

B. The Bible teaches that the husband and wife relationship should take **precedence over** every other human relationship, if you are married.

1. Genesis 2:24 - \*Note three things: **leave, cleave, and one flesh**.

T.P.T. = Temporary, Permanent, Temporary

Marriage is not a place for self-protected living, but for giving.

Marriage is not for individual living, but comprehensively sharing life together. Marriage is not primarily an emotional, romantic relationship, but the greatest covenant commitment on earth.

C. The Bible teaches that the family is a place where people are **honored and respected** : The Golden Rule (Luke 6:31).

**“Honor” = “to fix a valuation upon; to revere; to respect”**

The height of dishonor is physical abuse.

1. Deuteronomy 5:16; Mark 7:10; Ephesians 6:2; Proverbs 19:26; 20:20; 23:22; 30:17 – *“Honor your father and mother.”*
2. 1 Peter 3:7; Ephesians 5:33 – *“Husbands, honor your wives.”*  
*“Wives, respect your husbands.”*
3. 1 Timothy 3:4 – *“A husband must manage his household and children with dignity.”*
4. Colossians 3:21; Ephesians 6:4 – *“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger.”* *“Fathers, do not exasperate your children, causing them to lose heart.”* **Disrespect promotes anger.** The home should not be a place of constant turmoil, strife, bitterness, and selfishness.
5. 1 Peter 2:17 – *“Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, and honor the king.”*

6. 1 Timothy 5:3 – *“Honor widows who are widows indeed.”*

7. Ephesians 4:32 – *“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ has also forgiven you.”*

### 8. A Responsibility to Honor from Exodus 20:1-17

- Nine of the Ten Commandments are repeated in the New Testament Epistles for the Church to honor and obey. (minus Sabbath Day)
- The 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Commandments deal with what’s in the heart, while the other 8 commandments focus on outward actions that begin in the heart.
- The first 4 commandments are particularly God-ward while the last six are man-ward, thus demonstrating the connection between one’s relationship to God and one’s relationship to others. **How we relate to others depends on how we relate to God. If we love God, we will love and serve others.** If there is something wrong in a relationship, then first examine your relationship with God (your thoughts, ideas, understandings, obedience).
- Outline of the Ten Commandments:
  1. Honoring the One True God in 20:1-3
  2. Honoring Worship of the One True God in 20:4-6
  3. Honoring God’s Name above Every other Name in 20:7
  4. Honoring the Sabbath Rest in 20:8-11
  5. Honoring Parents in 20:12
  6. Honoring Human Life in 20:13
  7. Honoring Marriage in 20:14
  8. Honoring Personal Property in 20:15
  9. Honoring the Truth in 20:16
  10. Honoring Your Neighbor in 20:17

If we love others, we won’t covet what they have, steal from them, lie to or about them, dishonor, disrespect, or abuse them in any way. This is why “love is the fulfillment of the Law” (Romans 13:8-10). God can change our sinful hearts and give us the love we need to obey Him and to care about others more than about ourselves (Hebrews 10:14-18; Romans 5:1-5).

D. The Bible teaches that the family is a \_\_\_\_\_ in which the most important \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Illustrated as a \_\_\_\_\_. Parents pass the baton to the next generation by every child being taught the things of God.

b. **Deuteronomy 4:9-10**; 6:6-25; **Joshua 4:21-24**; **Psalm 78:2-7**; **Joel 1:2-3**; Proverbs 1-31; Romans 15:4; Ephesians 6:4.

The Bible declares that parents should be \_\_\_\_\_ the education of their children; not doing it all necessarily, but supervising it. Know what your kids are learning at home and outside the home; what they are reading, watching, listening to, who their friends are. **Always emphasize biblical instruction; bring Christ and the Word of God into every situation.**

E. The Bible teaches that the family is a place of \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ in the time of \_\_\_\_\_.

a. We will always have some stormy times in our lives; some expected and some unexpected; it's part of life on earth. (John 16:33; **Psalm 90:10**; Genesis 47:8-9; Job 14:1)

b. Various storms in life (family is a place of refuge, comfort, encouragement, AND a place to learn biblical responses to life):

\_\_\_\_\_ Rejection or Ridicule, Unrealized \_\_\_\_\_, Unreliable & Unreasonable \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Setbacks, Physical Illness & Disease, \_\_\_\_\_ Challenges, Weaknesses, and times when God seems \_\_\_\_\_. Home must be a place filled with patience, gentleness, and encouragement for the storms of life: A Life Preserver.



