

The Importance of Studying about the Home

Romans 14:7

INTRODUCTION:

A. Case Examples:

1. **ITEM:** A sixteen year old boy comes to your speaker with this startling confession: “I can’t stand my parents. I hate my dad, I wish he was dead. In fact, I tried to kill “
2. **ITEM:** A seventeen year old youth comes to your speaker with this pleading request: “Can I please talk with you. My parents won’t listen. My dad is an elder. He has time for everyone else, but he doesn’t have time for me. He thinks I don’t have anything worth while to say.”
3. **ITEM:** A nineteen year old coed on a Christian college campus comes to your speaker to ask for help. Her problem? For the past six years her father has been involved with her sexually. Her father is supposedly a leader in the Lord’s church.
4. **ITEM:** An adolescent, between the ages of 9 and 14, a resident in a children’s home in California, writes a night time prayer for sinners, wherein she prays: “I admit I am very sinful. I had a hard time with the family. Now I have no family. I was starved when I was little.”
5. **ITEM:** A college junior comes to your speaker and relays a sad message: “My parents have just informed me that I can never come home again. I am no longer their daughter. They never want to see me again.”
6. **ITEM:** On the afternoon prior to the concluding service of a gospel meeting that evening, a seventeen year old girl that has been attending the meeting, calls your speaker with this message and plea: “My mother has just kicked me out of the house. I have no place to go. I wish I were dead. In fact, about a year ago I tried to kill myself. I have been under psychiatric care. Can you help me?”
7. **ITEM:** An early morning emergency phone call, an urgent Saturday morning visit to the office and a desperate plea for help from a hurting and frustrated mother is a nearby congregation. Her problem? The night before she had discovered that her husband had been going to their daughter’s bed before coming to her bed.

- B. Each of these seven case examples have a least three major things in common.
1. They are true . . . they actually happened.
 2. They each suggest some serious problems in the area of parent/child relationships in some homes.
 3. Are you ready for #3 . . . **They each involve a supposedly Christian home or environment.**
 4. They are not the strong families of which strong congregations are built.
- C. I am not plowing new ground when I tell you that today many homes and families, in the church and outside the church, are in serious trouble.
1. No doubt, you know some.
 2. No doubt you have shed tears over some.
 3. Not doubt, you will again.
- D. Tragic things are happening in and to homes and families today.
1. 50% of all marriages end in divorce.
 2. One-half of all children now live with one parent.
 3. 700,000 young people drop out of school annually.
 4. 5,000 to 6,000 young people commit suicide annually.
 5. 40% of all teenage girls become pregnant one or more times before reaching the age of 20.
 6. 52% of youth fatalities are alcohol related.
 7. Child abuse and abandonment are on the rise. In the past several years, there has been a 300% increase in placement of children outside the home.
 8. Homosexual marriages (men marrying men, women marrying women) then wanting to adopt and rear children in such an unscriptural and unwholesome environment.
 9. Abuses (sexual, physical, parental, etc.) running rampant through our society.
- E. A young person's world is a turbulent world. Let me tell you what happens in a young person's world in just one day. Bro. James Watkins of Preaching the Gospel shared these following figures in a Gospel Meeting with us in Myrtle Beach. Each day in the United States of America
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|-------|--|
| 2,795 | Teens get pregnant |
| 372 | Teens miscarry |
| 1,106 | Teens get abortions |
| 1,296 | Teens give birth |
| 689 | Babies are born at a low birth weight |
| 67 | Babies die before one month |
| 105 | Babies die before their first birthday |
| 27 | Die from poverty |

10	Children are killed by guns
30	Children are wounded by guns
6	Teens commit suicide
135,000	Students bring a gun to school
7,742	Teens become sexually active
623	Teens contact venereal disease (V.D.)
211	Youth are arrested for drugs
437	Youth are arrested for drunken driving
1,512	Teens drop out of school
1,849	Children are abused or neglected
3,288	Run away from home
1,629	Children are in adult jails
2,556	Babies are born to single parents
2,989	Children see their parents divorce

F. My listening friend, this is not the way God intended for homes, families, and individual lives to be.

1. And because God did not want it to be this way, this is exactly the way the devil has influenced it to become.
2. **The outcome of your home will depend on what you allow to come into you home.**
3. **Romans 14:7** – “For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself.” NOTE: We have influence and we are influenced throughout life.

