

Hierarchy of Human Roles.

Choices abound as to how each person can design his or her life. Our unchecked desires lead us down well-worn paths towards pain and disillusionment. The sad stories are everywhere. We are told to balance home, work, church and self. But that just leads to over commitment. Fortunately the ageless wisdom in the Bible sets clear priorities. Following these is the secret to lasting fullness.

We play a bit of each of these roles, but the top ones tend to distract us. They may give the most immediate rewards; but when they take priority over the more foundational roles, they ultimately lead to discontentment and regret. If we can define who we are by this hierarchy and make our decisions by these priorities, we will find satisfaction and joy in the midst of a life that is an adventure of growth. We will find an "abundant life" (John 10:10).

I Timothy 6:17
Malachi 4:2
Psalms 37:4

**PLAYER
and / or
COMPETITOR**
(Recreation)

Genesis 1:26-28

**EXPLORER
and / or
DISCOVERER**

Genesis 9:1-3
Genesis 1:26
Genesis 8:15-17
I Thessalonians 4:11-12
II Thessalonians 3:6-12

PRODUCER
(Career Person or Creator / Artist)

Producing for the sake of fulfilling the lower three foundational levels is really part of those levels. Producing for the sake of self-fulfillment or basic drive or any other reason is what this level is about.

The entire New Testament

SERVANT / MINISTER

For childless singles, this role becomes the focus.
I Corinthians 7:32

I Timothy 5:8

FATHER

MOTHER

I Timothy 2:15
I Timothy 5:14
Titus 2:4-5

Ephesians 5:25-33
1st Peter 3:7
I Corinthians 11:3
I Corinthians 7:2-6

HUSBAND

WIFE

I Peter 3:1-6
Ephesians 5:22-24

Luke 14:26
Matthew 10:37

FOLLOWER OF THE RISEN CHRIST

James 2:19
Exodus 20:1-7

LISTENER TO GOD

BELIEVER IN GOD