- c. The family is a place where God is exalted and members are cared for, according to the Scriptures.

Proverbs 14:26, *“In the reverence of the LORD is strong confidence and His children will have refuge.”*

Psalm 103:13, *“Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who reverence Him.”*

**Proverbs 28:13**, *“He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.”*

Deuteronomy 24:5, the home is a place of happiness.

Ephesians 5:28-29, the home is a place where men nurture and promote the strengths of others, and help others in their weaknesses. This is not shallow self-esteem, but substantial encouragement and help.

1 Peter 3:7, the home is a place of emotional support.

**Colossians 3:12-17**, the home is a place of humility, compassion, gentleness, kindness, patience, forgiveness, love, unity, peace, thankfulness, biblical instruction, and worship; all flowing from the Word of God which richly dwells in your home and acts as the standard of family life relationships.

### **Next Steps in Your Household of Faith**

1. Review all the notes in this series and decide which areas of your home need to be strengthened and improved upon.
2. Personally confess your role in any sin or shortcomings in your home.
3. Decide how you will personally serve God by serving your family. What will you practically do to obey God and help others in your family?
4. Pray specifically every day for each family member.
5. Thank God every day for at least one thing about each family member.
6. Find ways to worship and serve God together as a family.

# HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH

Biblical Principles for Family Life

# BADGE OF HONOR

Honor is an important quality for God's people. Honor is seen in every responsibility we have as Christians.

*Exodus 20:1-17*

# MARRIAGE: GENESIS 2:24

Husband-Wife relationship takes precedence over every other human relationship.

Leave – Make it easy for kids to leave

Cleave – Greatest commitment of all

One Flesh – Comprehensively share life together

# WE ARE FAMILY!

The Bible teaches that the family is a place where people are *honored* and *respected*.

“Honor” = “to fix valuation upon; to revere; to respect; to place before one’s self; to speak well of at all times”

# FAMILY IS A CLASSROOM

Lessons of life are taught and learned.

Illustrated as a relay race, parents passing the baton of the things of God to the next generation.

# DEUTERONOMY 4:9-10

*"Give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently so that you do not forget what you have seen and it departs from your heart; but make them known to your sons and grandsons. Remember the day you stood before the LORD at Horeb, to hear Me and reverence Me all your days, and to teach your children."*

# JOSHUA 4:19-24

*"When your children ask their fathers in time to come, 'What are these twelve stones?' then you will inform your children how God dried up the Jordan River and the Red Sea for you, so that all the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty, and reverence the LORD your God forever."*

# PSALM 78:2-7

*"I will utter dark sayings of old, which we have heard and known and our fathers told us. We will not conceal them from our children, but we will tell the generation to come the praises of the LORD, His strength, and His wondrous works. God commanded the fathers to teach their children so that the generation to come might arise and teach their own children."*

# JOEL 1:2-3

*“Has anything like this happened in your days or in your fathers’ days? Tell your sons about it, and let your sons tell their sons, and their sons the next generation.”*

# PARENTS & CHILDREN

The Word of God declares that parents should be *supervising* the education of their children, with emphases on biblical instruction; bringing Christ and the Scriptures into every event and situation in life.

# FAMILY IS A REFUGE

A shelter in the time of storm.

Storms are a part of life on earth.

*"The days of our life contain seventy or eighty years, yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; for soon it is gone and we fly away."*

# STORMS OF LIFE

*Social* Rejection/Ridicule, Unrealized *Expectations*, Unreliable/Unreasonable *Demands*, *Financial* Setbacks, Physical Illness/Disease, *Spiritual* Challenges, Weaknesses, and Times when God Seems *Distant*.



# FAMILY & WORSHIP

The family is a place where God is exalted and members are cared for, according to the Scriptures.

Family is one of God's primary tools for sanctification: becoming more and more like Christ.

# COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

The home is a place of humility, compassion, gentleness, kindness, patience, forgiveness, love, unity, peace, thankfulness, biblical instruction, and worship; all flowing from the Word of God which richly dwells in your home and acts as the standard of family life relationships.

# HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH

1. What areas need strengthened?
2. Personally confess your part.
3. Serve God by serving your family.
4. Pray daily for each family member.
5. Thank God every day for family members.
6. Worship & serve God together as family.