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A study prepared for married adults.
PMC Publications
739 E. Lincoln Avenue
Myerstown, PA 17067

“Male and Female Created He Them”

Purpose: To understand God's original plan in creating man and woman, and to show how their relationship has been affected by the fall.

Genesis 2

18. And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. 20 ... but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. 21. 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; 22. And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23. 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. 24. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. 25. And they were both naked,

the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

1. Was the creation of woman an after-thought on God's part? If not, why the time delay? _____

2. What does the phrase "an help meet" teach about man and woman? _____

3. What does God's choice of a rib suggest about the relationship between man and woman? _____

4. Why did God include the details of verse 25 in Holy Writ? _____

Genesis 3

16. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. 17. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

5. Give the four ways woman's life was changed by the fall, and explain what each means. _____

6. How was man's lot in life changed? _____

7. How do you think the fall affected man and woman's marriage relationship? _____

1 Corinthians 11

8. For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9. Neither was the man

created for the woman; but the woman for the man. 10. For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels. 11. Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. 12. For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.

8. What are the two facts that are used to establish man's leadership over the woman? (v8,9) _____

9. How do we know that men are not more important than women? _____

10. What does a woman need to do in order to qualify for the protection of angels? _____

1 Timothy 2

11. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 15. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

11. Do verses 11 & 12 refer to the home, the church, or both? _____

12. What limitations does this place on women? _____

13. What is meant by the statement “she shall be saved in childbearing...”? _____

Lesson 1 . . . “Male and Female Created He Them”

14. What four qualities of life are essential for a couple's salvation? _____

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

15. What are some general strengths of men? _____

16. What are some general weaknesses of men? _____

17. Because of the change of man's lot in life addressed in question six, what basic needs should a woman focus on meeting in her husband? _____

18. What are some general strengths of women? _____

19. What are some general weaknesses of women? _____

Lesson 1 . . . “Male and Female Created He Them”

20. Because of the changes in woman's life mentioned in question five, what basic needs should a man focus on meeting in his wife? _

21. What qualities are needed for a couple with differing characteristics to compliment each other? _____

22. How can marriage partners strengthen one another in an hour of temptation? _____

“Husbands, Love Your Wives”

Purpose: To learn what God asks of husbands in loving their wives.

Ephesians 5

21. Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. 22. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 25. **Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26. That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28. So ought men**

to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30. For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31. **For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.** 32. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33. **Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself;** and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

1. What comparisons are used to describe the degree of love a man should exercise toward his wife?

2. What was the condition of the Church when Christ loved it and gave Himself for it? _____

3. How is Christ improving His bride? _____

4. What is Christ striving to accomplish in His bride? _____

5. How does a husband express a sacrificial love for his wife? _____

6. Explain what is meant by the phrase “he that loveth his wife loveth himself.”

7. The Greek word for *love* in this chapter is “agape.” What basic needs of a wife will be met when a husband expresses *agape* love? _____

8. What are some evidences of selfish love? _____

9. According to this Scripture, is it right for a husband to establish some “wife-improvement” goals? _____

10. How may a husband help his wife grow in character development? _____

_____ husband consider his wife a weaker vessel? _____

Colossians 3:19
Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

11. Why might a husband be tempted to be bitter toward his wife? _____

12. What should inspire a husband to choose to love instead of becoming bitter? _____

1 Peter 3:7
Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

13. In what ways should a

14. How can a man give his wife honor (Greek - “value”)? _____

1 Corinthians 7:33
But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.

15. How should a man relate when he feels that caring for his wife is interfering with doing the Lord's work? _____

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

16. Does a Christian husband ever have the right to withhold love or to not be loving? _____

17. What is the basic problem of a husband who does not love his wife as the Scriptures teach? _____

18. Can a husband break the type (Eph 5:23,25,29) without affecting God's blessing on his life (compare Num 20:12)? _____

19. How should a wife respond when she senses that her husband does not love her as he should? _____

20. What should a husband do if he finds he has no love in his heart for his wife? _____

Lesson 2 “Husbands, Love Your Wives”

21. Discuss the difference between understanding love as a feeling or understanding it as a choice. _____

22. What are some ways a wife looks for love to be demonstrated? _

LESSON 3

“Wives, Be in Subjection
to Your Own Husbands”

Purpose: To learn what God expects of a wife regarding submission.

