

## **Pillars Series Slide**

The title of a recent episode of the DREAM podcast is DINKs. Which stands for Dual Income No Kids.

It's a trending lifestyle choice for couples who choose to build a life together, but not to not raise children.

Of course- the benefits are obvious. Without children- you have a lot more money- and a lot less responsibility.

Women don't have to have the body taxing and transforming that happens with birthing and nursing a child.

And of course- you eliminate a ton of anxiety and worry from your life that you have with your kids. Think of all the free time you get back!

Josh Gondelman and Maris Kreizman are the couple interviewed on the podcast...but honestly- their names and occupations are kind of irrelevant. Because, the benefits of having a Dual Income No Kids would present themselves in any marriage.

Let's listen in to some of the things that Josh and Maris said about living this way.

**"I think I have probably less appetite for legacy than most people."**

**I have a pretty firm idea of like, when I'm dead, whatever happens after that regarding me doesn't matter.**

**I feel- If I'm not there to experience it, it didn't happen." -Josh Gondelman**

Host:

We've been talking for about an hour and 15 minutes and neither of you have had to say anything about a the baby waking up, putting the baby down for a nap, getting the baby, leaving work for the baby, or about a child you have to drive around. Like- the freedom you must feel from that.

**"I can nap whenever I want. That's a huge, huge thing."- Maris Kreizman**

**"I do have a real appreciation for the idea of [a parent's] capacity for love and care being exploded into this new vastness. I think it's really beautiful. And I love when I see other people experience that and I'm so glad for them."**

But to me, I have so much fear attached to that as well.

**"I would worry all day every day. Taking the lid off of how much love you can have in your life in that way feels like a Pandora's box of terror for me."**

**I have so much love and joy in my life and I have so much selfishness about the other stuff that I just am like, I don't want to give this up.”- Josh Gondelman**

I have something I like I don't want to lose. (Money, comfort, freedom)  
Even though I'm drawn to the deep love- I see other people experiencing with their kids...I don't want to risk the pain.

Ok- lets contrast that with this idea from Mel Lorenz' book Spiritual Leadership Today.

He says the very best leaders embrace the paradox and tension of the following statement:

**“I will commit myself today to something that I will never see completed in my lifetime. But why would I commit myself to anything less?”- Mel Lorenz**

Lets look at those ideas together for affect

#### **SAME SLIDE**

**“When I'm dead, whatever happens after that regarding me doesn't matter. If I'm not there to experience it, it didn't happen.” -Josh Gondelman**

**“I can nap whenever I want. Thats a huge, huge thing.”- Maris Kreizman**

**“I will commit myself today to something that I will never see completed in my lifetime. But why would I commit myself to anything less?”- Mel Lorenz**

The difference between these 2 ideas is whether or not one senses a responsibility to Paradosis.

Paradosis is a Greek word that means “Passing on or Handing over” Sometimes it gets translated “tradition”- but the idea is to pass on wisdom, a way of life, to generations that come after you.

If I could talk to Josh and Maris- I'd take them back to this statement that Josh made.

**“I do have a real appreciation for the idea of [a parent's] capacity for love and care being exploded into this new vastness. I think its really beautiful.**

Isn't the beauty worth it?

Isn't having your capacity for love and care being exploded into a new vastness...isn't that worth losing.....naps...vacations....spontaneous cocktails with girlfriends....

Isn't it worth it to pass on love and joy and wisdom...even though you might not get to see its full completion in your lifetime?

**Title Slide: “Pair of Deuces to Paradosis: Are You Passing On Something That Lasts Forever or Passing On Something That Last Forever?”- Pretty Much the Whole Bible**

But Josh and Maris have decided to throw a Pair of Deuces...to Paradosis!

In Modern Western culture- we think of ourselves mainly as individuals- with individual pursuits.

Which is why raising children doesn't fit Josh and Maris' idea of the good life. Because it would derail too many of their individual goals. It would cause more pain than pleasure...In fact- all through the podcast- the way they think about children- and whether or not kids are worth having- mostly has to do with their own desires and pursuits and whether children add to or detract from that.

The attitude Josh and Maris have toward making and raising children...is probably the attitude that most professing Christians have toward making and raising disciples.

And when we're talking about a leader in the Kingdom of God- we have to talk about making disciples. We have to talk about Paradosis. And Paradosis means throwing up a pair of deuces to some temporary comforts- in exchange for something you may not see completed in your lifetime.

