

# Apply The Word

[www.crosswaypa.org](http://www.crosswaypa.org)



## Message Info

Title:

The Role of the Family

Speaker:

Peter Privitera

Date:

September 25, 2022

Scriptures:

Various

**Theme:** Come take your place because the family is designed by God.

**Introduction:** Part of belonging to a family is having a place at the family dinner table. Your spot is reserved and you are welcomed there. Family is a place of belonging. Within God's world, the family is one of 3 spheres that the Lord has designed and authorized (along with the church and the state). In our day, the state especially is undermining the family and seeking to usurp its role.

We can consider 2 points on the Lord's purposes for the family:

### 1. The nuclear family

The nuclear family of husband, wife, and kids is the most basic building block of society, by God's design.

Influential voices in our day see the family as oppressive, an evil fruit of capitalism that is designed to hold down women and children.

The Lord makes clear from the earliest pages of Scripture that he designed the family and that we are to fill the earth and exercise dominion through family (Gen 1:26-28). He also ordered the family as a hierarchy, with the husband as head (Eph 5:22-6:3). To live in line with his design is the path to blessing; to resist it leads to chaos and death. Further, families tend to either honor the Lord or reject him, and the father sets the tone (cf. Gen 7:1; Acts 16:30-34)

As our government works to undermine the family, we must remain true to the teaching of Scripture, lest we lost the gospel itself. Family was designed to reveal the gospel; so to obscure the family is to obscure the gospel.

### 2. The eternal family

Though the nuclear family is critically important, there is something ever more important: the family of God, the church.

We are to put the church ahead of other worldly commitments (Gal 6:10).

God has made us his children, through Christ. And since all Christians are his children, then we are also all brothers and sisters to one another (Matt 12:50).

Our lives together in the church should manifest those truths, including our warm affection in how we greet one another (2 Cor 13:12).

Our disposition toward the church should show that we understand and agree with these truths (Luke 9:57-62).

**Questions:**

1. Do you agree with and appreciate the biblical view of the family?
2. Is there any way that you struggle with your role as a man or a woman, as a husband or as a wife?
3. What is the state of our affections for God's people? Does your family life point to God's family?