

Lesson 11 Embracing Masculinity and Femininity



Rejoicing in God's Good Design

Review

God created man to have a unique role of responsibility (headship) and He gave him work to do in the Garden He had made.

God created Eve to be Adam's companion - helper. While she was created equal with Adam, she was to fulfill a subordinate and complementary role in relation to her husband.

The fall brought about distortion in the complementary relationship God designed.

Men now have a sinful tendency to abuse their position and the unique gifts God has given them.

Review

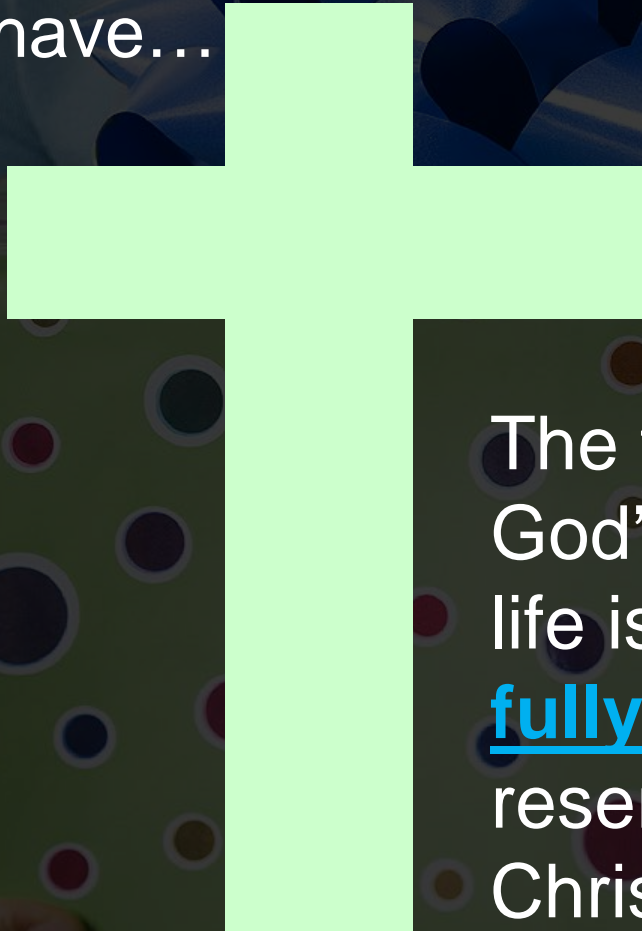
Women have a sinful tendency to resist their position and misuse the unique gifts God has given them.

Not only are gender roles distorted by sin, but in some cases gender identities and gender desires are distorted by man's rebellion against his Creator.

God has created and designed men and women to exist and function differently. Rebellion against the Creator has brought serious distortion in God's good design, and deep pain of different kinds.

Gender Recovery

We cannot recover God's good design on our own.
We all have...



The first step in recovering God's good design for your life is to entrust yourself fully and without reservation to Jesus Christ.

Jesus is fully
trustworthy.

Submit to Him daily.

Embrace His
teaching,
instruction, and
commands.



Young Men: Embracing Masculinity

Masculinity—The traits and character qualities that grow out of how men are created and designed to live.

A calling to headship and responsibility—a calling to take loving initiative, and focus on the work God has put before man.



The Work of Masculinity



Leading

The Work of Masculinity



Providing

The Work of Masculinity



Protecting

Mature Masculinity

“At the heart of mature masculinity is a sense of benevolent responsibility to lead, provide for, and protect...”

John Piper

“Benevolent” = kind, caring

In order to lead, provide, and protect well, men must cultivate

STRENGTH

Strength

1 Samuel 4:9

“Take courage, and be men, O Philistines, lest you become slaves to the Hebrews as they have been to you; be men and fight.”

