

# Introduction to the series:

## The family

### INTRODUCTION:

#### **A. The lessons from this series:**

1. 327\_Introduction to the series about the family
2. 591\_Marriage: Its purpose
3. 592\_Marriage: Its permanency
4. 015\_The man's role in a marriage
5. 017\_The woman's role in a marriage
6. 498\_A wife worth more than jewels
7. 244\_When mommy is not home
8. 597\_Loving intellectually
9. 598\_The affectionate love
10. 599\_The intimate love
11. 602\_Communication
12. 604\_Problems between husband and wife
13. 606\_The responsibilities of parents and kids
14. 608\_Training our children: Education
15. 609\_Training our children: Chastisement
16. 610\_Training our children: Direction
17. 612\_Biblical cases of fathers and sons
18. 611\_The relationship between siblings
19. 440\_What every youth wants in reality
20. 618\_Courtship: Preparation for marriage
21. 021\_The family who is centered in Christ

#### **B. In this lesson we will study the following points:**

1. The importance of the family
2. The disintegration of the family
3. The potential a family has
4. How need to hear this series of sermons about the family?
5. Some correct attitudes we must have before entering this topic of study

### I. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY

#### **A. The family is important because the family will make an impact on:**

1. The nation of USA or any other country or nation
2. The local congregation, the church of Christ
3. The relationship of the Christian with God
4. The happiness of the Christian and his or her personal wellbeing

#### **B. Our nation, or a nation**

1. We have been studying from the book of Revelation and according to one of the past English historian named Gibbon one of the reasons for the fall of the great and powerful Roman Empire was the rapid increase of divorce: an attack against the dignity and the holiness of the family, of which is the base of a human society.

2. Consider the contrast between the fall of Sodom and Gomorrah (**Genesis 18-19**; the practice of homosexuality, a man's substitution for the divine institution which is the family) with the family of Abraham and the nation which will come from him (**Genesis 18:16-33**, en special verses 18 and 19).
  3. **Proverbs 14:34**, notice what justice and sin does to a nation
  4. Also consider (**Deut. 6:7-9**) with the context of verses 1-15.
  5. In view of this consider our nation and its problems come from the same source, a broken home:
    - a. Immorality - fornication, adultery, prostitution, homosexuality, pornography, etc.
    - b. Instead the family should be the institution which forms sound and healthy attitudes and warns about these problems if not handle since early in youth.
    - c. Another burden to society is the ever increase of social assistance – families without fathers; kids not wanted nor loved; despised maternity; broken homes.
    - d. Illegal drugs – much unhappiness in the family; lack of parental direction; rebellious behavior
    - e. Crime – lack of supervision, discipline, training and love. The result: no respect for the law and authority.
- C. The church**
1. The family could qualify or disqualify the head of household, a Christian man from eldership (**1 Timothy 3:2, 4-5; Tito 1:6**).
  2. Wrong attitude about the word of God and the preacher (the death of John the baptizer because of his preaching about divorce and re-marriage) (**Mark 6:14-29**).
  3. A family could also be the source of given the glory to God
    - a. Notice (**Tito 2:5**)
    - b. Also notice that of Peter to the woman (**1 Peter 3:1**)
  4. In general we will never going to reach the zenith of our capacity to the service to the Lord if there is tension and struggles, fights, etc in our families.
- D. A disorder family threatens our relationship with God**
1. **1 Peter 3:4, 7** (so that prayers of both may not be hindered)
  2. **Colossians 3:18-20** (what it pleases God)
  3. **Matt. 19:9** (adultery)
  4. **Galatians 5:19-21** (deeds of the flesh...)
  5. **Ephesians 4:30-31**
- E. What the family brings...**
1. The family either will bring to the individual happiness or unpleasant memories, remorse, etc.
  2. Man, woman, child in a family have specific roles, functions design and put there by God

[Now let us see the following point which most of us are aware of...]

## **II. THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE FAMILY**

- A. The family of our society today it has been disintegrated**
  1. The walls of morality once stood tall are being dismantled, honesty, respect for each other is constantly under attack (television shows undermining the knowledge and authority of parents, etc.)
- B. Statistics and polls show that the number of divorce has dramatically increased in our time.**
- C. With this brings an increase in out of wedlock relationships like adultery, fornication, etc.**
- D. Also an increase of kids having kids, illegitimate kids out of wedlock**
- E. It is noticeable, even you can tell even without the statistics, look around. Observe the world around us, and see how many of those families are really happy? And how many of them just coexist under the same roof?**
- F. What the family is today**

1. Before family was the center of life. It was a place of love, security, warmth. It was a place where you will learn love, where principal of justice were taught, where the character of a child was formed and edified (now the character of the child is formed by the television set, Hanna Montana, teacher at school, etc.). Today home is nothing more than a restaurant and a hotel.
2. Some try to substitute the church for the family (“center of family life”, recreation, sports and the “social gospel”).
3. Also some try to substitute the family with work and or a career. Man with their business and hobbies, leaving no time for the family. The mothers leave the responsibility of the upbringing of the child to aunt, grandma or the babysitter, or daycare. Most of the time these only have some or no experience to bringing up a child and if they do they lack moral standards. There is no time or energy to a daddy, mommy and neither to be a spouse.