### **Genesis 1:27-28**

**27 So God created man in his own image;**

**he created him in the image of God;**

**he created them male and female.**

**28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth,**

The Calling- the way to image God- is to do what he just did in Genesis. Overflow and create a space of flourishing for other people. TO PASS on what God did for them.

Sin- They didn't do this. Instead they made a choice for themselves.

But God restarted things with a flood- gave the same command to Noah- and in the text- the next event after Noah is the Tower of Babel.

### **Genesis 11:1-4**

**The whole earth had the same language and vocabulary.**

**2 As people migrated from the east, they found a valley in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3 They said to each other, "Come, let's make oven-fired bricks." (They used brick for stone and asphalt for mortar.) 4 And they said, "Come, let's build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky. Let's make a name for ourselves; otherwise, we will be scattered throughout the earth."**

Not outward toward the WHOLE EARTH- inward. NAME FOR OURSELVES

God Confuses their language and scatters them.

very next thing- Abraham- God makes a promise to bless through him...and his kids.

### **Genesis 12:1-3**

**The Lord said to Abram:**

**Go from your land,  
your relatives,  
and your father's house  
to the land that I will show you.  
2 I will make you into a great nation,  
I will bless you,  
I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.  
3 I will bless those who bless you,  
I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt,  
and all the peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you.**

More Nations....God choosing to make the name great- notice the direction  
I will BLESS YOU...and I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME GREAT (you won't do it...and YOU WILL  
BE A BLESSING. Its outward —> and its going to happen by Abraham becoming a father...and  
then his kids becoming parents...and then his kids becoming parents and so on.

But its not only going to be that. Not only does he have to have children- he has to pass on this  
promise so his children don't forget. They have to know what God has promised.

By the end of Genesis- God has started these 12 tribes of people through Abraham's great  
grandson Joseph and his 11 brothers and they are now rapidly multiplying in Egypt.

When a self-interested tyrant tries to eliminate them

#### **Exodus 1:6-8**

**6 Joseph and all his brothers and all that generation eventually died. 7 But the Israelites  
were fruitful, increased rapidly, multiplied, and became extremely numerous so that the  
land was filled with them.**

**8 A new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power in Egypt. --**

Joseph who had saved not only his brothers, but all of Egypt..was forgotten. His name was not  
passed on. So Israel became slaves in Egypt.

Moses- (we talked about him last week) was also an adopted Egyptian- brought Israel out of  
slavery to the Egyptians.

The key part of this was the passover and the parting of the Red Sea. [EXPLAIN]

Of course- there is constant forgetting what God did for them as they go through wilderness  
toward the promised land. So they complain...they worship a golden calf- they are constantly  
constantly forgetting what God did.

Finally- they arrive at the promised land- and before they go in, Moses addresses them one last  
time- Thats the book of Deuteronomy.

#### **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

4 “Listen, Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. 7 Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. 9 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates.

#### **Deuteronomy 6:12**

**be careful not to forget the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the place of slavery.**

He says- if you forget- You'll start to think that you did all this. That you earned it. That you made it for yourself. And you won't receive a name from God- you'll make one for yourself.

Which is the heart of what keeps breaking the world.

So they remember with the Passover meal.

Jesus then transforms the Passover meal to the Lords supper...for the purpose of remembrance. OF a different salvation. One that reverses the curse of sin. The angel of death rests on Jesus on the cross- the blood of a lamb- so we can go free.

#### **Luke 22:14-19**

**14 When the hour came, he reclined at the table, and the apostles with him. 15 Then he said to them, “I have fervently desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16 For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” 17 Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he said, “Take this and share it among yourselves. 18 For I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”**

**19 And he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to them, and said, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

Talk about the gospel Crucifixion and resurrection. Points us both to remembering what Christ did and Waiting.

This is a key part of paradosis. Passing on not only what God has done- but also what he has promised to do- remember Abraham Covenant?

#### **Matthew 28:18-20**

**Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

Now spiritual children- Be fruitful and multiply disciples of Jesus.

#### **Acts 2:5-11**

5 Now there were Jews staying in Jerusalem, devout people from every nation under heaven. 6 When this sound occurred, a crowd came together and was confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. 7 They were astounded and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 How is it that each of us can hear them in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites; those who live in Mesopotamia, in Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts), 11 Cretans and Arabs — we hear them declaring the magnificent acts of God in our own tongues."

Reversal of Babel. nations come back together- hear in individual languages one unifying message.

