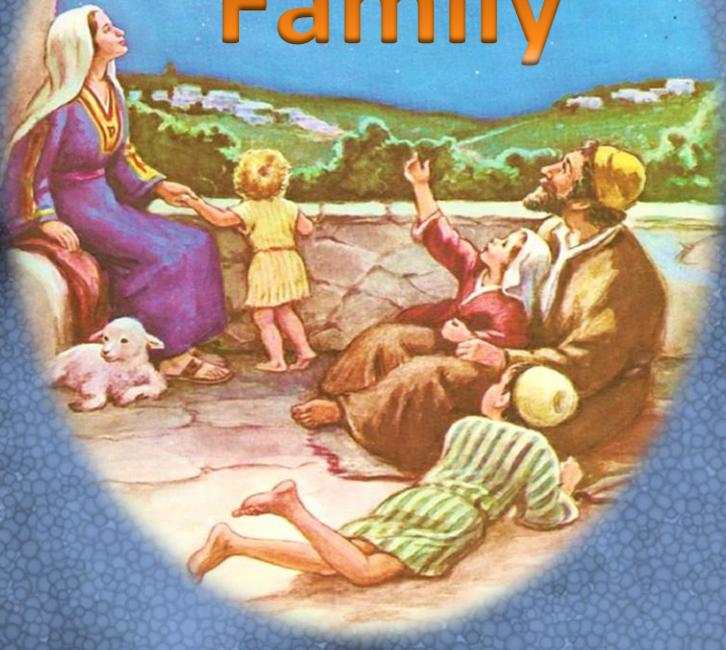


# Marriage and the Family



## Bible Study Pathways Lesson 17

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### A Story to Ponder...

A little boy named Danny lived with his family in a trailer. One day someone asked him, "Don't you wish you had a real home?"

Danny's reply was wise beyond his years. He said, "We have a real home. We just don't have a house to put it in."

A house and a home are very different. A house is just a physical structure, made perhaps of brick or wood or stone. By contrast, a home is a haven of shelter, acceptance, and unconditional love. Any decent contractor can construct a house. But only God can build a home.



Who must be the center of the home in order to make it successful? \_\_\_\_\_



**Psalm 127:1 says Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it...**



This is the first and foremost principle of a happy marriage- Christ and His word must be the center, and as each of us draw nearer to Christ we will automatically draw closer to each other.



Where did marriage originate? \_\_\_\_\_ What specific directions for marriage are given? \_\_\_\_\_



**Gen. 2:21-24 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. (See also Matt. 19:4,5; Eph. 5:31)**



The word "cleave" means "To stick; to adhere; to hold to. To unite or be united closely in interest or affection; to adhere with strong attachment."



What command did Jesus give regarding marriage? \_\_\_\_\_



**Matt. 19:6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. (See also Mark 10:9)**



What reason did Jesus give for God having Moses write precepts about divorce? \_\_\_\_\_



**Matt. 19:7, 8 They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away? He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. (Mark 10:2-9)**

? What is God's opinion of divorce or "putting away"? \_\_\_\_\_



**Malachi 2:14-16 ... Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away...**



What are the only two biblical reasons for release from the covenant of marriage? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_



**Matt. 19:9 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery. (Also Mark 10:11,12; 1 Cor. 7:39, 1 Cor. 7:10,11)**



We are to avoid marriages with whom? \_\_\_\_\_



**2 Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? (Deut. 7:3,4)**



If after conversion, you find yourself married to an unbelieving spouse what does the Bible say you should do? \_\_\_\_\_



**1 Cor. 7:12,13 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. (1 Cor. 7:14-16)**



List some other principles of Biblical marriage. \_\_\_\_\_



**Heb. 13:4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge. (Eph. 5:22-25, 28, 29, 33; 1 Cor. 7:3-5; 1 Cor. 13:4-8)**



"True love is a high and holy principle, altogether different in character from that love which is awakened by impulse, and which suddenly dies when severely tested." (Christian Education, pg. 230.1)



What does the Bible have to say about children? \_\_\_\_\_



**Psalm 68:6 declares that, "God setteth the solitary in families..." Psalm 127:3-5 states, "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward... Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them:" (Psalm 128:3; Psalm 113:9; Prov. 17:6)**



What does God require of Christian parents regarding their children?

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**Prov. 22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. \***Deut. 6:7** "And thou shalt teach them [God's Words] diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." (Prov. 3:12)



What special duty is given to Christian fathers? \_\_\_\_\_



**Gen. 18:19** For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

**Eph. 6:4** And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. (Col. 3:21)

**Job 1:5** And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually. (Isaiah 38:19)



Let the father, as priest of the household, lay upon the altar of God the morning and evening sacrifice, (lead in worship) while the wife and children unite in prayer and praise. In such a household Jesus will love to tarry. (CG 518)



What does God require of children regarding their parents?

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**Eph. 6:1-3** Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right...

**Exodus 20:12** Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. (Prov. 17:25, Luke 2:48-52; Prov. 20:11)

### CONCLUSION

One well-ordered, well-disciplined family tells more in behalf of Christianity than all the sermons that can be preached. Such a family gives evidence that the parents have been successful in following God's directions, and that their children will serve Him in the church. The whole family is engaged in the service of the Master; and by their godly example, others are inspired to be faithful and true to God in dealing with His flock, His beautiful flock. (AH 32.1)