

## Message Series: Making Marriage Work

### “Common Leadership Styles That Hurt Families” - Part 2

#### Introduction:

1. **Christ** is clearly every husband’s example concerning the leadership style we are to employ in our homes. Ephesians 5:25.
2. Many men have a **distorted** concept of biblical headship.
3. In this lesson, we will examine five common leadership styles that drive wives into discouragement. Then, we will discover the biblical solution.

#### I. **Irresponsible** headship

#### II. **Emotionally detached** headship

#### III. \_\_\_\_\_ headship

##### A. Characteristics

- He demonstrates a high need for \_\_\_\_\_.
- Nobody dares \_\_\_\_\_ his authority or decisions.
- He will resort to intimidation tactics and go into a blind rage.
- He’s always giving \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is his chief emotion, and he bullies his family. He uses \_\_\_\_\_ to keep them in check.
- He appears as a “\_\_\_\_\_ guy” to the outside world.

##### B. Biblical solution: To grow in \_\_\_\_\_

- “Meekness” – “Mild of temper; gentle; not easily provoked or irritated; given to forbearance under injuries.”
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (two of the strongest leaders in the Bible) are both said to demonstrate meekness. Numbers 12:3; Matthew 11:29
- Meekness demonstrates humility (Colossians 3:12), is commanded by God (Ephesians 4:2; Titus 3:1-2; 2 Timothy 2:24-25; 1 Timothy 6:11), and is \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit (Galatians 5:23).

- The opposite of the meek man is the \_\_\_\_\_ man.  
Proverbs 14:17, 22:24, 29:22

#### IV. \_\_\_\_\_ headship

##### A. Characteristics

- He prides himself on being a self-made man.
- Work is an obsession, an \_\_\_\_\_.
- He is admired in the community for his savvy and success.
- Home is a place to crash and burn, but is certainly not a place of \_\_\_\_\_.
- He manages his household from a \_\_\_\_\_, providing his family with first-class material possessions.
- He feels uncomfortable \_\_\_\_\_ to his children or pursuing a deeper relationship with his wife.
- He never takes time to evaluate or reflect on the \_\_\_\_\_ of his life or ask significant questions about his motives.

##### B. Biblical solution: To grow in \_\_\_\_\_

- The word “content” literally means “held, contained within limits; hence, quiet; not disturbed; having a mind at peace.”
- A content person has a biblical understanding of work: its purpose is to meet your \_\_\_\_\_ necessities and enable you to \_\_\_\_\_ to God and others. Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12; 1 Timothy 6:6-10
- A content person is at \_\_\_\_\_ within himself. He understands that he stands \_\_\_\_\_ and sufficient in Christ. Colossians 2:10; 2 Corinthians 3:5
- A content person understands that the true meaning of life is found in \_\_\_\_\_, not material possessions or worldly accomplishments. 1 John 2:16-17, 4:7-12

## V. \_\_\_\_\_ apathetic headship

### A. Characteristics

- He may be a believer, and even a church attender, but beyond that he's unresponsive to \_\_\_\_\_ things.
- He never exercises spiritual leadership in the home.
- He never \_\_\_\_\_ on life in terms of its spiritual dimension.
- When a conversation turns to God or the Bible, he tunes out or \_\_\_\_\_ away.

### B. Biblical solution: To grow in the \_\_\_\_\_ and knowledge of Christ

- God's plan for every Christian is to \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ. 2 Peter 3:18
- But, growth never happens by accident. It begins with a spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 Peter 2:2
- Spiritual apathy is due to a \_\_\_\_\_ and indifferent heart (Matthew 13:15) and must be repented of. Revelation 2:4-5
- Spiritual revival must begin in the individual's \_\_\_\_\_.

## In Conclusion:

1. Here are some questions every husband should ask himself:
  - How am I doing as a leader in my home?
  - Am I a lording leader or a servant/leader?
  - Do I exhibit any of the five negative leadership styles?
  - Are there changes I need to make in the way I treat my wife and kids?
2. As men, we hate to admit that the problem is \_\_\_\_\_ us. It's easier to make excuses, blame others, and evade responsibility.
3. But, when we finally face ourselves squarely, and accept responsibility for what we've become, then we're ready to take steps toward \_\_\_\_\_.