

THE HOME

The enclosed series of lessons are for your home study during the next three months. If you have children these lessons will be used as a format for their in-class teaching. Your children's Bible class teachers have prepared their lesson plans from this material for the Sunday class that follows your week's study. This program of teaching is designed as an aid both to adult daily study, and to parents' personal obligation of home study with their children.

Your part in this study will be to give your children ten to twenty minutes of study a day, five days a week. Each day study one DAY study from the next Sunday's Lesson, thereby covering all five DAY studies each week. It is suggested that you use the Memory Work the first day, so it may be learned through repetition the following days.

To assist you in relating the verses to the coming Sunday's class, these lesson outlines are provided to you in advance for the entire thirteen weeks. In addition, there will be a lesson containing the same material each Sunday evening, a week in advance of the Sunday morning class study period.

DO NOT LET YOUR CHILDREN DOWN

Set aside a certain portion of each day for Bible study, such as every evening after supper. Make it a HABIT and be CONSISTENT, and your children will reap benefits the rest of their lives. The remembrance of these few minutes will cause them to be thankful always.

Each child will be given credit in his class each week for his memory work, and his participation in all five Daily Studies. This recognition is arranged so that he may make up any previous week's work missed when absent.

Period Title: THE HOME
Lesson Title: The Home God Designed

Week 1

Memory Work: And the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Gen. 2:18

- DAY 1 The Home is formed by the marriage of a man and woman.
- The home is the oldest institution and the foundation of orderly society. It is of Divine origin. Matt. 19: 4-6
 - God gave Adam a "help meet" (meet means "an answering to" here). Therefore God gave man a woman to help and answer to him, and she was to be his wife. Gen. 2:18-25
 - In the home, the husband is to be the head of the wife. Eph. 5:22-24
 - God instructed Adam and Eve to subdue the earth and have children. Gen. 1:28
- DAY 2 Two essential things provided in a Home are Food and Shelter.
- The husband is to work to provide these for his family. Gen. 3:17-19 & 1 Tim. 5:8
 - The wife bears children and helps the husband by preparing the food and shelter for their family. Pro. 31:15-16, 21-22,27; 1 Tim 5:14 (note: "Widow" here means any woman whether previously married or not); Tit. 2:4-5
- DAY 3 A Third essential to the home is Love.
- Husbands are to love their wives. Eph. 5:25, 28-31, 33
 - Women are to be taught to love their husbands and children. Tit. 2:4-5
 - Children are to honor their parents. Eph. 6:1-3
 - The definition of love. 1 Cor. 13:4-7
- DAY 4 Righteousness is the fourth essential in the home.
- The word of God is to be respected and taught in the home. Deut. 6:5-9
 - The children are to be taught the word of God. Eph. 6:4; Prov. 22:6
 - The prosperity of Israel depended upon the family teaching and respecting God's words. Deut. 11:18-23
- DAY 5 WARNING- The obligations of the Kingdom come before those of the home.
- Put first things first. Matt. 6:33; 19-29
 - Jesus warned against putting the family above truth and the kingdom. Matt. 10:34-37

Period Title: THE HOME
Lesson Title: Marriage and Divorce

Week 3

Memory Work: "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put assunder."
Matt. 19:6

- DAY 1 A Marriage Ceases at Death.
- a. Marriage is broken with honor to both parties only by the death of one of the parties. Rom. 7: 2-3; 1 Cor. 7:39
 - b. Under Moses law, a brother must marry his deceased brother's childless wife to raise up children for perpetuation of his brother's name. This caused a question about marriage after death. Matt. 22:23-31
- DAY 2 Divorce was permitted under Moses Law.
- a. Moses allowed the husband to divorce his wife. Deut. 24:1-4
 - b. This situation was permitted on a temporary basis because of the "hardness" of the peoples' hearts. Matt. 19:3-8
- DAY 3 Divorce is prohibited under Christ's reign.
- a. Man is not to break what God has joined together. Matt. 19:9; 5:31-32
 - b. Divorce subjects both parties to the sin of adultery. Mark 10: 2-12; Luke 16:18
- DAY 4 Separation, or leaving One's Mate, is also Prohibited by Christ.
- a. The Lord commanded that a Christian cannot "depart" from their believing mate. 1 Cor. 7:10-11
 - b. A Christian with an unbelieving mate is also commanded not to leave. 1 Cor. 7:12-14, 16
 - c. To "depart" would be in direct violation of the command found in the same context. 1 Cor. 7:2-5
- DAY 5 The Authorized Exception to Divorce and Separation.
- a. Jesus taught that fornication is the one exception that permits divorce. In this case, for the innocent party's sake, God permits the innocent to divorce the guilty mate and marry another if they choose. Matt. 5:32; 19:9
 - b. God allows the Christian to remain separated from an unbelieving mate only if the unbelieving mate chooses to depart. 1 Cor. 7:15

Series Title: THE HOME

Lesson Title: The Father in the Home

Week 5

Memory Work: "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." Eph. 5:25

- DAY 1 The Father is the Head of the Home.
- a. The father has the same authority and concern for his family as Christ for the church. Eph. 5:23-25; 1 Cor. 11:3
 - b. This does not mean the husband does not give attention to his wife's suggestions. Gen. 21:8-12
- DAY 2 The Husband is to Love His Wife.
- a. God joins the husband to his wife. The husband's taking a woman to be his wife involves an act of God, and the husband must always honor his own decision and God's as binding. Matt. 19:6
 - c. The husband is to dwell with his wife intelligently. 1 Pet. 3:7; Eccl. 9:9
- DAY 3 A Husband is to be Faithful to His Wife.
- a. A husband will look to his wife to fulfill his need for love, and avoid adultery, a common temptation and sin. Heb. 13:4; Pro. 5:15-23. "husbands love your own wives." Eph. 5:25
 - b. The husband is to give that affection and love to his wife he vowed her at marriage. 1 Cor. 7:2-5
- DAY 4 The Father is to Provide for His Family.
- a. The husband provides a home away from his parents for his wife. Gen. 2:24; 1 Tim. 5:8
 - b. He is to work to provide for them, at an honest trade. Gen. 3:17-19; Ex. 21:10; Eph. 4:28
- DAY 5 The Father is responsible for the Spirtual Training and Attitudes of the family.
- a. He will train his children to be faithful to God. Eph. 6:4 Deut. 6:6-7; Pro. 22:6
 - b. Abraham taught his household God's way. Gen. 18:19
 - c. Joshua guided his family to worship God. Josh. 24:15
 - d. Eli failed his children and God held him accountable. 1 Sam. 3:10-14; 4:15-18