And what did Peter say to them- well he summarized parts of the Old Testament and told them that though

#### **Acts 2:36**

36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

#### **Acts 2:38-41**

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call." 40 With many other words he testified and strongly urged them, saying, "Be saved from this corrupt generation!" 41 So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them.

For you and your children....and for all who are far off. The nations. Everyone. The paradosis isn't just for you and yours- its passed along to everyone. This is the blessing of nations promised to Abraham.

Jesus calls this in John 3- Being BORN again. Or BORN of the Spirit. Strong tie to natural birth and supernatural birth.

Notice- Corrupt Generation.  
Crooked- Skoliosis. Off track.  
Generation- Children.

Ones who have had the lie of the snake in the garden (Brood of vipers- JtB and Jesus)

Baptism- one of the markers of Paradosis. Passing on. Spiritual birth. Story you are telling with your life.

Taking Gods name in vain- doesn't mean a word you speak out loud.  
It means you are representing God, bearing his name- but not using it like you are called to use it. Which is as a pillar. For Paradosis. To pass on for others.

#### **1 Corinthians 11:1-2**

**Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ. 2 Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold fast to the traditions just as I delivered them to you.**

Imitate- Image of God- encouraging others to watch.  
Remember me and Hold Fast to the PARADOSIS AS I PARADOSIS them to you.

## **2 Timothy 2:2**

**2 What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

More Paradosis- receiving the good news about Jesus- and passing it on.

## **2 Timothy 2:8-10**

**8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead and descended from David, according to my gospel, 9 for which I suffer to the point of being bound like a criminal. But the word of God is not bound. 10 This is why I endure all things for the elect: so that they also may obtain salvation, which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.**

Remember- the gospel.  
Suffer- this is why we don't want to  
I ENDURE so THEY obtain salvation.  
For something eternal.

## **Jude 1:3**

**3 Dear friends, although I was eager to write you about the salvation we share, I found it necessary to write, appealing to you to contend for the faith that was delivered to the saints once for all. --**

CONTEND- Its hard.... delivered is PARADOSIS.

## **1) Pillars have a calling to Paradosis**

### **2) Pillars pay a temporary cost for Paradosis.**

From the serpents temptation in the garden- its no doubt there is a choice- Individualize and go your own way leading to the curse of death- or be a part of God's story and be a conduit of his blessing to others- and thereby find eternal life.

Short term difficulty, long term joy.  
Short term pleasure, long term suffering.

### **3) Pillars find an eternal joy in Paradosis.**

Are you passing on something that lasts forever or passing on something that lasts forever?

Next 2 on the same slide.

**"I would worry all day every day. Taking the lid off of how much love you can have in your life in that way feels like a Pandoras box of terror for me. - Josh Gondelman**

## **2 Corinthians 11:26-28**

**On frequent journeys, I faced dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my own people, dangers from Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers at sea, and dangers among false brothers; 27 toil and hardship, many sleepless nights, hunger and thirst, often without food, cold, and without clothing. 28 Not to mention other things, there is the daily pressure on me: my concern for all the churches.**

**I'm scared to meet you 'cause then I might know you  
And then once I know you, I might fall in love  
Once I'm in love, then my heart is wide open  
For you to walk in, drop a bomb, blow it up- Jon Bellion, WHY**

Bring up Jesus at the end- who opened himself to love- and they did blow it up.  
He entrusted himself to his disciples...and they sold him out.  
Deserted him.

The box of terror was fully unleashed on him.  
But in that death- Jesus was taking our sinful crookedness...and passing on his perfect righteousness... his sonship...his right to the Father's inheritance. His love...his relationship.

And to all those who have been called by him, included in his love...like parents watching their children in a race- called on before us- they are cheering us on- They don't run and compete anymore- but we're still in it...and they want us to make it home. Only way to do that- to look to Jesus who won the race for us. FOR THE JOY- set before him.

## **Hebrews 12:1-3**

**Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us,**

**2 keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him who endured such hostility from sinners against himself, so that you won't grow weary and give up.**

## **Ephesians 3:14-19**

**14 For this reason I kneel before the Father 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. 16 I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God's love, 19 and to know Christ's love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.**

**POINTS 1,2,3 on screen together**



Will you follow?

What kind of paradox are you being called to today?

Baptism?

Being born again.?

Have you been in church for years- heard thousands of sermons- but never really made a disciple and helped someone else follow Jesus?

Prayer counselors

**Lords Supper**