background as far as education is concerned I did my undergraduate work at Cal State L.A. I went on to Northwestern University later on the department sent me there for a year for some graduate work and I finished up with a master's in Business Administration from Pepperdine University just a year and a half ago finally got my master's degree after all these years.

I'm real interested in family relations because of what I said earlier about juvenile work. And so I've done a little research and study and especially in the scriptures because you know when it really boils down to the nitty gritty - when you're going to base your your life on principles where do you go? What are the principles that count? And I found through experience you know if if there's one thing that cops like it's something that works. It's pragmatic. Policemen are kind of oriented that way. They don't like something that's just philosophically correct or or theoretically correct they like something that works.

And I found that the principles that we find in God's Word Work you know. They they're practical they wear well and I want to share some of those with you over the next few weeks. I'd like for you to take your outline now and fill it out as we go through it.

Judge David Kenyon one of the juvenile court judges in the Superior Court recently spoke at a interdisciplinary criminal justice group meeting at the police academy in fact it was just last

week and he said our criminal justice system is geared or it's engineered so that we only have to handle the very few that violate the law and it's based on the premise that most people want to comply with the law and will voluntarily do so he said. It's my observation that our civilization in the United States in the last few years has so deteriorated that that assumption is no longer a correct one. He said I'm afraid that we may have as many as 20 percent of our adolescent community today that not only are immoral they're amoral they don't have any morals.

Everything is relative. They've been taught somewhere along the line that there are no absolutes. There are no principles upon which to base your life. Everyone makes up his own decision. If it feels good do it type of thing and Judge Kenyon went on to say that our system cannot operate under those conditions. And he said in my opinion what we need to do in America is return to living life based on certain principles and that's what this course is going to be all about because during a workshop session we had after David Kenyans message to us we - leaders in the criminal justice system in southern California - decided that one of the areas that was lacking most in the socialization of young people today was parents who have been taught how to be parents.

And he went on to comment as we started the workshop program that we teach people to do practically everything else but be a parent. We prepare them for jobs we prepare them sexually for marriage. We prepare them as far as how to drive a car. We prepare them a lot of ways but we don't prepare them to be a parent or a father or a husband and the criminal justice group came

up with a recommendation that some type of training be given on a mandatory basis to everyone somewhere along the line in the educational system to prepare them for this role of being a parent.

The next question that came up was: What do we teach them? And I had some suggestions that I don't know how well they were received but I had some suggestions about some principals we find in God's book but we can talk about those here tonight and just to get started. I'd like to call your attention to Psalms 1:1-2 where the Bible teaches that personal joy is only possible when fulfilling your God-intended role. The Bible defines a role for males to fulfill for men and you know it only makes sense that if you have a role to fulfill if there is indeed a God - and I believe there is - and if he's made you if He's put together if he's wired you and if he has a role a function that he wants to fulfill just like these fulfill a function or certain other types of animals all have a function.

If he has a function that he wants you to fulfill as a human being a male human being that you really won't be happy unless you're fulfilling that role that function. You know that even applies - I can see that principle working and in police work. A police officer is happy when he feels he's doing his job. You know one thing about police work that makes it a little different than other work. Sometimes it's kind of hard to see if you're doing anything right that you're accomplishing anything. Sometimes at the end of the day you can't look back and see that you've really done something constructive really you know in other jobs you can look back and you can see a wall

that's a little higher than it was when you started or you can see a house that has a roof on it that the day you started didn't have a roof on it or or an electronic situation is is put together because you engineered it that way or whatever. But in police work it's kind of hard the results are intangible. But once in a while you do get that opportunity

I'll never forget the first time that I had an opportunity to interact with a victim of a crime I hadn't been on the department too many months. I had just finished my training period where I'd been placed working with a regular seasoned officer in radio car and it was my first week in a radio car by myself and I was going down the street and I remember they told me if you want to get a hot car you hang around the high schools when the when the classes let out in the afternoon and a lot of the guys will drive the stolen cars by the school pick up their buddies and show them hey look I've got a stolen car you know. And so I went by I had the Lincoln Heights beat at the time I went by Lincoln High School and sure enough down in front of the school drives a young fellow I could hardly see over the steering wheel you know. And the wind wing was busted and the glass was still on the side of the car.

