

Ideas, Understanding & Revelation

Sovereignty of God and Gender

World Outreach Church
Sermon Discussion Guide
Sunday Sermon: **May 04, 2025**



Our faith-journey is one of learning, growing, and maturing in the same way we do physically and emotionally. This often begins with exploring ideas—thoughts or inclinations about something. Those ideas develop into understanding and wisdom as we research and begin to put our theories into practice. Sometimes God also sovereignly grants us revelations, suddenly providing clear insight we did not gain from our own efforts. When God gives us a revelation, it usually comes with an assignment.

In this disorienting time when truth is publicly denied and mocked, we need God’s wisdom, understanding, and revelations more than ever. We also need to be equipped with the understanding that comes from knowing God’s Word and applying its truths to our lives and our present culture.

God is sovereign; He can do what He wants, when He wants, and He does not need anyone’s approval. We can see evidence of God’s sovereignty in things we cannot choose including our parents, our birth location, and our gender. God also identifies Himself as our Father and assigns men specific roles. It’s important for men to fulfill their roles as priests, protectors, and providers.

As Christ-followers, it’s time to invest our time in knowing God and His Word—to trust in God’s sovereignty, justice, integrity, and character—and to use our lives to uphold God’s principles and truth.

I. MEN, HUSBANDS & FATHERS

A. Role of Father

1. God, the Father—A Revelation of God

Luke 11:2 *He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.’”*

2. Fatherhood

John 8:42, 44 ⁴² *Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me...”* ⁴⁴ **You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”**

3. Fathers & Mothers—Essential Pairing

Matthew 15:4 *“For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and ‘Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.’”*

In what ways has your upbringing influenced your understanding of fatherhood? How can communities and churches support fathers in their roles?

B. Children to Adults

1 Corinthians 13:11 *When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.*

What character traits and actions make effective and godly men, husbands, and fathers? What can women do to help the men in their lives fulfill their responsibilities as men, husbands, and fathers?

C. Priest, Protector, Provider

1. Priest—Spiritual Leadership

2. Protector

Luke 19:41–44 ⁴¹ *As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it* ⁴² *and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—* ⁴³ *The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side.* ⁴⁴ *They will dash you to*

the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

John 17:12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

3. Provider

1 Timothy 5:8–10 ⁸*If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.* ⁹*No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband,* ¹⁰*and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.*

Proverbs 10:5 *He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.*

Share some practical ways men can practice their roles as priest, protector, and provider in their families and communities? What are some challenges and opportunities that come with these roles?

How do you find purpose and meaning in your work, even when it's difficult?

II. OUR GOD HEALS

Psalm 103:2–5 ²*Praise the Lord, O my soul, and* **forget not all his benefits**— ³*who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,* ⁴ *who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,* ⁵ *who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

Isaiah 53:4–5 ⁴*Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.* ⁵ *But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

Matthew 8:16–17 ¹⁶*When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick.* ¹⁷**This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:** *"He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases."*

1 Peter 2:24 *He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.*

How have you experienced God's healing in your life or the life of someone you know—whether physical, emotional, or spiritual? How can you encourage others to invite God to be the Lord over their life in regard to healing?

A BLESSING—The Aaronic Blessing

"The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Numbers 6:24–26, NIV®