



# Morningside Church

## Sermon Discussion Guide

**Title: Godly Features of a Blessed Family**

**Date: June 21, 2026**

**Scripture Text: Psalm 128:1-3**

### **Notes:**

Happy Father's Day! As we celebrate our fathers, it is a good time to consider the condition of the family. God has a design for the family which, when followed, can bring peace and joy for those who are a part of it. But when we make attempts to do it our way, we get into trouble. Selfishness, pride, and cultural influences can all break down the family. There is a saying, "as the family goes, so goes the nation". This can be seen here in our nation! Let's take a moment to look at the *godly features of a blessed family* and consider ways you can apply these features to your family.

#### **I. A Leading Father (Ps. 128:1-2)**

The first godly feature of a blessed family is a father who assumes the leadership role. He must lead by example, as Jesus did. Leadership is not "do as I say and not as I do", but "let me show you what to do". Christ is the head of the church. Fathers are reflections of Christ for their family ([Eph. 5:25-29](#)). The way the father leads will have direct impact on how his children view Jesus.

- A leading father worships the Lord ([v. 1a](#))
  - "How blessed is everyone who fears the Lord". What does 'fearing the Lord' look like?
  - How can fearing the Lord impact our worship?
  - How can a father's fear of the Lord help him lead his family in worship?
  - Some elements of worship include songs, service, testimony, scripture, prayer.
    - Which of these are you strongest?
    - Which need work?
  - Fathers, how well do you lead your family in worship?
- A leading father walks with the Lord ([v. 1b](#))
  - What does the phrase "walk the walk" mean?
  - How can a father damage his family's relationship with God by his walk not matching his talk?
  - How can a father successfully walk with God?
  - What does the phrase "actions speak louder than words" mean?
  - Are you sending mixed signals to your family what it means to be a Christian?
  - As a father, do your words match your actions?
  - How can you do a better job of walking with the Lord? ([Eph. 5:15](#))



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- A leading father works for the Lord ([v. 2](#))
  - How would you describe your work ethic? Based on what?
  - What influence can a father's work ethic have on a family?
  - [Col. 3:23-24](#) instructs us that whatever we do, do it as for the Lord. What does that mean for how we perform on the job?
  - Working for the Lord includes how we perform at work, but it also includes how we serve Him as we serve the church. How do you work for the Lord by serving the church?
  - Working for the Lord also includes balancing work-life and home-life. Fathers, show your family the value of a good work ethic, but don't make them feel they take a backseat to your job.

### **II. A Loving Mother ([Ps. 128:3a](#))**

The second godly feature of a blessed family is a loving mother ([Prov. 19:14](#)). [Ps. 128:3a](#) describes the loving mother as a "fruitful vine". When you combine a leading father who acts as a wall in the home, providing structure and stability, the wife can then, as a vine, grow and cling to that wall, making the home a beautiful place ([Eph. 5:22](#)).

- What does it look like for a wife to grow as a "fruitful vine"?
- How does a wife who 'blossoms' impact the home?
- According to [1 Peter 3:1-2](#), what is the wife to do when her husband doesn't lead?
- Describe what a home is like when the father leads and the wife cleaves.

### **III. Little Children ([Ps. 128:3b](#))**

Children are a gift of the Lord ([Ps. 127:3a](#)). Parents are given responsibility to steward their children in the way of the Lord. Children are likened to an "olive plant" which needs care and cultivation. As the twig is bent, so grows the tree. Parents need to make sure their children are bent towards Jesus.

- The raising of children should include:
  - Affection; expressions of love are needed. They need to see the love of Jesus in their parents.
    - How can a child's experience of love with their parents affect their impression of Christ's love?
    - How do you show your children love?
  - Correction; when children stray from obeying their parents, correction is needed to get them back on track.
    - How can correction also be an expression of love towards a child ([Heb. 12:6](#))?
  - Direction; instructions in the ways of God will help children stay on the 'path of righteousness'.
  - Affirmation; building up and encouragement can help children be all that God has called them to be.