Romans 12:1-2 (ESV) ¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Conforming to the world is the greatest danger facing God’s people:

1. Conforming to the world is dangerous because it is so subtle.

   Ephesians 5:5-8 (ESV) ⁵ For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not become partners with them; ⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light...

2. Conforming to the world is dangerous because it happens in the course of everyday family life.

   Your parental counsel will be heard to the degree that your love is felt.

3. We can’t be passive to the aggression of evil that accompanies conforming to the world.

Application:

How do you fight the subtle, yet aggressive danger of conforming to the world, especially as it seeks to undermine your family life?

1. Commit yourself to proper separation.

   1 Corinthians 15:33 (ESV) Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”

   Romans 16:19 (ESV) For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.

2. Commit yourself to proper insulation.

   We need to wrap our minds with the Word of God so that our thinking and attitudes are shaped by God, not by this evil world.

3. Commit yourself to proper intention.

   Go into the world with the proper separation from evil, the proper insulation of biblical thinking, and the proper intention of witness for Christ, and you won’t be conforming to it!