Ephesians 5

21. Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. **22. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.** 25. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26. That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but

that it should be holy and without blemish. 28. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30. For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and **the wife see that she reverence her husband.**

“Wives, Be in Subjection to Your Own Husbands”

1. Look up the word “submit” in the Strong's Concordance, and write a definition. _____

husband and giving reverence to him? _____

2. Why does a need for submission exist? _____

6. What comparisons are used to describe to what extent of a wife's submission? _____

3. Explain how pride and self-will make finding joy in submission difficult. _____

Colossians 3:18
Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

7. Is it ever fitting for a wife not to submit to her husband? _____

4. Can a wife break the type (Eph 5:24) without affecting God's blessing on her life (compare Num 20:12)? _____

8. Does the wife ever have the authority to override her husband's authority? _____

5. What is the relationship between a wife submitting to her

1 Peter 3
1. Likewise, ye wives, be in sub-

“Wives, Be in Subjection to Your Own Husbands”

jection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2. While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. 3. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 4. But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6. Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

wife her words or her life? _____

11. Does the possession of a meek and quiet spirit have anything to do with how much a woman talks? _____

12. What is God's promise for the wife who fears that she will be taken advantage of if she submits to her husband? _____

1 Corinthians 7:13
And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.

13. Does this verse mean that God's will for the wife is restricted to the will of an ungodly husband or that God's will for the wife will be revealed by the desires of her husband? _____

9. What is the spiritual condition of the couple illustrated in these verses? _____

10. Is the greater influence of a

“Wives, Be in Subjection to Your Own Husbands”

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND

14. How should a Christian wife respond if she feels her husband is making a mistake? _____

15. Which comes first, a wife's submission to her husband or her submission to her church? Explain. _____

6. What should be the husband's response if he feels his wife is not as submissive as she should be? _____

17. How can we be preparing our daughters for the role of submission to a husband? _____

18. What are some conditions that may make it difficult for a woman

“Wives, Be in Subjection to Your Own Husbands”

to submit?

“Forgiving One Another”

Purpose: To understand how humility, kindness, and forgiveness preserve a marriage.

Colossians 3

12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. 15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

1. How do these general teachings of Christian behavior relate to the marriage relationship? _____

2. What is the connection between Christ forgiving us and our being willing to forgive others? _____

3. What is the difference between “forbearing” and “forgiving” and how does each term relate to the marriage relationship?(v 13) _____

4. Use Strong's concordance to find the meaning of the word “rule”. With this definition in

Lesson 4 “Forgiving One Another”

mind, explain what the first part of this verse is teaching. _____

5. In the Strong's Concordance, find the definition for each of the following terms:

bowels of mercies _____

kindness _____

humbleness of mind _____

meekness _____

longsuffering _____

forbearing one another _____

Mark 11

25. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. 26. But if ye do

not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

6. What is the link between prayer and forgiveness? _____

Why might one face the challenge of forgiveness when praying? _____

7. Can we forgive our mate if they haven't expressed their sorrow? Explain. _____

8. What is the penalty for refusing to forgive our partner if he has hurt us? _____

Matthew 18

21. Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? 22. Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. 23. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

9. Is Jesus teaching that after you have forgiven someone 490 times, you may stop forgiving him? Why or Why not? _____

10. What does forgiving “from the heart” mean? _____

James 2:13

For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

11. Describe the role of mercy in marriage relationships. _____

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

12. Why are kindness and forgiveness seemingly easier to express when dating than when married? _____

13. What are some unrealistic expectations that young couples often have when they marry? What impact do these have on the marriage relationship? _____