And you know what cops are pretty smart [laughter] you you really figure things out. Well anyhow I I got behind him and turned on my reds you know and he of course pulled over after a while and I went up and boy you could tell by the way he looked you know he was deathly white like he was going to faint any minute. And I got him out and started talking to him and I could tell right away of course it was stolen he added hot wired and he was shaking a little bit. He was

by himself and he was kind of scared about going to jail. So I put the handcuffs on him and got him in a car and impounded the car and got back to the station and I called the owner and the owner's wife answered the phone and she said I'm sure it's a mistake. He hasn't called me. He's at work and he has the car. So I called his office she gave me the number and I talked to him Mr. Jones whatever his name was you know you have a 68 Chevrolet white in color?

Well yes. I said, Well I think I have it. [He said] Oh no know it's right outside the shop and you know on the street. I said oh I suggest you go look and see if it's out there. He went out. He says it's gone! it's gone! Someone stole my car! [laughter] and I said Well I have it sir. You know and man that guy came out of the station and you can't believe how appreciative he was. You know he said You got it before I knew it was gone! You know he was really excited and he just kept on pat me on the back. What a fantastic police department we got. What a good job you're doing officer and you're so young.

You know I guess I must have looked about 18 you know I don't even think I shaved then you know I just barely 21 and just out of the Academy and I was really proud to be fulfilling my role. You know this guy was happy I got his car back for him and it really made me happy to be doing what I was supposed to be doing. You know this citizen was paying me to to get his car back and I got his car back and he was happy. The Bible says in the way it puts it in King James and Psalms 1:1 it says blessed is the man and just to pause at that point.

Blessed is a word we don't use very much anymore. We don't use it in our vocabulary except ecclesiastically you know at church. The best translation for for blessed according to living version of the Bible paraphrased would be a full-of-joy is a person who it goes on to say - doesn't walk in the console of the ungodly or stand in the way of the sinners they're a citizen to see the scornful it says but his delight is in the law of the Lord. In other words he does what God wants him to do in the whole the whole idea in this passage is that you really will be full of joy if you're doing what God wants you to do as a man. Successful and happy family life is only possible when fulfilling your god intended role.

You know if you're out of your role as a husband you're going to have an unhappy family. They're going to be confused. They're going to have expectations from you that are not being received. Your wife's going to be confused frustrated. Your children are going to be upset.

You know there are certain principles in the Bible that the Bible lays on fathers that if they're not fulfilling them it says their children are gonna be unhappy. It says you can provoke - for instance - your children to wrath! In my experience as a juvenile officer. I find a lot of young people doing wrong things today because in my opinion their parents have provoked them to wrath. In other words they've been embittered them. They've they've put loads on them they shouldn't put on them they violated some of God's commands and the Bible and in so doing they've alienated their children from them.

I think it is important to recognize under this concept of the successful and happy family life that values are formed early in youth. I mean super early and that there is a correlation between delinquency in family life I've already said that we see a definite correlation. The kids we pick up that are tabbed delinquents criminals at young ages. They come from problem homes in most cases and I'm afraid that many of the cases that we don't label problem homes they probably are problem homes although on the surface they look all right.

You know about this concept of values being formed early on youth the Catholic Church has long said give me a child until he is seven years old and you can have the rest of his life. The concept there is it his personality his values, his basic life form is pretty well structured and it's pretty hard to disrupt after he's seven years old. While the latest evidence coming out of research groups indicates that the personality is pretty much formed by age 3 and many researchers child psychologists believe that much of the personality is formed at age one and a half! Now that blows my mind!

Now I don't understand that I'm just telling you what I've read but they say that it's incredible how much of the of the personality is actually formed in the early few months and years of life. Little things that make a difference. For instance they found and in one situation that babies were dying in an orphanage where they were not picked up and cuddled. They were literally dying

they were wasting away and dying just the fact of someone picking them up and cuddling them and loving them and patting them and kissing them had something to do with their physical well-being.

And I'm sure it had much to do with their mental well-being - their feeling of security and of being wanted even at that young age. And so it's important for us to recognize I'm glad to see some of you guys who aren't married and other people who are. We have young children that values and personality and in general trends are formed at a very young age. And it's it's important to get on that true masculine role early on so that these values will be the right ones.

