

## 6-Day Devotional [From Sunday, March 22, 2026]

### Family Unity and the Kingdom Agenda

Based on this week's message by Rev. Roy Manning

Rev. Roy Manning's central thesis was clear:

**The biblical roles of husbands and wives, and their influence on family unity, are essential to God's Kingdom agenda.**

His message calls us not merely to discuss the fall of the family, but to recover God's **original intent** for it.

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#### Day 1 — God's Original Intent for the Family

**Key Scripture:** Genesis 1:27–28

##### **Devotional Reflection:**

Rev. Roy Manning begins by reminding us that before we talk about the brokenness of the family, we must first remember the **original intent** of the family. God did not create the family as a social accident or cultural convenience. He created it as part of His Kingdom agenda. The family was meant to reflect God's image on earth as it is in heaven.

That means the family is not merely about companionship, emotional support, childbearing, or household function. It is about representation. God designed the family to mirror His glory, His order, His rule, and His goodness. When the family functions biblically, it tells the truth about God. When it is distorted, the image is blurred.

Rev. Manning makes the distinction that our image consciousness often comes from insecurity, while God's image consciousness comes from His perfect security and goodness. God has the right to be consumed with His image because His image is what blesses the world.

##### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Do I think about family primarily in practical terms, or in Kingdom terms?
2. How would my home change if I saw it as a reflection of God's image rather than just my personal space?
3. In what ways have I accepted a cultural definition of family over God's original design?
4. What part of God's character should be more visible in my family life right now?

**Prayer Focus:**

Father, help me see the family the way You see it. Restore my understanding of Your original intent.

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**Day 2 — The Family Was Meant to Mirror Heaven**

**Key Scripture:** Matthew 6:10; 1 Corinthians 11:3

**Devotional Reflection:**

Rev. Roy Manning explains that the family was designed to display on earth what already exists in heaven. He uses the phrase **economic subordination** to describe the ordered relationships within the Trinity, not inequality, but willing alignment within shared essence and shared purpose. The Father reveals headship, the Spirit reveals submission, and the Son reveals obedience.

This heavenly pattern is not random theology. It is the picture God wanted reflected in the family. In a biblically sound family, there should be visible order, willing cooperation, and relational unity. God is not calling the family into confusion, competition, or power struggle. He is calling it into a reflection of heaven's harmony.

The problem is that modern culture often hears "order" as oppression, "submission" as inferiority, and "obedience" as weakness. But in God's Kingdom, these are not signs of lesser value. They are signs of holy function.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Do I resist God's order because I misunderstand it?
2. Where have power struggles replaced peaceful alignment in my family life?
3. How would my relationships change if I saw biblical order as a reflection of heaven instead of a human burden?
4. What role has God assigned me that I need to embrace more faithfully?

**Prayer Focus:**

Lord, teach me to value Your order. Help my life reflect heaven's pattern instead of earth's confusion.

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**Day 3 — The Fall Turned Stewards into Sovereigns**

**Key Scripture:** Ephesians 5:6; Genesis 3:1–7

**Devotional Reflection:**

Rev. Roy Manning describes one of sin's great distortions: God made us stewards, but sin makes us act like sovereigns. A steward rules under God. A sovereign attempts to rule apart from God. That is the essence of the fall. Adam and Eve were given dominion, but they were supposed to exercise it under God's authority. Sin twisted that dominion into self-rule.

This is still the battle today. We want to direct our own lives, define our own morality, pursue our own desires, and decide our own version of good. But Rev. Manning warns that when we try to be good on our own, detached from God, we only twist what was good into something wicked.

Culture celebrates sovereignty. Everyone wants to be a boss, independent, self-made, answerable to no one. But the Kingdom honors stewardship. God is not asking us to control our own lives. He is calling us to faithfully manage what belongs to Him.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. In what area of my life am I acting more like a sovereign than a steward?
2. How do I typically respond when someone holds me accountable?
3. Have I confused independence with maturity?
4. What would it look like for me to return that area of my life back under God's rule?

**Prayer Focus:**

God, forgive me for trying to rule what belongs to You. Teach me to live as a steward under Your authority.