14. How does forgiveness preserve a marriage? _____

15. List some right ways to ask for forgiveness. _____

16. List some wrong ways to ask for forgiveness. _____

17. List some right ways to express forgiveness. _____

18. List some wrong ways to express forgiveness. _____

19. How does a humble person respond when his spouse criticizes him? _____

20. What is it in the human heart that causes a person to make unkind criticisms about or to one's companion? _____

21. How does pride hinder forgiveness? _____

22. What should a person do when he remembers hurtful things his spouse said or did in the past, perhaps many years earlier? _____

23. Is it possible for a person to live with a rude, unkind person and still possess and express the fruit of the Spirit? Explain your answer.

“Dwell With Them
According to Knowledge”

Purpose: To discuss how principles of communication enable companions to dwell with each other in harmony.

1 Peter 3

1. Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2. While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. 3. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 4. But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6. Even as Sara obeyed

Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. 7. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

1. In the Greek text, verse one directs the wife to live with her unbelieving husband “without a word.” What does this mean? _____

2. How do meekness and reserve open the door to communication from the heart? _____

Lesson “Dwell with Them According to Knowledge”

_____ peace of them that make peace.

James 4

1. From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

5. Give reasons why some couples bicker and quarrel. _____

3. According to verse 7, what will hinder prayers? _____

4. What is the best way for a man to understand the mysteries of his wife? _____

6. How does strife between husband and wife affect the entire family? _____

James 3

14. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

15. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. 16. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

17. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. 18. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in

7. What can a couple do to overcome having bitter arguments between them? _____

Song of Solomon 5

2. I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my

Lesson "Dwell with Them According to Knowledge"

undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night. 3. I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them? 4. My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him. 5. I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock. 6. I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, and was gone: my soul failed when he spake: I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer. 7. The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me. 8. I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if ye find my beloved, that ye tell him, that I am sick of love.

How did that make her feel? _____

9. What are some guidelines that could have helped this young couple to avoid this misunderstanding? _____

10. How do misunderstandings affect the sweetness of the love relationship? _____

Ephesians 4:29
Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Colossians 4:6
Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

8. Why did the young bride not respond to her husband's request? _____

Lesson "Dwell with Them According to Knowledge"

James 1:19
Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

James 1:26
If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

11. What are some ways husbands and wives can practice "edifying" each other in their speech? _____

12. What principles in these verses would help maintain healthy communication in marriage? _____

13. What is wrong with a person who chooses to be nice and agreeable in public, but is quarrelsome at home? _____

- FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY
* The contentious woman's speech is found in Proverbs 19:13; 21:9,19; and 25:24.
* The virtuous woman's speech is described in Proverbs 31:26.
* Nabal's churlish speech is recorded in 1 Samuel 25.
* Michal's bitter, critical speech is given in 2 Samuel 6:16, 20-23.

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

14. How might the pace of our modern age affect marriage communications?

Lesson "Dwell with Them According to Knowledge"

15. Why is it not wise to let the problems of the day accumulate until bedtime before trying to resolve them? _____

16. Why does a husband tend to become absorbed in interests outside the home instead of meeting his wife's needs? _____

17. Why does a wife often notice a lack of communication first? Why would she mind it more than her husband? _____

18. Some would promote the idea that husbands and wives need to get away from the family, to spend time improving their relationship. How does this relate to our conviction that children need their parents rather than baby sitters? _____

19. What are some ways wives can unknowingly squelch communication with their husbands? _____

Lesson "Dwell with Them According to Knowledge"

20. What are some ways husbands can unknowingly hinder communication with their wives? _____

21. What should a wife do when her requests for house repairs etc. go unheeded? _____

22. Jesus used silence before His accusers. Is it right for a spouse to choose silence as a means of getting through a disagreement? Explain your answer.