The President's Commission on Crime made the recommendation that strengthening families would reduce crime. It's one of its prime recommendations that if we could do something to improve family situations in the United States we would actually reduce crime. And I think the fact that crime is going up by the way since 1969 in the nation from 69 until 74 through 74 crime it increased 26 percent in what we call part 1 crimes - those are crimes that are reported with real regularity like murder. Not too often the murder isn't reported an armed robbery. Those are part 1 crimes that were pretty reliably reported. They have increased 26 percent in the nation.

I think it's no coincidence that during that same time period marriages are failing faster and faster and faster and faster almost to the point in Los Angeles County where they almost are equal. Divorces almost equal marriages. It's amazing.

Ok, Let's talk for a minute about the definition of what is masculine. Before we go in that I'd like for you to think about it for a minute. What do you think of when you think of the word masculine. Would you come up with a synonym. One word that will in your mind be the same as masculine What is it to be masculine? Think about it for a minute then I'm gonna ask you to lift your hand and and give me some examples of how you view the word masculine - a single synonym that would mean the same thing OK let's have some - way to back [inaudible audience comment] manly.

OK. Strong [inaudible audience comment] Leader...dominant. What do you think of when you think of the term masculine [inaudible audience comment] independent [inaudible audience comment] wisdom. Those are good.

Let's look at what Webster says and then more important in that let's look at what the Bible says. Webster says strong vigorous courageous manly - someone said that - under manly; bold resolute and a little definition of what resolute means - not easily influenced. That's what Manly is. He's not easily influenced you know according to that definition there's not too many of us that are

manly because you know we all kind of live by what everyone else is doing. We're easily influenced. I hate to admit this to you but I'm easily influenced.

I remember here a few years ago. It's been longer than a few years ago now it was I guess the end of the 50s and the beginning of the 60s. It's been quite a few years ago. The slim ties started to go out. You remember remember when we used to wear thin ties in the 50s? My son is in a play that's going to be presented Friday and Saturday nights at this weekend and he's playing a role that took place in the 50s you know and so he said Hey Dad you got any of those old string ties and I went up to the attic and I got out a couple and I couldn't believe the wait times of change in their size.

You know it was about half the size and I remember one these white ties first came out I went over to [inaudible] and I got a suit and he said Don't you think you should have a tie. Mr Vernon your new suit and I said Yeah I think so anyone already said. Now here's one that I would recommend has all colours. I said Oh wow. That's white I don't like that. It's too bright. Also you know when they first came out they were there was quite a difference. The thin ties were kind of dark and conservative you know and the white ones were bright and flashing patterns and everything.

And I said that's bright and flashy and it's white. I don't like it. And he said Yeah. But everybody's wearing these. And I said I'll buy it - you know [laughter]. That's the magic word. This is really in you know everybody's doing it. According to Webster of masculine manly man is not easily influenced. Now perhaps I've given a bad illustration about style because we all like to be stylish but to be resolute to make up your own mind to decide what you think is right. That's being masculine that's being manly.

According to Webster aggressive and that's defined as having a driving energy a disposition to dominate and in conjunction with that to dominate really means to exert a guiding influence not the kind of domineering role where it's a crushing type of dominance but rather the type of dominance that gives a guiding influence a person that guides someone else along the line it's a manly person. Okay let's look at the Biblical masculine role; I think this is really where it counts. Webster's good. I think you might have given us a lot more insight than we might have been able to give ourselves. At least he's brought at least he brought something to my attention as I research these things. I was kind of surprised that for instance being resolute is considered manly and masculine.

But let's look at the Biblical masculine role. First of all Genesis 1:28 says Man was created to subdue and rule overall life. So the first principle that we find in the Bible about being a manly person being a masculine person fulfilling God's intended role is that you should be a leader - a person that rules in fact you were created to rule. Let's read that very briefly Genesis 1:28, here it

says and God bless him God said to them Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth. You'll be in charge you're the person in charge you're a man.

The man was created to rule over the woman. Genesis 3:16 let's look at that one. And to the woman he said I will greatly multiply your pain and childbirth and pain you shall bring forth children yet your desire shall be for your husband and he shall rule over you. Here's a second important principle in the Bible not only as man to rule over the world and the animals and everything here but he's to rule over the woman man is to be the leader of the woman. You know that really only makes sense that someone has to rule. It had to be either the man or the woman because although it sounds very palatable and acceptable to say that no one rules in an organization someone has to make decisions.