Series Title: THE HOME

Lesson Title: The Parents Responsibility to Children

Week 7

Memory Work: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Pro. 22:6

- DAY 1 A Child is Both a Gift and a Responsibility from God.
- a. Children are God's heritage and reward given to parents to care for and enjoy. Gen. 18:19; 33:1-5; psa. 127:3-5
 - b. Parents begin the child's body, but is God who causes it to grow and gives it a soul, that it might be called his "offspring". Job 31:15; Psa. 139:13-16; Eccl. 12:7; Acts 17:29; Heb. 12:9
 - c. God demands that parents provide a proper home for their children. 1 Tim 5:8
 - d. Parents should leave their children a heritage of a good name before wealth. Pro. 22:1; 2 Cor. 12:14

- DAY 2 Parents are Responsible for their Children's Training.
- a. The responsibility is God given to the parents, and is non-transferable. This does not mean that parents cannot use other institutions to aid them, if he chooses. Eph. 6:4
 - b. Jesus' growth at home is simply described as increase in wisdom (mental), stature (physical), in favor with God (spiritual), and in favor with man (social). Luke 2:52
 - c. Success is possible, if the child is trained correctly, Pro. 22:6. The instruction must be in the law of God to implant true wisdom in the child's mind. Pro. 4:1

- DAY 3 The Child's Training
- a. Children are to be taught to know the Father and Jesus. Matt. 19:14; Deut. 6:6-7
 - b. Children must be taught to love, the greatest attitude of all. Children learn to love as they are loved by their parents. 1 John 4:19. This helps them learn to love and respect God properly. 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:10
 - c. Discipline is an essential part of child training. The word comes from a Greek word which means "to teach." It therefore prepares the child to live as a mature Christian under the Father in Heaven. Heb. 12:5-11; Pro. 13:24.

- DAY 4 Warnings to Parents
- a. "Provoke not your children to wrath." Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21
 - b. Caution should be used on how children are answered and corrected. Pro. 15:1; 16:20

- DAY 5 Ask God's Help in Training Children.
- a. God has provided the best guide book available. 2 Tim. 3:16
 - b. Pray on behalf of the Children. 1 Chron. 29:19; Job 1:5

Series Title: THE HOME

Lesson Title: Education of Children in the Home.

Week 9

Memory Work: "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law." Deut. 29:29

DAY 1 God Gives Duty of Education to Parents.
a. Parents jointly have the responsibility. Duet. 4:9-10;6:6-9
b. The father is personally responsible. Pro. 4:1-4; 17-21
c. The mother is personally responsible. 1 Tim. 5:10

DAY 2 Essential Elements in Child Training.
a. Parental Example, Children are imitators. Notice the evil examples the Israelite mothers were to their daughters, Ezek. 16:44-45; and David's good example to Solomon, 1 Kings 3: 14
b. Giving instruction from God's precepts, which are commands and laws, Duet. 11: 18-21
c. Applying correction. Pro. 22:15; 23: 13-14; 29:15. This is not inconsistent with love. Pro. 3:11-12. When done in harmony with God's will, Eph. 6:4
d. Teach responsibility. Lam. 3:27

DAY 3 What to Avoid in Child Training.
a. Injustice. The provoking a child to wrath. Col. 3:21
b. Indulgence. The lack of firm discipline. Pro. 29:15. The example of Eli. 1 Sam. 2:22; 3:11-14
c. Partiality. Isaac and Rebekah were each partial. Gen. 25:28, and it resulted in estrangement between Jacob and Esau. Gen. 27:1-27,30-38,41-45.
d. Inconsistency. The difference between what we say and what we do. Matt. 23:1-3

DAY 4 Provide Guidance in Morals.
a. God's word speaks freely about sex and says a great deal on the subject. God's attitude and laws concerning this matter are important for both parents and children to understand and accept. Words like "seed". Gal 3:16, and "being great with child", Matt. 1:8, are used as a matter of course.
b. The knowledge that such a relationship between husband and wife is made beautiful and wonderful by God, should be explained to incorrect concepts by their friends or the schools. Passages can be used from the Song of Solomon, Chap. 7, or 4:9-16 or the instruction Solomon gave to his sons, Pro. 5.

DAY 5 Use God's Warning Against Immorality.
a. Solomon warned his sons over and over. Pro. 6:23-25; 7:1-27
b. The Bible also refers to sin of immorality, including perversions and incest, but does not describe these in detail. Rom. 1:24-28; Lev. 20:10-16; Eph. 5:3-13

Series Title: THE HOME
Lesson Title: Dangers to the Home

Week 11

Memory Work: "Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" Matt. 6:25

- DAY 1 Failure to Thank God or Put His Kingdom First.
- Serve God and be not anxious for the things of this life, Matt. 6:24-34
 - We should be thankful and let the peace of God rule in our hearts. Col. 3:15
- DAY 2 Allowing Forms of Sin to become Pleasure or Entertainment in Our Homes.
- We are to abstain from all forms and appearance of evil. and not "set them before our eyes." 1 Thess. 5:22; Psa. 101:3-4; 1 Cor. 6:9-10
 - We should "hate;" not "consent" to sin. Amos 5:14-15
Rom. 1:32. Jesus is our example. Heb. 1:9
- DAY 3 Selfishness Among the Family.
- Husbands are to be as unselfish as was Christ. This applies to his time, recreation, etc. He is to serve the family as Christ served the Church. Eph. 5:23
 - Each member of the family should submit himself to the others' interest, as Christians do. Eph. 5:21; Gal. 6:2, Phil. 2:4; 1 Cor. 12:25-26; Psa. 38:11
- DAY 4 The Peril of Meddlers.
- A peril to the well being of any family is gossipers. 1 Tim. 5:13; Pro. 11:13; 16:28; 17:9; 18:8; 26:20-22
 - God's law prohibited talebearing. Lev. 19:16
- DAY 5 The Influence of Corrupt Visitors or Guests.
- Avoid social activity with an unrepentant Christian. 2 John 9:10; Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14-15
 - Avoid the evil companionship of worldly unbelievers. Pro. 13:20; 1 Cor. 15:33-34

