

COLLISION COURSE

- How do we wrestle the tension of prioritising time between our home life and work life?
- Who wins when work and family collide?
- If we win the world but lose our family, what have we gained?

Work and family are two significant arenas of our lives.

God's intention is for our work and family life to co-exist peacefully, even when tension is present.

ROLE OF WORK

*Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it and take care of it.*

God established a connection between our effort (work) and our provision (fruit from our work).

ROLE OF FAMILY

*Genesis 1:27-28a ...in the image of God He created male and female...then God blessed them and said, "**Be fruitful and multiply...***

Our work is doing (**task**-focussed), our family is loving (**relationship**-focussed).

In our **work environment** we find our **self-worth through accomplishment**.

In our **family environment** we find our **value in whom we love and receiving love**.

We do our job; we love our family!

When we reverse it and love our job and do our family, tension escalates - the tug-of-war begins!

LEFT HOLDING THE ROCK

When we cheat our families for work, it's like asking our spouse to carry the burden of keeping things together at home in our absence.

We keep promising that things will change. They smile because they love us, holding the rock for as long as possible.

THE SOUND OF FALLING ROCKS

Eventually our family's willingness to carry the load becomes too emotionally exhausting, and then one day the rock drops.

PICKING UP THE PIECES

When the rock drops, we'll try everything to put the pieces back together. But there is always some damage done.

Cheating home is translated to our families as **rejection**.

'If something is more urgent, it must be more important!'

We love our family in our heart, but do we love them in our schedule?

CHECKING THE HEALTH OF OUR FAMILY LIFE

We know when something is out of sync in our marriage or family.

Every so often we need to press the pause button to check the health of our family life.

We need to **prioritise** some things and **adjust** others to realign ourselves to what is important.

The Role of the Husband and Father in the Family

Ephesians 5:21-29 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22: Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. 23: For the husband is the

head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24: Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. 25: Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26: to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27: and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28: In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29: After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church.

The husband/father is to exercise leadership and covering over his family as Jesus does for His Church.

The husband/father must follow the example of Jesus who sacrificed and laid down His life for His bride (the Church).

We respond to Jesus' 'selfless' attitude He showed towards us by living lives that please and honour Him.

This is the same 'selfless' attitude and practice the Biblical husband/father is to show to his family.

The husband/father leadership model IS NOT:

- Dictatorship
- Demanding
- Superiority of the man
- Inferiority of the woman
- The right to exclusive decision making
- Thinking the male is always right

The husband /father leadership model IS:

- Example/Role Model
- Protection
- Responsibility
- Provision
- Serving
- Sacrifice

APPLICATION

- Take time to evaluate the health of your marriage and family.
- The health of our marriage determines the environment our kids grow up in.
- Our greatest contribution may not be something we do, but someone we raise!
- Plan schedules around the non-negotiables of marriage and family life.