I heard an interview here just about a week and a half ago by Gloria. What's her name Steinman. The Steinem or something like that. She was talking about her magazine myths and she said in in the United States we suffer from a weird idea that someone has to be in charge. And she said in our magazine no one's in charge. It just happens; it just happens. And I said to myself how naive can you be? if she really believes that you know how how can she believe it. Who decides what stories are going to be in which months Edition. Who decides which ads they're going to take. Who decides what hours employees are going to work. Who decides how much - who gets paid what. You know someone makes decisions in an organization. Maybe a number of people but

they make decisions. I'm sure that there will be a lot of differences of opinion on what article will be first you know in the layout. Someone decides this one gonna be up front. This is gonna be the cover. And in any relationship in the home situation man and wife. Someone has to be in charge.

And one of the reasons I think we're having a lot of problems today is a lot of people don't believe that they say well. It's just kind of happens. Kind of go along and both go our own way and both make decisions. And we just get along well many times two people can live together and be in complete agreement. But once in a while someone has to say no wait a minute. This is the way we're going. And unless there is that recognition of authority and submission to the authority in my opinion there's gonna be problems. They're not only going to be between husband and wife but between parent child. A few weeks from now we're gonna be talking about discipline and one of the most important things in this field of discipline is to have an agreement in the part of the wife and the husband. Regarding discipline for the child one of the most damaging problems in exerting discipline is where parents don't agree in front of the child they argue it's not always going gonna get no he's not. We're going to do this no that's too severe form you're good at this. No I'm not in there pulling at the kid you know kids being pulled apart you know. And his parents aren't agreeing. That's very damaging. Yes, question?

Speaker 2:

The situation I wanted was to get this clarified. When they are married the two become one.

Vernon:

Yes.

Speaker 2:

Now I'm making a decision. How would you clarify this as to will they take the complete role?

Yeah. The the illustration that is given in Ephesians. Turn over your Bibles to Ephesians the relationship the bible let's say that to become one. That's true. So that it isn't a separate thing with one being over the other. In that sense. But it goes on to talk about the relationship between husband and wife being the same as a relationship between Christ and the church.

Verse 22 of Ephesians 5 wives be subject to your own husbands as to the Lord for the husband is the head of the wife as Christ also is the head of the church. He himself being the savior of the body. Now here he's giving us an illustration. I like the way God always uses illustrations. He said there is a head and there is a body. You know the two are one. They're connected. My body is right here my head isn't a separate thing from my body it's all one.

And it says Christ is like the head of the body the church. That's us. All true members of the true church. I'm not talking about a building church I'm talking about the body of Christ. It's the same relationship exists between a man and his wife.

He's the head and she's the body and I like the way John McCarthy put this in one of his tapes on on the Biblical form of marriage. He said You see a body that's that's well coordinated like OJ Simpson. You ever see that guy in slow motion when he goes through a line. It's a beautiful sight to behold. It's beautiful - the way pivots and the whole body is just flowing together and and the signals from the brain or the body's reacting just beautifully to the to the head to the signals from the brain and they're working in concert.

And it's just a beautiful relationship and it's something that's it's really neat to watch. On the other hand when you see a body that because of some brain damage or or some some malfunction of the nervous system there's not that kind of coordination in fact maybe there is a problem of coordinating body. It's difficult to walk. You see that's what occurs in my opinion between a husband and a wife. When the wife is not responding to the head. It's not something that's pretty to watch. It's something that brings sorrow

And this whole business of of women's living like - I want to do my thing. You know it's like a body out of control. That's the illustration the Bible uses that that the man is the head to the body just like Christ being the head to the body the church. And that's the relationship that exists between the man and wife for the husband as the head of the wife even as also Christ is ahead of the church he himself being the savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ so the

wives ought to be to their husbands in everything that includes physical relationships, principles that are set in the home.

It goes on to talk about that relationship. And I'm going to continue on in our outline because we're gonna get back to this in a minute. But that's one of the principles that we are to be the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church being the savior. That's right from that same chapter we just read verse 23 of chapter 5. That's the type of head we're to be. Now it's interesting that it uses an illustration because what kind of head was Christ for the church. Well he gave his life for the church. He loved the church so much that he went to Calvary's cross and he went through a lot of suffering not only physical but probably the most gruesome suffering he went through was feeling the guilt of all of our sins upon him.