Series Title: THE HOME

Lesson Title: Review

Week 13

Memory Work: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

- DAY 1
1. Who originated the concept of marriage? Wk. 1 Day 1
 2. What are the essentials needed to constitute a home as God designed? Wk 1 Day 1-4
 3. What obligations are more important than those of the home? Wk 1 Day 5
 4. What is the basic purpose of marriage? Wk 2 Day 2
- DAY 2
1. What does God require to make a marriage? Wk. 2 Day 3&4
 2. How does a marriage cease naturally? Wk 3 Day 1
 3. Who has God allowed to enter into marriage? Wk 4 Day 1
 4. List those persons a Christian is restricted from marrying. Wk 4 Day 3-4
- DAY 3
1. Who has God ordained to be the head of the home? Wk 5 Day 1
 2. What are the obligations of the husband? Wk 5 Day 2-5
 3. Is a wife to be in subjection to her husband? Why? Wk 6 Day 2
 4. What work did God plan for the wife? Wk 6 Day 2
- DAY 4
1. In what way are three person's responsible for a child's birth? Wk 7 Day 1
 2. Has God given anyone responsibility for the teaching of children? Wk 7 Day 2; Wk 9 Day 1
 3. Does God provide anything for the training of children? Wk 7 Day 2; Wk 9 Day 1
 4. What responsibility do children have toward their parents? Wk 8 Day 1-3
- DAY 5
1. Who has God made responsible for our recreation? Wk 10 Day 1
 2. What cautions need to be observed in seeking entertainment? Wk 10 Day 3-5
 3. Name some dangers to the home God warned us about. Wk 11 Day 1-5
 4. How does the kingdom of God compare to our own home and family? Wk 12 Day 1-3

1. In your opinion are homes stronger today than they were 50 years ago? Defend your answer with reasons why or why not.

2. What responsibility does the church have to the home? What responsibility does the home have to the church?

3. How does our shortcomings in the home affect our relationship to Christ?

4. Why is there hope for our homes, even though we may have great problems?

5. What was God's purpose in the design of the home?

6. Is it possible to put too much emphasis on the home to the neglecting of the church? How?

7. Is it possible to put too much emphasis on the church to the neglecting of the home? How?

THE HOME

Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage
Worksheet

Week 3

Name _____

1. What is the general attitude toward God's marriage laws today? Find some statistics to back up your conclusions.

2. What should be the Christians attitude toward divorce?

3. What does the term "fornication" in Matt. 19:9 mean?

4. In what way is fornication more serious after one is married than before one is married? Or is it?

5. What solution is there to the problem of an individual who has been divorced but not for the cause of fornication?

TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLASS:

1. What are some important qualities than one should consider in a marriage partner?

2. What questions ought to be resolved before marriage?

3. What are the problems of marrying a non-Christian?

4. What can we do to keep liberal attitudes toward marriage and divorce from affecting our homes?

Give some thought to the previous questions. Then be prepared to spend some time in small group activity discussing one of these questions.

THE HOME

The Education of Children...Week 9...Worksheet...Name.....

1. Why is the education of children the responsibility of the parents?

2. What responsibility and how can the church and schools assist in this responsibility of the child's education?

3. What are some ways in which parents educate their children?

4. In Luke 2:52 the writer says Jesus grew in four basic areas. List specific things the parent can do to help their children grow in these areas:

a. Mental:

b. Physical:

c. Social:

d. Spiritual:

5. Read Heb. 12:5-11. What principles are stated here that will help in the teaching of children?

This week we are going to have a panel discussion. Five members of the class will be picked to serve on the panel. After the panel discusses the topics the class will have an opportunity to ask questions of the panel. Panel members need to become very familiar with the material below. Also other class members need to be thinking of questions they might like to ask the panel.

TOPIC: DANGERS THAT THREATEN THE HOME

CHAIRMAN: (The chairman will have questions prepared to ask the panel concerning the various sub-topics.)

SUB TOPICS:

1. Reasons why Marriages fail:
 - a. Parental attitudes
 - b. In-law interference
 - c. Communication problems
 - d. A lack of seriousness in getting married and staying married
 - e. Marriage for money, sex, prestige, spite, etc.
 - f. Petty jealousy
 - g. Meddling
 - h. Immaturity
 - i. Bad habits
 - j. Not united in Christ
 - k. What are other reasons?

2. When a marriage has problems what can be done to solve those problems?
 - a. Make a full list of all the things you have been doing wrong in your marriage.
 - b. Confess your sins in repentance to God
 - c. Determine to change according to Biblical precepts and examples
 - d. Go humbly to your husband or wife or your parents or children and admit your sins against them.
 - e. Having received forgiveness, seek to rectify any wrongs immediately whenever that is possible.

(List taken from CHRISTIAN LIVING IN THE HOME, PP.139-140)

3. Suggestions for protecting the home against dangers that threaten it.
 - a. Open communication.
 - b. Having the same goals
 - c. Being sensitive to each others needs
 - d. Correcting faults against one another immediately
 - e. Both mates being religiously united
 - f. What other suggestions can you think of?

GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSONS ON THE HOME

1. Pray daily with as many members of the family as possible.
2. Try to have a talk session at some time each week with family members who are Christians or old enough to understand. Try to identify Christian principles that are being violated in your home and then discuss progress being made from week to week.
3. Read at least one of the following books during this period of study:

Adams, Jay E. Christian Living in the Home, Grand Rapids: Baker Book House

Dehoff, George (ed.) The Home. Murfreesboro, TN: Dehoff Publications

Diestelkamp, Leslie The Family Circle. Fairmont, Indiana, Cogdill Foundation Pub.

Florida College Lectures, The Godly Family in a Sick Society, 1979

Glenn, Joe, Marriage is for Husbands, Too. Nashville, TN: The Christian Teacher, Inc.

Lee, Irven. Good Homes in a Wicked World. Privately Printed, 1976

Nowlin, J. Edward. Lessons on the Home. (Vols. I & II) Athens, AL. C.E.I. Pub.

Rice, John R. The Home. Murfreesboro, TN Sword of the Lord Publishers

Shelly, Rubel, A Heavenly Pattern for Happy Homes. The Living Way, Adult Series
Shreveport, LA. Lambert's Book House

There are other excellent books on this subject which you may already have at home. If you have one which you have not read, you may substitute for the above. By the last meeting period of this class, be prepared to give a critique of the book read.