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"Strong Men Retain Riches"
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THE HUSBAND AS BREADWINNER the man void of understanding;

LESSON 4 "Forgiving One Another" 31: And, lo, it was all grown

Proverbs 13:11 Wealth gotten by vanity shall be over with thorns, and nettles had

LESSON 5 "Dwell with Them According to Knowledge" 17

diminished: but he that gathereth covered the face thereof, and the

by labour shall increase. stone wall thereof was broken

LESSON 6 "Strong Men Retain Riches," down. 32. Then I saw, and con-

Women Shall "Be Keepers at Home" sidered it well: I looked upon it,

1. Give some present day and received instruction. 33. Yet

applications of this verse. a little sleep, a little slumber, a

LESSON 7 "He Is the Saviour of the Body" 25

little folding of the hands to

LESSON 8 "Blessed Are the Pure in Heart" 29

LESSON 9 "Children Are an Heritage of the Lord" 33

2. How does this verse relate to thy want as an armed man: . .

Gen 3:17 & Train Up a Child" 36

3. Discuss some ways

slothfulness may damage a mar-

riage

A study prepared for married adults.

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30. I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of

slothful, and by the vineyard of

4. How can a man overcome the habit of laziness? What if he is lazy by nature and he was never taught to work? _____

5. Are half-finished projects and neglected duties always a sign of laziness? _____

THE WIFE AS HOMEMAKER
Titus 2

3. The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4. That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5. To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

1 Timothy 5:14
I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none

occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

6. What does the phrase "keepers at home" mean? _____

7. What do these verses teach about older women relating to younger women? _____

8. Is an untidy house always a sign of a lazy woman? Explain.

9. Describe the proper balance between being too particular, or not being particular enough in housekeeping.

Proverbs 31

11. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. 12. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. 13. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. 14. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. 15. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

10. What can marriage partners do to build a trustworthy relationship in financial matters?

11. Give some pointers that enable a wife to maintain the industrious attitude described in these verses. _____

Proverbs 31

28. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. 29. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. 30. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. 31. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

12. According to these verses, what are some rewards for being a virtuous woman? _____

THE VIRTUE OF CONTENTMENT

1 Timothy 6

6. But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction

and perdition. 10. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

13. Define “contentment” in your own words. What are its rewards? _____

14. How does a person act who has the “love of money”. _____

15. Can we personally know if we are content, or is that something only others can observe? Explain. _____

Proverbs 15:27

He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

Proverbs 23

4. Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. 5. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

16. Describe some of the ways a greedy person troubles his house.

Proverbs 30:8

Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:

17. What is the balance this verse is promoting? _____

Lesson 6“Strong Men”...Women “Keepers at Home”

18. How does one find the balance between slothfulness and greed?

19. Suggest ways that a couple can make the money reach for all the needs of the home.

20. What should be put first, the husband’s wants or the wife’s wants?

21. How should a husband relate to a wife whom he feels doesn't do her share of the housework?

22. How should a wife relate to a husband whom she feels is lazy?

23. What are some guidelines that regulate whether or not a wife should work outside of the home?

Lesson 6“Strong Men”...Women “Keepers at Home”

24. List some pointers for finding the balance between work, home life, and church life.

26. What are some causes for financial bondage in home life and how can such bondage be avoided?

“He Is the Saviour of the Body”

Purpose: To study the husband's responsibility of spiritual leadership in the home.

Genesis 18

17. And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; 18. Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 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.

1. What were the qualities in Abraham's life that caused God to have confidence in him? _____

2. How did the success of Abraham's home result in a blessing to all the earth? _____

1 Samuel 2:29

Wherefore kick ye at my sacrifice and at mine offering, which I have commanded in my habitation; and honourest thy sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the offerings of Israel my people?

1 Samuel 3

11. And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle. 12. In that day I will per-

form against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end. 13. For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. 14. And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.

3. What was Eli's failure in his home? _____

4. When do you think Eli's failure to restrain his boys actually started? _____

5. What might have been some of the reasons why Eli did not lead out with his sons as he should have? _____

6. How may failure in one home affect other homes? _____

1 Corinthians 14:35

And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

7. Why are wives told to direct their questions to their own husbands? What should they do if their husbands do not answer? _____

Ephesians 5

23. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the

saviour of the body. 24. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 25. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26. That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be

24. holy and without blemish.