That's the kind of head Christ was to the church and it says that's the type of headwear to be to our our body the wife - that type of head not the type that wants to crack the whip and be a cruel taskmaster but one who is willing to give your life for your wife. Then it enlarges on that about what kind of rulers we're to be it says the head being a servant to all Mark 10:42-43 let's look at Mark 10. Some interesting insight on what type of ruler we're to be.

You know a lot of guys stop up there a few lines that are outlined where we got started tonight where it says that we are to rule over the wife and they stop there as they say and they take it to

their wife and they say see what the Bible says I'm to rule over you! And they don't go on to cover that what that really means. What kind of relationship that is. I think it's important to see what the Bible means when it says we're to rule the wife. Mark 10:42-45 in calling them to himself Jesus said to them you know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them. You know what that phrase means. And they're great men exercise authority over them but it must not be so among you but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant. That's the same thing it says in Ephesians 5 the type of head we're to be. We're to be the type of head that is a servant to the body.

Yes we give direction but we give direction in the same way that Christ gave direction to his disciples he led by example. He led by loving them and ultimately he led by giving his life for them. It's kind of different a different way to lead. It's not the way that many of us have envisioned leading by cracking the whip and as it says in Mark there lording it over them. We must earn the respect and submission of our wives and I've given you a quote here from Dr. Henry Brandt a good friend of mine who is a psychiatrist Christian man. And he says if wives are to submit to the leadership of their husbands every husband has the responsibility of being the kind of man that warrants submission.

And I think this harks right back to what the Bible says if you're the type of leader that Christ was for his disciples and thus the church your wives will automatically want to follow you. If you're that type of man. If you're the type of man that really loves them. And you know that's

that's the only thing it really says to us in Ephesians 6 and that relationship of the husband to the wife or rather Ephesians 5. Let's go back to Ephesians 5 in elucidating on that whole relationship of the wives being subject to us. It begins our responsibility in verse twenty five and it says husbands love your wives just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself up for.

The wives are told they will to obey us and to follow us and submit to us. And the only type of admonition we're given is to love. It doesn't say crack the whip doesn't say make them tow the mark. It says love them. And it's interesting that the word that's used to describe love in verse 25 is the word agape. And those of you who have been in the Greek class and logos you know that in the Bible in the New Testament there are three Greek words for love: Eros from which we get erotic or physical sexual type of love; filial from which we get brotherly type of love. The type of love that a soldier has for his partner some time ends up giving his life for him. A policeman has for his partner you know that's an unusual relationship. I can honestly say that I've learned to love some policemen in this filial type of way this masculine way.

You spend more time with a brother officer than you do with your wife. You sit in the same car with him eight hours a night sometimes 16 hours depending on what happens and you go through a lot of unusual situations. You have a relationship develop there that really doesn't exist between any other human being except maybe a guy that's been a soldier in fighting combat. You know what we're talking about where you learn to depend on one another and trusting your life to one another. And that's an unusual relationship it's hard to describe. I've tried to describe it to

my wife and she doesn't understand it. She begins to a little bit but she doesn't really grab it and there's been two or three guys I work with for a long period of time where I really could say I love them just like they were my brother. And that's the type of love that filial communicates.

But this is even higher than that. The word agape love is godly love. It's the word that's used to describe God's love for us in sending Jesus Christ to die for us. The love that surpasses all of that goes beyond brotherly love -this filial type of love the love that a policeman has for his partner. It goes beyond that. It's a godly it's a pure love that can be described in no other way. Other than saying it's a type of love that God had when he gave himself for us and it says that's the type of love we're to have for our wives. Pretty heavy.

John MacArthur in one of his tapes related a case where a guy came to him and he said I think I've got a hang up. I said What's the hangup. He said I love my wife too much. And he said you love your wife as much as God loved us and gave gave his son for us and he's oh no I can never. He says you don't love her enough! You don't love her too much. That's the type of love you're to have. See there's a beautiful balance. God never has things unbalanced in this relationship of of submission and if someone being in charge doesn't mean that someone's over the other person and better or superior to them. It means that there is authority in their submission to that authority. But it's a beautiful balance.