4. The most important assignment is to do what you can to actually improve your own home. Merely studying about it is worthless; actual improvement is our goal. At the end of the series of studies, give yourself a grade on improvement made in:

| | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | List other areas where you need improvement: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thoughtfulness | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discipline | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honesty | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unselfishness | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Language (Profanity, Vulgarity, Harshness) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forbearance toward others | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honesty | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Devotion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing the work-load | |

Introduction

- I. Name some characteristics which you consider essential to Christlikeness.
- II. From Ephesians 4:25-32
1. Verse 25 forbids _____ and requires _____.
 2. Verse 26 requires _____.
 3. Verse 28 forbids _____ and requires _____.
 4. Verse 29 forbids _____ and requires _____.
 5. Verse 31 forbids _____.
 6. Verse 32 requires _____.
- III. From Matthew 5,6,7
1. 5:22 forbids _____.
 2. 5:28 forbids _____.
 3. 5:32 forbids _____ except for the cause of adultery.
 4. 5:33-37 forbids _____.
 5. 5:38-39 forbids _____.
 6. 5:43-44 requires _____ even for enemies.
 7. 6:1-18 forbids _____.
 8. 6:19-32 forbids _____.
 9. 6:33 requires _____.
 10. 7:1-5 forbids _____.
 11. 7:12 requires _____.
- IV. The teaching above is not directly connected with the home. It is general teaching regarding the character of a Christian.
1. How far would observance of these principles go toward making homes secure?
 2. Could a home have serious trouble without violation of these teachings?
 3. According to I John 3:4 and James 4:17, deviation from these principles is _____.
 4. What is the consequence of unforgiven sin?
 5. What steps are essential for forgiveness of a Christian's sins?
 - a. Acts 8:22
 - b. I John 1:9; James 5:15
 6. Are actions and attitudes in the home exempt from these teachings?
- CONCLUSION: God offers no "quick fix" for troubled homes. Individuals living godless, immoral, materialistic lives cannot find in the Bible a simple recipe which will produce a happy, secure home; their whole character will have to be overhauled. You can no more make a godly home of ungodly people than you can make a healthy home out of sick people. To improve our homes, we must improve ourselves. May God help us with this task!

Definition: For purposes of this study, HOME is defined as "A family living together."

I. GOD, THE PERMANENT ADMINISTRATOR

A. God, the Designer

1. Who arranged for the founding of the first home (Gen. 2:20-23)
2. How was the family to be expanded (Gen. 1:28)

B. God, Permanent authority over the family

1. When Jesus was asked about marriage, whose authority did He cite (Mk. 10:2-12)
2. Does the state have authority to set aside God's laws? From whom does the state obtain its authority (Rom. 13:1) Could a king set aside God's marriage laws even for himself (Mt. 14:3,4)?

C. God, a Factor in every marriage.

1. Who joins husband and wife together (Mt. 10:9)?
2. If He is a party to the contract, He must be satisfied before it can be broken.

II. MARRIAGE, A PERMANENT ARRANGEMENT FOR MANKIND

A. Clearly intended by God to be permanent.

1. What did God say indicating that the union of Adam and Eve should be duplicated through the years (Gen. 2:24)
2. Was the relaxation of the law by Moses intended to be permanent or temporary (Mk. 10:5)?
3. What is the law under Christ?
4. How long will Christ's law continue in force (Jude 3)?

B. The arrangement has satisfied man's needs through the years.

1. "According to sociologist, Rueben Hill, among others, the family has traditionally performed seven functions: reproduction, protection and care of children, economic production of family goods and services, socialization of children, education of children, recreation, and affection giving." TIME, 12/28/70

2. Does man have any new needs beyond the above?

3. Vance Packard in The Sexual Wilderness stated, "The institution of marriage is obviously in need of modifications to fit modern needs." He lists eight possible patterns which may be adopted:

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Serial mating | Specialists in parenthood |
| Unstructured cohabitation | Communal living |
| Mutual polygamy | Legalized polygamy for senior citizens |
| Single parent marriages | A simultaneous variety |

Is there any reason to believe that these alternatives would provide the functions listed in #1 any better, or even as well, as the family has?

C. Changes in the family have always proved detrimental to a society. Consider Rome, Germany, and even Russia.

III. A. God's rule for each marriage.

1. State the rule as found in Mk. 10:9.
2. What results from divorce and remarriage (Mk. 10:11-12)?
(Note An exception will be studied later. Now, concentrate on the rule.)

B. Harmful results of easy divorce

1. What effect does easy availability of divorce have on one's care in choosing a companion?
2. What effect does it have on couples having problems?

Conclusion: God's way is the only way for:

1. The welfare of society.
2. Personal happiness and security.
3. Eternal life in heaven (Rev. 21:8)

- Intro.
1. Marriage not essential if an individual remains chaste (Mt.19:12; I Cor.7:1,7-8)
 2. If there is sexual union there must be marriage (I Cor. 7:2,9).
 3. Marriage is good for both man and woman under most circumstances.
 - a. What does a man obtain when he gains a wife (Prov.18:22)?
 - b. What should younger women (widows?) do (I Tim.5:14)?

I. FIVE TIES OF IDEAL MARRIAGE

A. Social - Gen. 2:18-22

1. When the animal creation came before Adam, did he find one mate (comparable, suited) to himself?
2. Name some interests the woman could share with man which could not be shared by any animal.
3. The more such interests two individuals share, the happier marriage will be!

B. Physical - Gen. 2:23-25

1. What is meant by "one flesh"?
2. What does Heb. 3:4 say about this relationship?
3. What reason for this relationship is mentioned in I Cor. 7:2-5?
4. What danger is there in unjustified divorce (Mt. 5:32)?

C. Economic - Gen. 3:16-19

1. What is the unique function of the woman?
What additional responsibilities go with this (See I Tim. 5:10,14; Titus 2:5)?
2. What special responsibilities rest on the man?

D. Spiritual

1. Were Adam and Eve together when the first sin occurred? Is there possible significance in this (See I Tim. 2:14)?
2. In marriage, which party mediates with God for the other (Gal.3:28; I Tim.2:5)?
3. What is the relation of the husband and wife spiritually (I Peter 3:7)?

E. Emotional

1. What is the husband commanded to do (Eph. 5:25)?
2. What must the wife be taught to do (Titus 2:5)?
3. Do these verses imply that a marriage may exist without love?

II. THE MAKING OF A MARRIAGE

- A. Two persons who have a right to marry:
 1. Never married (I Cor. 7:8-9)
 2. A widow or widower whose spouse has died (Rom. 7:2)
 3. One who has put away a spouse for fornication (Mt. 19:9)
- B. A covenant or agreement between such parties to be married and live together as husband and wife. Without this their cohabitation is simply fornication.
- C. Co-habitation. This is becoming "one flesh". See also Gen. 24:67. When did Rebekah become Isaac's wife?
- D. Compliance with civil law (Rom. 13:1)

III. GENERAL QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Do all 5 ties of I have to exist for a marriage to be valid?
2. From what you know of ancient marriages, which tie dominated formation of marriage?
3. Which consideration dominates modern choices? Does this encourage security?
4. Of the five, which provides the greatest security?
5. If all ties are damaged or broken, does the marriage still exist?
6. If one finds himself in such a damaged marriage, what must he do?
7. Is compliance with civil law necessary to make a marriage?