8. What does verse 23 mean when it says that the husband "is the saviour of the body"? _____

9. How does Christ's example of love provide motivation for Christian husbands? _____

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

10. What is leadership? _____

11. What should be done for the man who wants the privilege of leadership when it gratifies his flesh, but who neglects to lead out when it is his responsibility to do so? _____

12. List areas where the husband is to provide spiritual leadership in the family. _____

13. How is the husband to lead out in family worship? _____

14. What are some practical ways to make family worship meaningful? _____

15. What might hinder family worship from being meaningful? _____

16. How should love temper the husband's leadership in the home? _____

17. How can a naturally outgoing wife contribute to her naturally quiet husband so he can fill his God-ordained role? _____

18. How does a father's attitude toward the church influence his family's attitudes? _____

19. How can we be preparing our young men to take up leadership responsibilities in their future homes? _____

20. How might a woman be hindering her husband's leadership role and not be aware of it? _____

21. How can a leader seek to find a mutually agreeable solution to a problem without sacrificing his position? _____

“Blessed Are the Pure in Heart”

(To be discussed in segregated classes.)

Purpose: To understand how proper physical relations in marriage contribute to purity of life.

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

1. What is meant by the phrase "pure in heart"? _____

2. What is the connection between purity of heart and seeing God? _____

1 Corinthians 7

1. Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a

woman. 2. Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. 3. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. 4. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. 5. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency. 6. But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment. 7. For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper

gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that. 8. I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. 9. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

3. In what ways does marriage help avoid temptations to commit fornication? _____

4. Why does marriage not eliminate all sexual temptation? _____

5. What phrase indicates that God intends that men and women both find physical fulfillment in marriage? _____

6. What is meant by “due benevolence” in verse 3? _____

7. What is meant by “defraud ye not one the other” in verse 4? _____

8. Why did Paul feel there were benefits in remaining unmarried? _____

Proverbs 5

15. Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. 16. Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. 17. Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee. 18. Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. 19. Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished

always with her love. 20 And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger? 21 For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.

9. How does marital fidelity contribute to a fountain dispersed abroad? _____

10. How can a married couple continue to be ravished with love after many years together? _____

1 Thessalonians 4

1. Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. 2. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord

Jesus. 3. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4. That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5. Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: 6. That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. 7. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

11. What kind of knowledge is essential for a person to possess their vessel in the way described? _____

12. How do the lust of concupiscence and not knowing God go hand in hand? _____

13. Why does God bring up the matter of defrauding a brother in this context? _____

Hebrews 13:4
Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

14. Who is the final avenger of all who are sexually unclean? _____

15. Using the *Strong's Concordance*, find the meaning of the words chambering and wantonness. _____

Romans 13

13. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. 14. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

16. What does the phrase “honourable in all” mean? _____

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

17. Discuss the difference between ignorance, innocence, and purity. Can people who have lost their ignorance and innocence ever regain their purity? _____

18. How do impure practices in courtship lead to problems in marriage? _____

19. Discuss how a sexually violated person (who would tend to look at intimacy as unclean) could come to accept the sanctity of love in marriage. _____

20. How can a person prepare his mate to experience the greatest satisfaction in the marriage bed? _____

21. How should a person cope who feels frustrated with his physical relations in marriage? _____

22. What place is there for turning to outside sources for help in order to gain more satisfaction in the intimate life? _____

“Children Are an Heritage of the Lord”

Purpose: To encourage and reinforce a Biblical attitude toward the place of children in the home.