[We need to understand that a family has so much to give to society and especially to God for in the family...]

### **III. THE POTENTIAL A FAMILY HAS**

#### **A. Could it be a deception or a hope?**

1. The great deception of Satan:
  - a. The young dream of getting married and live ever happily. The adults say the opposite it will not work and that is how the deception starts. The young get married and then the problems arise, they go to the “marriage counselor” and or “marriage orientation” and read books which tells them that all these is nothing but a dream, that is of getting married and living ever happily. The feminist movement group despises the role of the woman in marriage, at home and says that woman can do all things man can do, and argues “why should the wife stay a homemaker and not peruse her dreams”, and the deception escalates. The young see around them and they see nothing but unhappiness and therefore they concluded that it is impossible to live happily in a marriage relationship.
2. First of all notice what God had created (**Genesis 1:31**) including the family (**Genesis 1:26-28**) as well!
  - a. See (**Proverbs 18:22**)
  - b. The worthy woman, a wife has immense value (**Proverbs 31:10**)
  - c. It is a precious inheritance from God (**Proverbs 19:14**)
  - d. Notice the wise words from Solomon (**Ecclesiastes 9:9**)
  - e. Not only is it of value a good wife a gift from God but also our children! (**Psalms 127:3-4**)
  - f. Also consider (**1Timothy 4:1-4**).

[If you believe that the family could be center of life and with a great purpose when it is restored to the original divine plan of God, and then let us continue...]

### **IV. WHO NEEDS TO HEAR THESE SERMONS?**

#### **A. A word of caution! Let us not think that this series of sermons are not for us and it is suited better for x member**

1. See **Proverbs 1:20-33**
2. A fool could have the title of a doctor and say “I do not need that”

#### **B. It is for the young who is preparing and eventually will get marry in the future**

1. Think about this, it is difficult to teach nautical lessons in the time of a storm
2. Some marry thinking they will be solving all of their problems, marriage will bring more problems!

#### **C. These sermons are for the young couples, it is to help us and them to reach their potential as husband and wife and parents, in order to succeed there must be a strong foundation, marriage needs to begin well the first months and years.**

**D. It is also for the marriage couples who have been married for a long time**

1. There have been couples who had been married for 50 years and have separated
2. Many have grown accustomed and have accepted to something in which in reality it is not the will of God or it is not according to the marriage pattern God has established. They just coexist and do not study to mold their lives and to correct their conduct to the will of God.
3. It is also to give the young a good example. The cycle of the bad home, family (**Ezekiel 16:44**).

**E. It is for the grandparents, what are you going to teach to your grandkids?****F. This series of sermons is for everyone who wants to give someone a good and reliable advice.****G. It is also for those who came from broken homes**

1. It is to more objective and not to blame God; consider (**Proverbs 19:3**).
2. It is to if there is a possibility to reconcile.

**H. It is for everyone! After all it is the word of God**

1. You will not lose anything on the contrary you will be wiser! (**Proverbs 1:1-5**)

**V. ATTITUDE WE MUST HAVE BEFORE STUDYING THIS TOPIC****A. The disposition of going to the word of God**

1. Read (**1 Timothy 4:1-5**)
2. Reasons why many listen to Satan in regards to this topic
  - a. Being deceived by the deceiver (Satan) using only some part of the truth and twisting the rest (see **Matt. 4:1-11**), the “authority”, so called “experts” and famous people, etc.
3. Also consider (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)
  - a. In other words Paul is saying to Timothy, “Timothy, here is your tool box” Similar to the mechanic tool box to fix whatever problem he may encounter in his car
  - b. Therefore should we look at the so called “experts”, books, videos and professors and even psychologists?

**B. The disposition of changing, correcting**

1. Before being a Christian where our values and morals did come from? Most of them came from the world
2. Consider (**Romans 12:1-2**)
  - a. It is a process of the mind of which we must participate
  - b. Every day we for some of us we come to a point where we must make a crucial decision
  - c. We need to be capable to “prove” that which is good according to the will of God.
3. When a husband gets closer to his wife, when there is harmony and closeness the marriage will get close to God as well.
4. The base (the strong foundation) of a Christian family is to be right with God that is a family’s number one priority!
  - a. Our number one priority should not be paying bills, mortgage, education or recreation, extra-curriculum activities, or money or anything else it is to be right with God! Everything else will be added (**Matt. 6:25-33**)
  - b. This also includes our child’s respect and obedience (**Ephesians 6:1**)
  - c. The submission of the wife (**Ephesians 5:22**)
5. We need to go back and “consult” what the Bible says (**Isa. 8:19-20**)

**CONCLUSION:****A. Family is important because it will impact upon:**

1. Our nation or a nation
2. The local congregation
3. The relationship of the individual Christian with God
4. The happiness of the Christian and his personal wellbeing

**B. Sad, the family is declining and is constant under attack**

- C. We may not be able to save this nation, but let us try to save our families by each one of, whether you are elderly, young, married, and single to the word of God and with the disposition of conforming to it. Then we will be able to attain the zenith all the potential of what the family can offer according to the divine pattern of God.**

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