Intro. Jesus was not married while on earth. Yet, the relationship of Christ and the church is the best possible illustration of the Husband/wife relationship. Ephesians 5:22-33 deals especially with this. Using Christ as an example, husbands are taught that:

- I. HUSBAND IS TO LEAVE FATHER (AND MOTHER) AND CLEAVE TO HIS WIFE.
 - A. What verse in Eph. 5 repeats these instructions first given by God?
 1. Many studies show "in-law" problems among most common in marriage.
 2. Marriage should not take place until a couple is prepared for independence.
 - B. Did leaving Father, mean that Christ did not respect Him?
- II. HUSBAND IS HEAD OF THE WIFE AS CHRIST IS HEAD OF THE CHURCH.
 - A. Necessity of headship
 1. Required by fact that 2 make a home. Authority necessary to break the tie.
 2. God has prevented a struggle for dominance by designating husband as head.
 - B. Nature of headship
 1. Does not necessarily mean superiority of intellect or honor (See Mt.20:25-28).
 2. Does not mean selfish dictatorship (See I Pet.3:7; also consider Eph.5:21).
 3. Does mean ruling well (managing well) the house (I Tim.3:4-5). Good management involves utilizing talents, wisdom and loyalty of those managed.
 4. It means responsibility. Must be accepted. Many men reject it.
- III. HUSBAND IS TO LOVE HIS WIFE AS CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH (Eph. 5:25-26).
 - A. How did Christ show His love for the church?

Note: This is the ultimate sacrifice. If this, then anything required.
Did the church merit or deserve Christ's love?
 - B. Word *love* is very significant. It is love of commitment.
 1. How are men to love their wives (verses 28-29)?
List some ways men show love for themselves.
 2. Is this command "non-essential" or optional?
 3. If a man does not love his wife, what is he guilty of (Jas. 4:17)?
 4. What must be done about such guilt (Acts. 8:22; I Jn.1:9)?
 5. What promise do men make in most marriage ceremonies regarding love for wife?
 6. If she becomes his enemy, does this excuse him from loving her (Mt.5:44)?
 - C. From I Corinthians 13:4-7, list 15 characteristics of a man who loves his wife.

| | | |
|----|-----|-----|
| 1. | 6. | 11. |
| 2. | 7. | 12. |
| 3. | 8. | 13. |
| 4. | 9. | 14. |
| 5. | 10. | 15. |

Think how Jesus gave us an example of each of these.
Can these be practiced even after emotional love is destroyed?
 - D. If a man loves his wife as these verses teach, what kind of authority will he exercise over her?
Does he have a right to demand submission on basis of these verses if he is not practicing the love which these verses require?
- IV. HUSBAND IS TO PROVIDE FOR HIS WIFE AS CHRIST DID FOR THE CHURCH (See Eph. 4:7-8).
 - A. How many of the needs of the church are supplied by Christ (Col.2:8-10)?
 - B. Husbands duties:
 1. What role was assigned Adam (Gen.3:19)?
 2. What of one who does not provide for his own (I Tim. 5:8)?
 3. What are some needs a wife may have other than material?
 4. How may a man's relation to God be affected by failure to consider his wife's weaknesses (See I Peter 3:7).

WIVES

Intro. The wife is to be honored in the home (I Peter 3:7; Prov.18:22; 31:10-13).

I. THE PROBLEM OF SUBMISSION

- A. Submission described. How do the following verses describe her position?
1. I Cor. 11:3
 2. I Cor. 11:9
 3. Eph. 5:22
 4. Titus 2:5
- B. Submission illustrated
1. What do the following verses indicate about Christ's submission to God?
 - a. Phil. 2:5
 - b. Heb. 5:8
 - c. I Pet. 2:23
 - d. John 17:4
 2. Was this relationship degrading to Christ?
 3. Is a wife degraded by voluntary acceptance of subordination as a Christian?
- C. Extent of Submission
1. In how many things is she to be subject?
 2. Is she to be subject to an unbelieving husband? Scripture:
 3. Whose standards has she adopted when this position is considered a barrier to greatness and honor (See Mt. 20:25-28)?

II. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN - Prov. 31:10-31

- A. Her relation to her husband. How is it described in
1. Vs. 11
 2. Vs. 12
 3. Vs. 23
- B. What verses describe her
1. Industry?
 2. Thrift and good management?
 3. Benevolence
 4. Beauty
 5. Words
 6. Godliness
- C. Her rewards: What rewards are suggested by the following verses?
1. Vs. 11
 2. Vs. 18
 3. Vs. 21
 4. Vs. 22
 5. Vs. 23
 6. Vs. 25
 7. Vs. 28a
 8. Vs. 28b & 29
 9. Vs. 30-31
- D. Questions:
1. Does anything in this description suggest authority over her husband?
 2. After considering the rewards above, can you think of anything more a woman should need to be "fulfilled"? Can you think of any other position in which these rewards could be obtained?
 3. Do you think it would be possible for a woman to have all of these as president of a corporation, as a professional entertainer or career woman? Do such positions offer any equally desirable alternatives?
 4. Is this the description of a new bride?

III. LOVE FOR HUSBAND

- A. How can a young woman be taught to love her husband (Titus 2:4)?
- B. What are some things this love would demand?

LESSONS ON THE HOME

Choosing a Marriage Companion

- I. Some Questions to ask about a person being considered for a mate:
 1. Are we socially equal?
 2. Does he/she find satisfaction in work?
 3. Do others consider him/her dependable?
 4. Have we dated long enough? (2 years is ideal)
 5. Has our dating been free from quarrells?
 6. Are we of the same religious beliefs?
 7. Do both of our parents favor the marriage?
 8. Does he/she attend church services regularly?
 9. Is he/she in good physical health?
 10. Does he/she get along well with other members of the family?
 11. Does he/she drink or have other objectionable habits?
 12. Is the boy able to make a living or the girl able to keep house, cook, etc.?

II. Studies have shown the type of persons who are most likely to be happy in marriage and those most likely to be unhappy.

- A. Women most likely to be happy:
 1. Have kindly attitudes toward others.
 2. Expect kindly attitudes from others.
 3. Do not easily take offense.
 4. Are not unduly concerned about impressions they make on others.
 5. Do not look upon social relationships as rivalry situations.
 6. Are cooperative.
 7. Do not object to subordinate roles.
 8. Are not annoyed by advice from others.
 9. Frequently have missionary and ministering attitudes.
 10. Enjoy activities that bring educational and pleasurable opportunities to others.
 11. Like to do things for the dependent or underprivileged.
 12. Are methodical and painstaking in their work.
 13. Are careful in regard to money.
 14. In religion, morals and politics tend to be conservative and conventional.
 15. Have expressed attitudes that imply a quiet self-assurance and decidedly optimistic outlook toward life.
- B. Men most likely to be happy:
 1. Have even and stable emotional tone.
 2. Are cooperative.
 3. Show attitude toward women that reflects equalitarian ideals.
 4. Have benevolent attitude toward inferiors and the underprivileged.
 5. Tend to be unselfconscious and somewhat extroverted.
 6. Show superior initiative.
 7. Have a greater tendency to take responsibility.
 8. Show greater willingness to give close attention to detail.
 9. Like methodical procedures and methodical people.
 10. Are saving and cautious in money matters.
 11. Hold conservative attitudes.
 12. Have a favorable attitude toward religion.
 13. Strongly uphold sexual mores and other social conventions.

