



June 20, 2021

*"That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh."*  
Gen. 2:24

## **I. The Mainstream Effects on Family**

- A. The redefining of "Marriage" and "Family"
  - 1. Gender confusion/control/confidence
  - 2. "Love" as the highest virtue
  - 3. Sexual freedom as a goal
- B. Government becomes the foundation of society
- C. "Cultural artifacts" set the tone for culture
- D. Work/prosperity becomes our identity

## **II. The Upstream Affirmations of Family and Fatherhood**

- A. Family is God's idea and Fatherhood is God's design!
- B. The Five Affirmations of Family and Fatherhood in the Bible
  - 1. God's idea and God's design – Genesis 2:24
  - 2. God's Torah and the emphasis on family/fatherhood responsibility (Ex. 20:12)
  - 3. God's people divided by Tribe/family as a social order under the Temple (Gen. 49)
  - 4. God's New Covenant – Jesus & Paul restate the roles and rules of family (Matt. 19:4-6; Eph. 5:22-33)
  - 5. God's relationship with us – Jesus calls God "Our Father" (175+). (Matt. 6:9-13)
- C. Three dominant forces that shape our kids worldview
  - 1. Parents – primary influencers
  - 2. Media (16,000 hours of media)
  - 3. Law of the land – If the government approves – must be right.

## **III. The Father's Role in the Upstream Living**

- A. Be the head of your family and the father of your children (I Cor. 11:3)
- B. Self-sacrifice on behalf of the wife and children (Eph. 5:22 – 33)
- C. Work is a "part-time" activity – family time is our "Full-time" activity
- D. Being an example to our children for spiritual growth and character (Deut. 11:18 – 21; Eph. 6:4)