**SPEAKER:** Dr Glenn Dunn

**TITLE:** The Purposeful Family – A Biblical Profile

**Introduction: The Importance of God’s Design of The Family.**

**The Purposeful Family:** Using the following points: 1. The Current Cultural View of Marriage, 2. The Importance of the Book of Genesis and 3. The Purposeful Family Displays God’s Design in Twelve Ways.

1. **The Current View of Marriage**
   1. The Age of Enlightenment
   2. The Results of the Age of Enlightenment (2 Corinthians 12:15)
   3. *God’s Word Is Our Standard*
2. **The Importance of Genesis in Understanding the Family’s Design (Genesis 2:15-25)**
   1. *The Down Grade Cycle*
      1. A claim to believe the Scriptures
      2. A denial of the literal creation account of Genesis
      3. Replacement of Scripture with Evolution
      4. Advocating for change of orthodox doctrine
      5. Justification of modifying Scriptures based on science
      6. Advocating for sexual perversion
      7. Subtly questioning or openly attaching sufficiency

*2 Timothy 3:16 “All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness.”*

*Genesis 1 & 2*

1. **The Purposeful Family Displays God’s Design in Twelve Ways**
   1. Displays the character of God (Gen 1-2)
   2. Is covenant making and covenant keeping (Gen 2:20-25)
   3. Is male and female (Gen 2:15-23, Matthew 19:4-5, Eph 5:25-29)
      1. The importance of the created order (1 Tim 2:14-15)

(c.f. Col. 3:19, Eph. 6:4, Col. 3:21, Eph. 5:22-24, Titus 2:3-5, 1 Sam. 2:27-30, Eph. 6:1, Col. 3:20, Rom. 13:1, 1 Pet. 2:13-15, Heb. 13:17, Eph. 6:5-8, Col. 3:22-24)

* 1. The Bible’s description of man’s problems and solutions are believed (Eph. 2, 2 Cor. 5:17-19, Col. 3:1-3).
  2. Parents seek godly offspring and raise their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph 6:4, Deut. 6:7, Prov. 29:15, Prov. 22:6, 15).
     1. Psalm 78:1-8: Fathers should teach their children
        1. Reminders
        2. Teach the statutes.
        3. Teach the value of family
        4. Teach them to hope in God
        5. Teach them the faithfulness of God
        6. Warn them not to disobey
        7. Teach them to remember God
  3. The gospel of Jesus Christ is taught, confessed and proclaimed. And, there is a commitment to a Bible-believing church (Acts 4:12, Rom. 10:9-10, 1 Thess. 5:9, 2 Cor. 5:18-20, John 4:23, Heb. 10:24-25, Gal. 5:13, Acts 4:34-35, Prov. 3:9-10, Rom. 12:13).
  4. Family members are loved and served (Matt. 22:39, Phil. 2:3).
  5. Communication is clear, gracious and constructive (1 Pet. 4:8, Eph 4:24, Eph 5:18-21).
     1. Four rules for communication (Eph 4:25-32)
        1. Be honest
           1. Speak your words! (1 Cor. 12:11) – no one is a mind reader
           2. Speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15)
        2. Keep current
           1. Solve today’s problems today (Eph 4:26)
        3. Attack problems not people
           1. Do not demean those with whom you speak
        4. Act! Don’t React!
           1. What’s the difference between a thermometer and a thermostat? In your communication you will either be in control, or you will be out of control (Gal. 5).
  6. Prayer and praise are a common occurrence (1 Thess. 5:16-17, Eph. 6:18, Phil 4:6).
  7. Sin is confessed and forgiveness granted (Ps. 51:1-4, 1 Jn 1:8-10, Matt. 18:21-22, Eph. 4:32).
  8. Conflict is resolved biblically (Matt. 5:23-24, 1 Cor. 15:3-4, 1 Pet 3:18, Eph 4:29, Col 4:6).
  9. Brings glory to God Who is loved, feared and worshipped (Matt. 22:37-39, Jn 14:15, Ps. 128:1-4).

1. **Application**

**Your marriage and family are important to God!**