III. Family background is important. Studies show that the following circumstances are Predictive of marital happiness:

1. Superior happiness of parents
2. Childhood happiness
3. Lack of conflict with mother.
4. Home discipline that was firm, not harsh.
5. Strong attachment to mother.
6. Strong attachment to father.
7. Lack of conflict with father.

Items II and III from "BUILD-
ING A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE" by
Landis & Landis. (Prentice-Hall)

List below 3 enemies which you consider the greatest threats to happy married life. After naming and describing the enemy, list some scriptures that will help overcome the enemy. In column 3, make one or two concrete suggestions for dealing with the problem.

| <u>ENEMY</u> | <u>SCRIPTURE</u> | <u>SUGGESTIONS</u> |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | | |
| 2. | | |
| 3. | | |

If you are having difficulty identifying enemies, reading the following scriptures may help. Some of these suggest enemies, some defenses against enemies: Psalm 1:1-2; Colossians 2:8; Matt. 6:24-32; I Tim. 6:6-10; James 4:1-4; II Tim. 3:2-5; Rom. 12:3; Job 31:1; II Sam. 11:1-4; Prov. 7:6-23; Prov. 23:29-35; Matt. 5:28; I Cor. 7:3-5; I Cor. 7:12-15; I Pet. 3:1; Titus 2:4-5.

Additional enemies will be identified in class. You may list them with scriptures below.

- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Read the following scriptures keeping in mind the dispensation to which they applied. Time would be well spent in copying these verses to impress their message on our minds.

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Genesis 2:24 | Deuteronomy 24:1-4 | Matthew 5:31-32 | Romans 7:1-3 |
| Leviticus 18:6 | Ezra 10:10-11 | Matthew 14:3-4 | I Corinthians 7:2-5 |
| Leviticus 20:10 | Malachi 2:13-16 | Matthew 19:3-9 | I Corinthians 7:10-11 |
| Deuteronomy 7:3 | | Mark 10:2-12 | I Corinthians 7:15 |

From the above passages, answer the following questions and tell which scripture applies.

1. What was God's original law of marriage?
2. Under the law of Moses what was the penalty for adultery?
3. Under the law, what marriages were forbidden? a.
b.
4. Did the law of Moses allow divorce?
What reason did Jesus give for the provision Moses made?
5. Did God ever demand that wives be put away after families were formed?
a.
b.
6. What was God's general attitude toward "putting away"?
Do God's attitudes change from dispensation to dispensation?
7. Is the law of Christ different from the law of Moses in its teaching regarding divorce?
8. The basic law of Christ is stated in Mark 10:11-12 and Luke 16:18.
a. If a man puts away his wife and marries another, of what is he guilty?
b. What of the man who marries the wife whom he puts away?
c. Do the same rules apply when a woman divorces her husband?
9. According to Matthew 5:32
a. If a man puts away his wife for some cause other than fornication (Sexual immorality) what may she be caused to do?
b. What does the person do who marries her?
c. If a man puts his wife away because she commits fornication (adultery in this case) does he cause her to commit adultery?
10. According to Matthew 19:9, does the man commit adultery who remarries after putting away his wife--
a. for a cause other than fornication?
b. for fornication?
(Note: From this verse we know that the man who remarries after putting away his wife for fornication, does not commit adultery. We believe this because Jesus said it. When we see a statement from Jesus that the person PUT AWAY for fornication may remarry without committing adultery then we can believe that, too, and for the same reason. "Belief cometh of hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ" (Rom. 10:17).
11. From I Corinthians 7,
a. What instruction is given to one who does leave a marriage companion?
b. Does this verse support the idea that "divorce is all right so long as one does not marry again"?
c. What verses from those cited would contradict this view?
12. Can adulterers be forgiven (See I Cor. 6:9-11)?
What is necessary for those guilty of the other sins listed here if they are to be forgiven?
Does this apply to adultery as well?
13. What do you think is the one most important thing necessary to prevent divorces?

I. God's Will

A. Bible Teaching

1. What instructions did God give to Adam and Eve (Gen. 1:28)?
2. What instructions did He give to Noah's family (Gen. 9:1)?
3. What were the Psalmist's evaluations of Children (Ps. 127:3-5)?
4. Are the Old Testament references relevant to modern times?
5. What instructions are given in the New Testament (I Timothy 5:14)?
6. Do these verses require that each couple have a maximum number of children? Is procreation the only purpose of the sexual relation (I Cor. 7:2-3)?

B. Some couples are unable to have children. This may be a source of much anxiety and grief to them. Many of these are understandably reluctant to discuss the matter in general conversation. IT IS CRUEL IN THE EXTREME to judge them, gossip about them, and drop broad hints or make crude jokes in their presence. The right to privacy in discussion of such matters should be respected. Those who violate it are "busybodies, speaking things which they ought not" (I Tim. 5:13).

C. In view of scriptures above, however, it is serious to refuse to have children and general teaching is needed on the subject. Following are some reasons some couples refuse to have children. After each, suggest a passage that is of value in answering these problems:

1. Selfishness - unwillingness to share time, energy, money.
2. Fear that children cannot be provided for materially.
3. Fear they cannot be reared properly in view of the failure of so many parents.
4. Uncertainty regarding the security of marriage.

II. BLESSINGS CHILDREN BRING - Scriptures above assure us that children are a blessing. List two or three blessings that children bring into a home. Others will be added in the class period:

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.
- G.

LESSONS ON THE HOME

CHILDREN, OBEY & HONOR

Eph. 6:1-3

Lesson 9

- Intro. 1. This lesson intended for:
- Children in this class, not *little children*, a different Greek word.
 - Parents to know what to expect and demand of their children.
2. World's standards in this, as in other things, differ from the Lord's.

I. OBEY

- A. Obedience more an attitude than an act.
- Must be learned; not natural (See Heb. 5:8-9). Therefore, it must be taught.
 - Once the attitude is learned, the action is not irritating.
- B. Characteristics of obedience:
- How did the son in Mt. 21:28-31 disobey?
 - How did Saul disobey (I Sam. 15:3-9)?
 - How did Nadab and Abihu disobey (Lev. 10:1-2)?
 - What word describes David's obedience (Ps. 119:60)?
- C. Putting the above references together, what kind of obedience should parents teach their children?