The submission is balanced out with agape love in God's principle. And when you have that relationship you've got a perfect relationship. You don't have the husband lording it over the wife. You have him loving her and you have the wife submitting to the husband recognizing him under God as God's chain of command. It says in the Bible that wives are to submit to their husbands Ephesians 5:22. It says in 1 Peter 3:1 that they're to submit to their husbands and in Ephesians 5:33 it says there to respect their husbands. Once again this this command to respect is dependent on our earning that respect we're be the type of men that they can really learn to respect. They respect us not because necessarily it's it's said in the Bible you show but we're there to respect us because we earn their respect. We're fulfilling our role that God has given us. That's why I've indicated these things in this outline even though we're talking about the true masculine or we're not talking about the feminine role tonight.

Why do I bring these things up?

Our wives can't respect us if we're the type that are not fulfilling God's role. But as you fulfilled God's role your wife will respect you and in 1 Peter 3:6 it says there to obey their husbands.

Thirdly it says that we are to have authority over and command the control and respect of our children. 1 Timothy 3:4 returned to that and read you what it says out of the New American Standard Version. He must be one who manages his own household well keeping his children

under control with all dignity. That's part of the masculine role. If you don't have control and the respect of your children you're not fulfilling God's role for your life. We're commanded to do that.

We're to be that type of person I indicated here in the outline a quote from Socrates written way back at 450 B.C. And it sounds like it should be something appearing in today's newspaper. If I could get to the highest place in Athens I would lift up my voice and say what many fellow citizens that you turn every stone to scrape off together and take so little care of your own children to whom you must one day relinquish all.

And I am reminded of many many cases I can think of one in particular where we picked up a young fellow by the name of Wayne for the Palace Verdi's Peninsula. He had a brand new stingray Corvette. And when we busted him he had several kilos of weed and we impounded the car because it was involved in the crime. And I said you know you may lose your stingray on account of this state may seize it. And he says I don't care. The old man gave it to me. And I said you know that that machines with a lot of money. \$89,000. He said oh, the old man's money. I don't care. And I take away he's talking. He didn't care too much for his dad.

And I said Hey what's with it between you and your dad? He said Oh I don't know whether I like him or not. I don't even know the bum. And you can tell away talked that he really had a and a

dislike for his dad. And so I began to pursue it. I said hey you know I detect you don't like your dad and it appears to me that your dad must like you a little bit to give that kind of car.

He say oh. That's his problem. He thinks he can buy anything. Even my love. He's I'm telling you I don't even know him. He's too busy for me he always has been too busy for me. He's always flitting off somewhere in some jet closing some big deal and then I call in his dad - he came into the station I sat down and talked with this this man and man this man was broken when he knew his son was going to jail for selling dope. And I found out that the reason it was kind of ironic. The reason at least this man had convinced himself that the reason he was working so hard is for his son Wayne. And he was spinning his wheels to to give his son everything that he could have when he was young and he was pouring upon him all kind of material things money, cars, a special house to live in all kind of weird things that most kids don't have.

And that's why he was working himself to a corner. The guy that already had a couple mild attacks and was on his way to a third one. And and yet it was ironic that all of his efforts those efforts had been the efforts that alienated from his son because what his son really wanted was his dad not his dad's money. You know it really taught me a lesson in here. Socrates way back then said You know what thinking men of Athens you got all you can think about is making money and it takes a little care of your children someday you're going to have to turn over all that money you've made and what kind of person you going to turn it over to - because you have spending time with them. That's what you're saying. I'm got to thumb their nose at you and

they're gonna blow your money and maybe maybe they don't even want it because you haven't spent enough time with them. They want you.

OK. I thought it was real interesting to look at all my management training and in my master's program at Pepperdine we went through some leadership roles that every executive has to perform. And I saw that it was amazing. The Bible had these same roles outlined for a man to fulfill in his home.

First of all they tell us as executives we should be objective setters. And by the way we're gonna have a night for each of these roles. We're gonna cover two or three of these roles each night as we come in together and go into them in depth so I'm just kind of hitting the high points tonight. It's kind of an overview. Proverbs 13:16. I'd like to read from The Living Bible that paraphrases it in modern English so it's easier to understand. It says Proverbs 13:16 a wise man thinks ahead a fool doesn't and even brags about it.

And earlier it describes a wise man as a man who is fulfilling God's role. A person who is following the principles laid down by God. That's a wise man. So it says here that a person who is fulfilling God's role will be a person who plans ahead. If you're fulfilling God's role for you. Your manly role you'll be a guy that doesn't just impulsively live from moment to moment but

you think ahead. You make some plans. You're an objective setter in your home. That involves planning organizing decision making. Not just letting things happen but intelligently.