

FAST Lesson 3A:

A Real Man leads with a Servant's Heart – Accepting Responsibility at Home

John Kain, 2009

- I. What is a family? (A group of people who are closely related by birth, marriage, or adoption, living together and functioning as a single household, usually consisting of parents and their children).
- II. Men have special roles in the establishment and ongoing success of families, and they are sorely missed when they don't fulfill their roles.
- III. If able, men have the privilege to serve as **providers**, offering material support for those in need around them. If the Lord provides a wife and children, men have the privilege to serve as **husbands** and **fathers**.
- IV. As husbands, men make a commitment to remain faithful – a promise to be there and build a strong union with their wife. Real men focus their passion on the marriage partner – erotica is only for husbands and wives, in combination with a sincere lifelong love for one another.
- V. As fathers, men have the responsibility to impart wisdom to children. Why is this important? Because fathers are in a unique position to bestow honor on their children – acknowledging their substance and significance, showing them respect, allowing them to change and grow, forgiving them while providing direction.

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church— for we are members of his body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." (Ephesians 5: 25-31)

“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6: 4)

“Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. May your fountain be blessed, and may you **rejoice in the wife of your youth**. A loving doe, a graceful deer— may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love. Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress? Why embrace the bosom of another man's wife? For a man's ways are in full view of the LORD, and he examines all his paths. The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast. He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.” (Proverbs 5: 16-23)

“Husbands, in the same way **be considerate** as you live with your wives, and **treat them with respect** as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.” (1 Peter 3:7)

“My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and **find the knowledge of God.**” (Proverbs 2: 1-5)