

Introduction: Would someone show me the “box top?”

- **The What** = “Step Up” in love Ephesians 5:21-33

- **The How** = A man’s top 3 priorities
 1. Provision
 2. Protection
 3. Nurture

*But if anyone does not **provide for his own**, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith, and is worse than an unbeliever.*

1 Timothy 5:8 (NAS)

*You husbands likewise, live with your wives **in an understanding way, as with a weaker vessel**, since she is a woman; and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.*

1 Peter 3:7 (NAS)

*. . . (but if a man does not know **how to manage his own household**, how will he take care of the church of God?);*

1 Timothy 3:5 (NAS)

How to “step up” in love to lead your wife and family:

1. Husbands hold primary responsibility for the _____ 1 Timothy 5:8
_____ of their families.

- The Role = The family “CFO/Bank President”

- The Responsibility = Shelter, food, clothes, financial training

- The Practical Outworking = 5 Objectives
 1. **Do** honest work
 2. **Honor** God first
 3. **Live** within your means
 4. **Prepare** for the future
 5. **Train** your children

- The Core Values = To _____ and _____
 1. Work ethic
 2. Stewardship of money and time
 3. Responsibility and discipline
 4. Enjoyment and generosity

2. Husbands hold primary responsibility for the _____
_____ and protection of their families.

1 Peter 3:7; Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:4-9

- The Role = The family “_____”

- The Responsibility = Come before God on behalf of your family and come before your family on behalf of God.

- The Practical Outworking = 5 Objectives
 1. Set the pace personally.
 2. _____ the spiritual condition of your wife and children.
 3. _____ for them and with them regularly.
 4. Insure Biblical instruction occurs at home and at church.
 5. Make _____ God and loving each other (not morality) your aim.

- The Core Values = To Model and Teach
 1. _____ evidenced by prayer/fasting
 2. Faith in God and His Word
 3. A service and outreach orientation
 4. Progressive growth in personal _____

3. Husbands hold primary responsibility for the _____ and welfare of their families.

1 Timothy 5:5; Ephesians 6:4; 1 Peter 3:7

- The Role = The family “GM/Coach”

- The Responsibility = To manage the household in a manner that produces love, obedience, and respect toward God and one another.

- The Practical Outworking = 5 Objectives
 1. The _____ is verbalized and celebrated.
 2. Time is scheduled to develop marriage and family relationships.
 3. _____ and boundaries are provided to insure family relationships take priority over outside demands.
 4. Communication is built into the fabric and rhythm of the family schedule.
 5. _____ are exercised fairly, firmly, and lovingly among all family members.

- The Core Values = To Model and Teach
 1. Acceptance – Unconditionally
 2. Affirmation – Specifically and consistently
 3. Accountability – Filled with truth and grace
 4. Conflict Resolution – “Speaking the truth in love”

Marriage that Works
Personal Commitment – Week 4

Providing, Protecting, Nurturing

I understand that every journey begins with first steps and my first steps will be in the area of:

- Financial Provision/Responsibility
- Spiritual Development and Protection
- Relational Health and Welfare

I know that to follow through on my commitments, I will need help. I will use a “tool” to help me take an accountability step.

❖ **FINANCIAL**

Managing Our Finances God's Way DaveRamsey.com
(*Venture Resource Center or Crown.org*)

❖ **SPIRITUAL**

Download: Passing On What Matters Most by Chip Ingram
Focusonthefamily.com (Search: *Family Mealtime Devotionals*)

❖ **RELATIONAL**

Effective Parenting in a Defective World by Chip Ingram
Seven Seasons of the Man in the Mirror by Pat Morley

ASK A FRIEND TO “HOLD ME TO IT”

SEEK OUT A MENTOR

Signed

JOIN A MEN'S GROUP

JOIN A “GROWTH GROUP”

Date

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY