

The Family and the Bible

Introduction

In our day and time there are many definitions of what a family is. God instituted the family. God in His Word established that the family consists of male and female. We have many definitions of what a family consists of. Single parents, same-sex partners, and siblings raising one another are some examples of what the world has defined as a family. The purpose for God creating the family was for the male and female can replenish the earth, not only in a physical sense, but spiritually also. One of our purposes is to praise and worship God. God should be included in the replenishing of the earth. The earth is being replenished, but God is being left out. Since the family has its origin from God, Satan has been trying to destroy the family since the beginning of time. Satan is on a mission to destroy God's plan and purpose.

Many families in our modern times have removed Christ out of the mode of the family. In Satan's effort to destroy the church, he starts with the family. Whatever happens at home, it trickles over into the church. There is a connection between the family and the church. If the family does not have faith and prayer at home, neither will the members at church. If the family is praying at home, then there will be a praying church. Faith does not start at the church, but it starts at home. When faith and prayer are initiated at home, there will be a greater anointing of God's Holy Spirit at the church.

When the family comes to church they can worship and praise God for all that He has already done for them. So many families have forgotten Christ as a priority and a necessity. What a horrible mistake, whether intentionally or unintentionally. We have neglected to teach our children about God and the role Christ has played in our lives. The Lord wants to be first in our lives and in our families; that is His plan and always will be His plan. God will ultimately gain his plan and purpose. He shall be our God, and we shall be His people.

The church as a collective body of believers must restore the place of God in the family. According to the Word of God, everyone must be in his or her

respective place. God has a divine order for the family. If we do it God's way, there will be less selfish motives and pride. The family that earnestly prays together stays together. The family should also worship together. In Joshua 24:15, Joshua proclaimed, "... **but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**" That is the decision of every family. Are you going to serve God or the other gods? Are you going to serve God or mammon? Through the united prayers of the family, strongholds can be torn down, and when the devil rages against it, it will be able to stand.

(2 Corinthians 10:4-5) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

A stronghold is a fortress, a place that is dominated by another. In many cases, the mind is the place where Satan has a stronghold on many people. A stronghold is an issue or issues that one is harboring in their heart or mind. A significant emotional event that they think no one knows about, but Satan knows about it, because he put it there and he uses it against you.

God has given us spiritual and moral governments for the family. They all may not be to our liking or satisfaction, but if we in our heart desire to do it God's way, it will work for us. Society has dictated how the family should be and how the relationship in the family is governed. So often society expresses a different insight into the family than what the Word of God says. When we allow the social atmosphere to totally be the model for the family, we allow confusion, discontentment and ultimately Satan to ruin the family structure.

There are no two marriages or families that are the same. What works for one family, may not work for another family. You cannot keep up with the Jones and expect it to work for you and your family. There must be effective dialogue between the wife and the husband, a conversation and method that works for your own family. We allow others and society tell us what, when, and where we

should do this or that. When we allow society to dictate to us, then we allow Satan right in the front door.

The strong man in our lives has to be bound up in order for lives and families to be what the Lord would have for it to be. The traditional teachings that bring confusion, the hurt that prick our hearts, the insecurities that causes fear. Many significant emotional events runs through the mind to keep it preoccupied and unfocused. The family, which makes up the church, needs to revamp their thinking about what the mission, is for the family and the church.

(Matthew 12:29) Or else, how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? And then he will spoil his house.

Those hidden thoughts, hurts, insecurities, fears, and any significant emotional events, should be acknowledge and dealt with so Satan can not use them against you any more to control your mind. The mind is a battlefield for Satan.