II. HONOR

- A. In attitude.
- What attitude is required in Leviticus 19:3?
 - To what extent should a father be a "buddy" to his son?
- B. In word.
- According to Jesus in Mt. 15:4, what is the opposite of honor?
 - What was the Old Testament penalty for cursing parents (Ex. 21:7)?
- C. In conduct.
- What is required by Lev. 19:32?
 - What example did Solomon give in I Kings 2:19-20?
- D. In support.
- What duty did Jesus imply was included in honor (Mk. 7:9-13)?
 - Considering the context, who are primarily intended as those to be supported in I Tim. 5:8?
Does the fact that the government will do it relieve the Christian of his responsibility? What other support may parents need besides food, clothing and shelter?
Can all of these other needs be supplied by the government or nursing home?

III. REASONS FOR OBEEDIENCE AND HONOR TO PARENTS

- A. "This is right."
- What considerations make it "right" that parents be obeyed and honored?
 - What quality is suggested by disobedience and disrespect?
- B. "In the Lord"
- Does this mean the only parents to be obeyed are those "in the Lord"?
 - How does Col. 3:20 explain this verse?
 - Why must children obey undeserving and undemanding parents?
- C. "That it may be well with thee".
- In what other relationships is obedience necessary?
 - When is obedience most easily learned?
 - What is a parent doing for a child when he teaches obedience?
 - What is he doing when he fails to teach obedience?
- D. "That your days may be long."
- How may a child meet early death through disobedience?
 - What life-shortening habits are disobedient children more likely to learn?
 - What quality of spirit in an obedient child tends to lengthen life?

ASSIGNMENT: What mistakes by the following parents led to serious consequences?

1. Noah (Gen. 9:20-22)
2. Lot (Gen. 13)
3. Rebekah and Isaac (Gen. 27)
4. Jacob (Gen. 37:3-4)
5. David (I Kings 1:6)
6. Eli (I Sam. 3:13)
7. Jehoram (II Chron. 22:3-4)

Lecture Introduction: Texts above addressed to "Fathers". The "Buck stops" there. Greek word for "fathers" is translated "parents" in Heb. 11:23. Includes mothers.

I. PROVOKE NOT TO DISCOURAGEMENT AND WRATH

- A. Feelings of inadequacy and inferiority are a major cause of personal maladjustment.
 1. *"Much of the rebellion, discontent, and hostility of the teen-age years emanate from overwhelming, uncontrollable feelings of inferiority and inadequacy which rarely find verbal expression.... Likewise, most adults are still attempting to cope with the inferiority experienced in earlier times."* James Dobson in "HIDE OR SEEK" - Page. 11.
 2. These feelings are formed in a society which measures personal worth in terms of physical attractiveness, intellect, personality, athletic prowess, or material assets. Absence of any one or all of these can cause a child to feel rejected almost from infancy.
 3. The two most common responses to these feelings are:
 - a. Withdrawal - development of a shy, quiet, introverted personality.
 - b. Anger, rebellion, assertiveness and wrath.
- B. The two scriptures mentioned warn against provoking children to these reactions:
 1. *"Fathers, provoke not your children, that they be not discouraged."* (Col. 3:21).
 2. *"And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath"* (Eph. 6:4).

II. CHILDREN ARE NOT PROVOKED BY:

- A. Rules and Regulations. They need these for the security of knowing where the bounds are. Life without them is like driving on a strange road in a thick fog.
- B. Loving, Firm Correction. David's son, Adonijah, was provoked into wrathful conduct because *"His father had not displeased him at any time in saying, 'Why hast thou done so?'"* (I Kings 1:6)
- C. Discreet Discipline. *"All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness"* (Heb. 12:11).

III. CHILDREN ARE PROVOKED BY:

- A. Parents who adopt the standards of the world.
 1. Trying to force children into socially valued (attractive, intellectual, athletic) molds which they do not fit. Delitzsch translates Proverbs 22:6, *"Give to the child instruction conformable to his way: so he will not, when he becomes old, depart from it."* Many other scholars agree with this view.
 2. Showing disappointment if children are not outstanding in the above things.
 3. Showing favoritism among children based on these values.
- B. Improper discipline. Many mistakes are made in the name of scriptural discipline:
 1. Inconsistent - punishing one time what is tolerated at other times.
 2. Too severe for minor infractions - "Punishment should fit the crime."
 3. Discipline administered in anger as retaliation.
 4. Rebuke and punishment in the presence of the children's peers.
 5. Punishing children for things they know the parents do--cheating, cursing, etc.
- C. Thoughtless, inconsiderate treatment
 1. Teasing them to make them angry. What does this do to a dog?
 2. Constant criticism of childish inadequacies with too little praise for quality. *"If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn. If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight."* - WATCHMAN EXAMINER

LESSONS ON THE HOME

PARENTS, BRING THEM UP

Ephesians 6:4

Lesson 11

- Intro. 1. Former lesson was negative - "Provoke not." Negative not enough.
 2. Positive stated: "Bring them up in the discipline and admonition of the Lord".

I. BRING THEM UP (Nurture them - A.S.V.)

- A. Implies goals, an image into which we wish to make them.
1. Necessary for success in anything--artists, sculptors, trainers, etc.
 2. The Christian parent, as we have seen, is not concerned with the image which the worldly parent values. His chief concern is to see his child transformed "into the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." This involves purity, love, meekness, humility, joy, obedience, etc.
 - a. Christian parent will never be satisfied with any substitute for this.
 - b. If this is achieved, Christian parent is gratified regardless.
- B. Implies a deliberate effort to make the child into this image.
1. Some deny the right of a parent to make child into the image he chooses. But, this is the reason children are given parents. Proverbs 29:15b
 2. The child must be taught from the beginning who is in charge. Parents must work together and demand respect. If not gained early, it will never be.
 3. Training must be daily and consistent. Nurture is the accumulation of numerous small impressions and decisions which form pattern. Each is important. Just a few wrong ones can destroy the pattern. Parents cannot afford a single deliberate mistake or compromise in matters that are right or wrong.

II. METHOD OF TRAINING

- A. Discipline ("chastening" - A.S.V.) - Control from without, force. Accomplished by:
1. Example. Everyone around the child doing what is right.
 2. Control. May be both positive and negative:
 - a. Positive: Thanks at table, attendance at services, family prayer, courtesy.
 - b. Negative: Bad language, strong drink, lascivious music, immodest apparel, lewd posters and magazines simply not allowed in the home.
 3. Correction. See Proverbs 29:17.
 4. Rewards and Punishment. May be physical, material or psychological.
 - a. Rewards, commendation, approval important in training.
 - (1) This is major method of training animals.
 - (2) Most humans respond favorably to commendation.