WHY STUDY ABOUT MARRIAGE & THE HOME?

A. **Because it is a Bible subject.**

B. **Because of the importance of marriage in the sight of God.**

1. It is important because God has definite laws and instructions about it.
2. It is important because of the tremendous consequences of marriage, both good and evil.
3. It is important because of the children born as a result of the union.
4. It is important because one marriage affects many individuals on both sides of the family.
5. It is important because it so tremendously affects the community and the nation. **Proverbs 14:34** – “Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to any people.”

C. **Because of the efforts that are currently being made to destroy marriage and the home as defined by God’s Word.**

1. Communists envision a time when there will be neither capital nor family.
2. People do not believe that God’s will must be obeyed in the matter of the home and family.

3. Because of the ease with which divorce is obtained.
 - a. Cumulatively, 45 different grounds nation wide.
 - b. God allows only one ground . . . Sexual unfaithfulness (Adultery).
 - c. The lowering of sexual standards in our nation and the world.
 1. Immodest dress has become the norm.
 2. Nudity and sexual acts on television and in the movies is commonplace.
 3. Public, tax supported schools, are giving out condoms and other means of birth control to students.
 1. Yes, condoms may prevents a STD (sexually transmitted disease)
 2. Yes, condoms may prevent an unwanted pregnancy.
 3. But NO, condoms will not prevent immorality nor adultery.
 4. Often the heroes of the people of this nation are, many times, people whose morals are hardly above those of the animals of the barnyard. Illustration: Elderly man in Eilaboun
 4. Allowing the institutions of this country to take over the functions of the home.
 5. Homosexual . . . gay marriages . . . adopting children.

D. **Because the study of marriage and the home is a neglected subject among many brethren.**

E. **Because there are so many factors that can cause failure.**

F. **Because so many couples fail to go to the right source for information on how to form, and build, and continue their marriage.**

G. **Because when it comes to marriage & the home, ignorance is not bliss.**

H. **Because our spiritual development depends upon it.**

1. God has specific roles and duties for husbands . . . and God must be obeyed.
2. God has specific roles and duties for wives . . . and God must be obeyed.
3. God has specific roles and duties for children . . .and God must be obeyed.”

I. **Because eternity depends on having the right kind of Christian home.**

J. **Because marriage is of divine origin and must be considered in light of all that God have revealed about it in the Bible.** Psalm 160:119 – “The sum of Your word is truth . . .”

K. **Because the Devil wants to destroy your home in his efforts to further hurt The heart of God.**

TYPES OF FAMILIES IN THE BIBLE . . . NOT ALL FAMILIES & HOMES ARE ALIKE

- A. A righteous family Zacharias & Elizabeth
- B. An honored Families Joseph & Mary
- C. An unlawful family . . . Herod & Herodias
- D. A reunited family The Prodigal Son NOTE: Don't leave home too soon.
- E. A perplexed family Pontius Pilate & his wife
- F. A dishonest family Ananias & Sapphira
- G. A loyal family Aquila & Priscilla
- H. A religiously divided family Eunice & her Greek husband
- I. Converted families
 1. Lydia and her household.
 2. Cornelius and his household.
 3. The Philippian Jailor and his household.

CONCLUSION:

- A. You can have the home, marriage, and family that God wants you to have. He will help you to do if only you will allow Him to.
- B. **Illustration:** In marriage counseling a Christian couple was contemplating a divorce due to husband's unfaithfulness. While talking with the wife she admitted she had been unfaithful and her husband did not know it.
- C. **Illustration:** Five-night VBS in TN . . . Baptized eleven young people. God's message of truth about the home and family is powerful
- D. **God's Plan for Man's Salvation**