

HTPC

Christianity in the Home

Week 1: *How Should Men Lead Their Families?* (Joel Beeke)

Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 31 Why is he called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

A. Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief **prophet** and teacher who perfectly reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God for our deliverance; our only **high priest** who has set us free by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal **king** who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.

Q. 32 But why are you called a Christian?

A. Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to *confess his name* [**prophet**], to present myself to him as a *living sacrifice of thanks* [**priest**], to *strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for all eternity* [**king**].

1. If we start somewhere other than these truths, how might we make “building a Christian family” an end unto itself? How might we even use Christ and his Gospel as means to a more ultimate end of human family?

2. Whatever your family situation, how do these truths reflected in the Heidelberg Catechism challenge and encourage you? Beeke applies them to every area of leadership.

3. With these truths firmly in place, how are we equipped then to lead love within our homes (pp.3-4)? Men, this is what we signed up for in marriage/parenting. A high bar.

Prophet in the Home

Six guidelines for exercising our teaching role in the home:

1. *Teach with passion*: What will engender true passion in our instruction? (e.g., 2 Corinthians 4:13!)

2. *Teach as God’s authorized steward*: You have a right/responsibility given by God himself!

3. *Teach through family worship*. How might your home be a “little church”? If it is not, why isn’t it? What other objects of worship do we sometimes lead our children in?

4. *Teach by example*: What does your family read in your life?

5. *Teach by sharing your life*: Does this come easy or is it more difficult to you? Why?

6. *Teach for holistic maturity*: Are there areas of life in which you are silent or secular in your approach?

Priest in the Home

1. *Sacrifice yourself for your wife*: Men?

2. *Intercede for your children*: Do you pray like Job? This, I believe, is the linchpin. PRAYER.

King in the Home

1. Defend your children: Spiritually!

2. Discipline your children: How can we discipline our children in a Christ-centered fashion?

Conclusion

Could we commit to confess our sins to God and to one another as men? To go to the mercy seat? And to go forward anointed in this great Savior?