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**Day 4 — Sin Distorts the Family Picture**

**Key Scripture:** Genesis 1:28; Ephesians 5:31

**Devotional Reflection:**

Rev. Roy Manning presses a difficult but necessary truth: when God's design for family is ignored, the image gets distorted. God intended procreation to flow through covenant marriage, because the family was supposed to display His order and His image. But sin takes the power of dominion and uses it for self-spread instead of God's glory.

Rev. Manning names how this distortion plays out in real life, men spreading their image without stewardship, women forced into control outside of covenant, children raised in disorder, and families shaped by survival rather than by design. His point is not

condemnation for those who have fallen short. His point is clarity. God wants us to understand why His design matters.

Broken structures often produce broken outcomes. Not because God is cruel, but because His design was purposeful. Still, the message is not hopeless. Rev. Manning makes it clear that God is not merely exposing the distortion, He is making a path for redemption.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Where have I seen the consequences of distorted family structure in my own life or community?
2. Have I minimized the importance of God's design because culture made alternatives seem normal?
3. What pain in my family story may actually be tied to disorder that God wants to heal?
4. Am I willing to face God's truth about family without becoming defensive or despairing?

**Prayer Focus:**

Lord, give me courage to see clearly where sin has distorted what You intended. Bring healing where there has been damage.

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**Day 5 — Christ Redeems the Family Picture Through the Church**

**Key Scripture:** Ephesians 5:30–32

**Devotional Reflection:**

This is one of the most powerful movements in Rev. Roy Manning's message. He shows that when Paul talks about marriage, he suddenly says, "This is a profound mystery, but I am talking about Christ and the church." Rev. Manning explains that Jesus became the true Bridegroom who did what Adam failed to do.

Adam was supposed to protect, cover, and redeem, but he fell. Jesus came as the second Adam. He stepped into human flesh, resisted where Adam failed, shed His blood, rose in victory, and took a blemished bride, the church, and made her clean. He washed her so she could become one with Him.

That means the deepest picture of marriage is not merely human romance. It is redemption. Marriage is supposed to point to Christ's love, Christ's sacrifice, Christ's

cleansing, and Christ's covenant. The family does not make sense apart from Jesus because Jesus is the one who restores the image sin had distorted.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Do I think of marriage primarily as personal happiness, or as a picture of Christ and the church?
2. How does Christ's sacrifice change the way I should understand family roles?
3. Where do I need Jesus to redeem what Adam-like failure has broken in me?
4. What does it mean for me personally to become "one" with Christ through worship and surrender?

**Prayer Focus:**

Jesus, thank You for redeeming what sin distorted. Make my life and relationships reflect Your covenant love.

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**Day 6 — Biblical Roles Strengthen Family Unity**

**Key Scripture:** Ephesians 5:22–25; Ephesians 6:1

**Devotional Reflection:**

Rev. Roy Manning brings the message home by showing that biblical family roles are not random traditions. They are Kingdom assignments meant to display God's image. Husbands are called to reflect Christ through sacrificial obedience and loving leadership. Wives are called to reflect the church and the Spirit's yieldedness through willing submission. Children are called into obedience within covenant order.

These roles are not about ego, superiority, or personality preference. They are about picture. The family is meant to show the world something about God. When husbands refuse sacrifice, when wives reject God's order, when children are raised outside of covenant structure and Kingdom training, the picture becomes harder to see.

Still, Rev. Manning's message is not a call to shame. It is a call to alignment. God cares so much about family unity because He cares so much about His image in the world. The question is not whether your family is flawless. The question is whether it is moving toward God's order, God's healing, and God's purpose.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. In my current role, husband, wife, parent, child, or single adult preparing for family, where do I most need alignment with God's design?
2. Have I treated biblical roles as burdens rather than as sacred assignments?
3. What is one change I can make this week that would bring more unity and order to my home?
4. Does my family life help people see something true about God?

**Prayer Focus:**

Father, align my home with Your Kingdom agenda. Let my role, my relationships, and my responses reflect Your image more clearly.

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**Closing Thought for the Week**

Rev. Roy Manning's message reminds us that God did not abandon the family when it fell. He sent Christ to redeem the image, restore the order, and reestablish the pattern. The family still matters because God's image still matters.