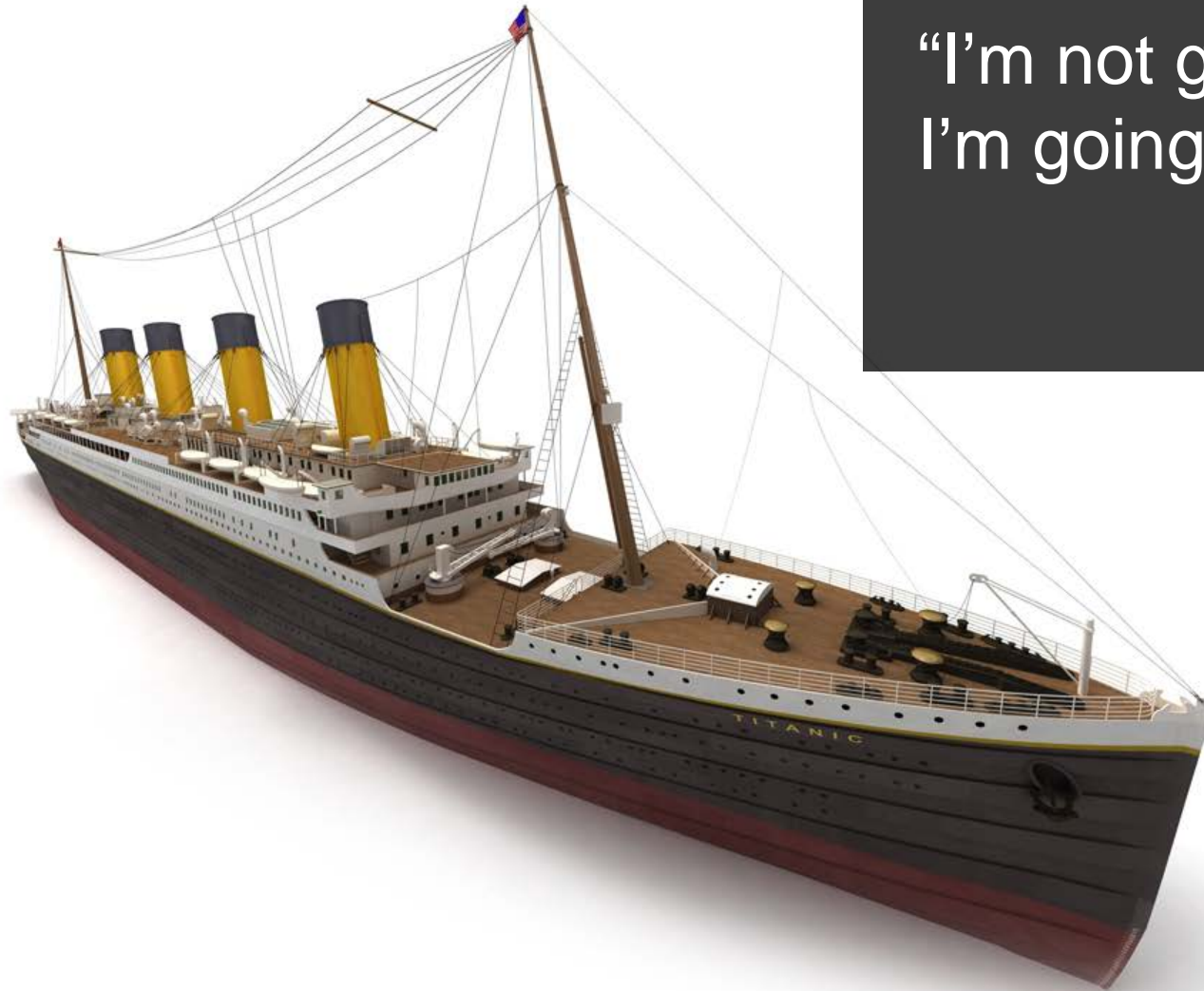
1 Corinthians 16:13

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

Andrizomai → man, “to be strong” or “to be courageous”

“BE MEN!”

Illustration of Masculinity



“I’m not going down,
I’m going up!”

John Harper

Young Women: Embracing Femininity

Femininity—The traits and character qualities that grow out of how women are created and designed to live.

Femininity is cultivated when women embrace their unique calling to support and assist.

Men's
orientation



Work

Women's
orientation



Relationships of
helpfulness and
companionship



Young Women: Embracing Femininity

“At the heart of mature femininity is a freeing disposition to affirm, receive, and nurture strength and leadership...”
John Piper

- To **affirm** leadership
- To **receive** leadership
- To **nurture** strength and leadership



Mature Femininity

1 Peter 3:1-6

- Submissiveness
- Respectfulness
- Purity
- Inner beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit

A gentle and quiet spirit does good and does not seek to usurp appropriate leadership out of fear.



Our Responsibility

“Sin affected our ability to fulfill the cultural mandate; it did not alter our obligation to fulfill it. And a central part of the reason Christ came was to restore mankind and the vocation of mankind.”

Douglas Wilson





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