*"If a child lives with encouragement, he learns to be confident.
 If a child lives with praise, he learns to be appreciative.
 If a child lives with acceptance, he learns to love.
 If a child lives with approval, he learns to like himself"*
 - b. Punishment is necessary at times. The Bible requires it and describes the proper application. "The rod" is probably what we would call a "switch".

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) Loving and diligent (Prov.13:24) | (4) Adequate (Prov. 23:13) |
| (2) Timely and controlled (19:18) | (5) Redemptive (Prov. 23:14) |
| (3) Corrective (22:15) | (6) Educational (Prov. 29:15) |
- B. Admonition of the Lord - Suggests development of control from within.
1. Accomplished as parents' faith is passed on to the child (II Tim. 1:5) Thus, as parent's influence decreases, Christ's increases. Child then influenced by:
 - a. Example of the Lord (I Pet. 2:21-22; Phil. 2:5; Eph. 5:1; Heb. 12:2)
 - b. Control of the Lord (Heb. 11:27, Gal. 2:20)
 - c. Correction of the Lord (II Tim. 3:16,17)
 - d. Rewards and Punishments of the Lord (I Cor. 4:3-5).
 2. Such a transfer of faith requires:
 - a. Teaching - Rom. 10:17; Deut. 6:6-9.
 - b. Godly living - letting child see parents are controlled by heaven.
 - c. Explanations and discussions regarding the why of things right and wrong. Children must abide by parents rules whether they understand or not, but nothing is right or wrong "just because I said so!" Part of their training is teaching them how to find and apply principles from God's word.
 - d. Association with others of "like precious faith." Having them in our homes.

- Intro. 1. Truly godly homes are rare in our generation. This proves they must be planned.
 2. Maintaining such a home requires constant diligence and vigilance.

I. CHARACTERISTICS

A. God, the Source of Authority.

1. Who is the source of all authority on earth (Rom. 13:1)?
2. Why do children obey parents (Col. 3:20)?
3. Why do wives submit to their husbands (Col. 3:18)?
4. To whom must the husband submit (I Cor. 11:3)?
5. What effect will God's authority over a home have on its:
 - a. Language?
 - b. Entertainment?
 - c. Finances?
 - d. Schedule?
 - e. Recreation?
 - f. Social occasions?
6. Would a stranger, observing these features of your home, conclude that God is controlling your home? (See question in II Kings 20:14.)

B. God, the subject of instruction.

1. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9.
 - a. Where were God's words to be first?
 - b. To whom were they to be taught?
 - c. Where were they to be discussed?
 - d. Where were they to be bound?
 - e. Where were they to be written?
2. When did Timothy begin learning "the sacred writings" (II Tim. 3:15)?
3. Can the church substitute for the home in this? Why?
4. Can a school operated by Christians substitute? Why?

C. God, the object of Worship.

1. What kind of emphasis will such a home place on attendance at services?
That a religious orientation seems to be a benefit in family living is explained in various ways. For example, most churches emphasize the value of religious participation by family groups and today, the forces that separate the members of the family and direct their interests into widely divergent channels are more numerous than are the opportunities for participation in any activity as a family unit. Hence, for children to participate with their parents in religious worship and in the activities of a church often aids in building family solidarity. Landis & Landis, Building a Successful Marriage, p. 350
2. What acts of worship are suitable for daily exercise in the home?

However, for these hours of worship and devotion to succeed as we desire and to accomplish the spiritual training we seek for our children, they must be characterized by reverence and piety. And the reverence and piety that we exhibit in the hours of worship must not seem out of character. The children must not be thinking, "My, how Daddy changes!"

Worship in the family is not limited to a few prayers and songs of praise, but by day to day deeds that show such acknowledgement to God! There is a great deal of worship going on in some homes of which many may not be aware because it is not the structured daily devotional. And on the other hand, there is often a great deal of irreverence that is taking place in some homes during those hours that there is no structured family worship or public worship being conducted. In some Christian homes there are activities and attitudes that have a negative effect on spiritual development and cancel out the good of the family worship."

D. God, the Provider and Protector

1. Read Psalm 127. For what things is God essential according to this Psalm?
2. For what man are the benefits of Psalm 128 reserved?

II. FOUNDATION OF SUCH A HOME

- A. Aquila and Priscilla were husband and wife united by a strong common faith. What are some things which this unity made possible?
1. Acts 18:25-26.....
 2. Romans 16:3.....
 3. Romans 16:4.....
 4. Romans 16:5; I Cor. 16:19.
- B. What problems exist when either husband or wife is not a true, dedicated Christian?

Bobby Key, who has preached for the church in Miami, Oklahoma for 20 years, has compiled some interesting facts on marriage....143 Christian young people in the Miami congregation have married during the past 20 years. Seventy-nine married non-Christians: of these 57 left the church with 25 being divorced. Twenty-two are still faithful and 14 have converted their mates. Sixty-four married Christians, and of these 59 are still faithful to the Lord. Two marriages ended in divorce.

(Via Four-State Gospel News, November, 1977)

Look again:

CHRISTIANS MARRIED TO NON-CHRISTIANS

79 - Total
57 - Left the church.
22 - Faithful as Christians
25 - Divorced

CHRISTIANS MARRIED TO CHRISTIANS

64 - Total
5 - Left the church.
59 - Faithful as Christians
2 - Divorced

This material cited by Billy Moore via "THE HOME" by Grant Caldwell

III. PRODUCTS OF A GODLY HOME

- A. Happy, well-adjusted, spiritual-minded children. (Read Jeremiah 35)
Do such homes and such children still exist in our culture?
- B. Useful servants of God.
1. What contributed to Timothy's usefulness (II Tim. 1:5; 3:15)?
Timothy was probably a teen-ager when he left with Paul (Acts 16:1-3). From your knowledge of Paul's travels, what arguments could his mother have made against Timothy's going?
 2. Dowell Flatt of Warren, Michigan did a study of 20 families from which two or more gospel preachers had come.
 - a. 17 of 20 had both parents as faithful Christians.
 - b. 16 had parents who attended all services.
 - c. 10 had fathers who were elders, 5 preachers and 2 song-leaders.
 - d. 10 had mothers who taught Bible classes.
 - e. 19 of the 20 believed their parents "practiced what they preached."
Gospel Herald, April, 1971, p.3
- C. The circle unbroken in Heaven (See I Peter 3:7)

Memories haunt me and enchant me,
As I think of days of yore,--
Here the home-fold must be broken,
But there's hope beyond time's shore.
If in trial all are loyal
And the will of Jesus hear --
Then the circle will with Jesus
Be complete on Heaven's shore;
Reunited, glory lighted,
Safe at home forevermore.

- Flavil Hall