Genesis 1

27. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

1. Has the first command God gave to the human race ever been withdrawn? _____

2. What do the terms “fruitful”, “multiply”, and “replenish” mean? _____

3. What are the primary reasons for reduced family size in America today? _____

Genesis 9:1

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

Genesis 9:7

And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

Psalms 127

1. Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. 2. It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep. 3. Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. 4. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. 5. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

4. If God is the one who builds a house or keeps a city, what is man's part in these enterprises? _____

5. What is meant by "children are an heritage of the Lord and the fruit of the womb is His reward"? _____

6. Draw some lessons from the comparison that children are like arrows.

7. If having a full quiver is blessed of God, why are some large families so unhappy? _____

Psalms 128

1. Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways. 2. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. 3. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table. 4. Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD. 5. The LORD shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. 6. Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel.

8. This Psalm describes a happy and peaceful family life. What is given as the first requirement for this to come about? _____

9. Is it possible for an onlooker to see God's blessing on a family? What will be seen? _____

10. How does happy family life contribute to peace upon Israel the Church? _____

1 Timothy 5:14
I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children,

guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

11. What assurance can Christian women claim who face the travail of childbearing? _____

Proverbs 17:6
Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

12. How does this verse agree with the present world views of family relationships? Which view is correct? _____

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

13. What is the origin of the “family planning” campaign? _____

14. What are some directives for a couple that is struggling with barrenness? _____

15. Why do Christians take such a strong position against abortion? What could we be doing to raise conviction in our communities against this prevailing practice? _____

16. How might using birth control be unbelief? a sign of selfishness? _____

17. Why should the abortive forms of birth control never be accepted? _____

18. What can we as a church do to strengthen our couples appreciation for children and strong home life? _____

“Train up a Child”

Purpose: To emphasize God's plan for parents to take responsibility to train their children to maturity.

PROVOKE NOT

Ephesians 6:4

And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Colossians 3:21

Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

1. What are some ways fathers may provoke their children? _____

2. What is usually at the root when there are strained relationships between parents

and children? _____

3. What are some long term results of "discouraged" children? _____

DISCIPLINE

Proverbs 13:24

He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

Proverbs 19:18

Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

Proverbs 22:15
Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

Proverbs 23:13
Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.

Proverbs 29:17
Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.

Hebrews 12
9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. 11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

4. Explain how a father who loves his children too much to spank them when it is needed actually hates them? _____

5. What phrases from the Scriptures give urgency to the work of disciplining children? _____

6. What are some rewards of effective discipline? _____

7. How does parental correction prepare a child for divine correction? _____

TEACHING

Deuteronomy 6

4. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5. And thou

shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7. And thou shalt teach them 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.

8. What is the first thing a parent will need to do for himself in order to effectively teach his children? _____

9. How is incorporating teaching in everyday life scenes superior to formal training? _____

Joshua 4

5 And Joshua said unto them, Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of Jordan, and take ye up every

man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel: 6 That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones? 7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

10. What are some stones we have today which may prompt spiritual questions? _____

11. What are some practical pointers for getting children to be more free to discuss spiritual matters or raise spiritual questions? _____

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 29:15

The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.

Psalms 78

1 Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. 2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: 3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. 4 We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. 5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: 6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare

them to their children: 7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:

12. What special benefit is there in parents and grandparents telling the stories of the Bible to their children?

13. What are some jobs godly fathers will not choose because they desire to have time with their children?

Isaiah 28

9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. 10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

2 Timothy 3:15

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which

are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

14. What are some methods of indoctrinating children in the ways of truth?

15. What are the advantages of being brought up under the Scriptures? Are there also disadvantages?

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

16. Why is it so important that a proper response to discipline and correction be established before attempting to teach?

17. Why is it not wise to ask a child "why" they participated in a disobedience?

18. What should a wife do if she feels her husband is not taking the lead in disciplining or teaching the children?

19. What should a husband do if he feels that his wife is hampering his efforts to discipline the children?

Lesson 10 “Train up a Child”

20. What are some guidelines to follow in teaching children the facts of life? _____

21. Genesis 2:24 states that a man shall leave... and I Cor 13:11 teaches that a man will put away childish thoughts, speech, and understandings. What evidences of maturity should be seen before a young person is ready for marriage? _____
