

The Importance of Relationships

from a Biblical perspective



Family

- What comes to mind when hear/read the word “family”?
- Hopefully you think of happy memories, feelings of affection, caring, nurturing, close bonds, security, provision, and togetherness.
- This is dependent on your level of maturity, how well you get along, and your willingness to work at it.
- What are good traits to have in good relationships?
- What bad traits should we guard against?



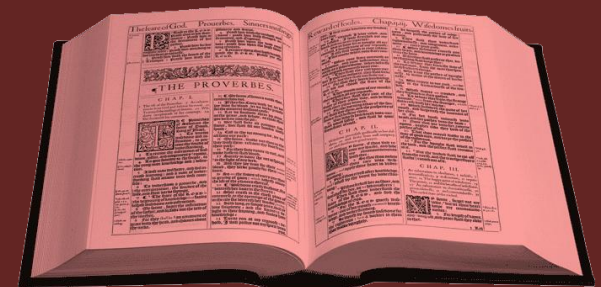
The Family make-up

- God created man
- Next God created the woman to be a help to the man
- Together as man and woman they are joined together as one for the purpose of supporting and caring for one another and raising a family
- The husband and the wife have different roles toward each other and to their children as designed by God.
 - Each parent aptly compliments/supports each other and their children
 - Men and women think differently (mentally and emotionally), have different priorities, and differing physical traits.
 - Each parent provides different things to their children and should model these traits according to God's Word.

Read Gen 1:26-28, 2:7, 18, 21-25, Mat 19:6

The Family make-up

- What God ordained is the perfect structure for the family and always best.
- We sadly see the model for the family crumbling away because of sinful desires, lack of discipline, wicked thoughts, and a lack of knowing God's Word. Evidence abounds in the things we hear and see each day: unfaithfulness, lies, divorce, murder, homosexuality, unwanted pregnancies, abortion, single parent families, etc.
- May God help us to turn the tide.
- This will only happen with prayer, sharing the Gospel, and being an example to others.
- Have confidence and stand on God's Word for the sake of you, your families and for a proper functioning society.



Read Jos 24:15

Parents to the Children

- Yes, parents are given commandments to follow too.
 - To train/teach their children about God and how to live, work, relate to others Deu 6:6-7, Pro 22:6
 - How to treat their children in regards to discipline and respect, and to provide. Pro 13:22, 13:24, 19:18, Eph 6:4
 - How they should treat each other (husband and wife) Col 3:18-19 Their relationship impacts the kids
 - The husband should provide for the family 1Ti 5:8
 - The parents provide security and meet needs

A Godly Wife/Mother Pro 31:10-31

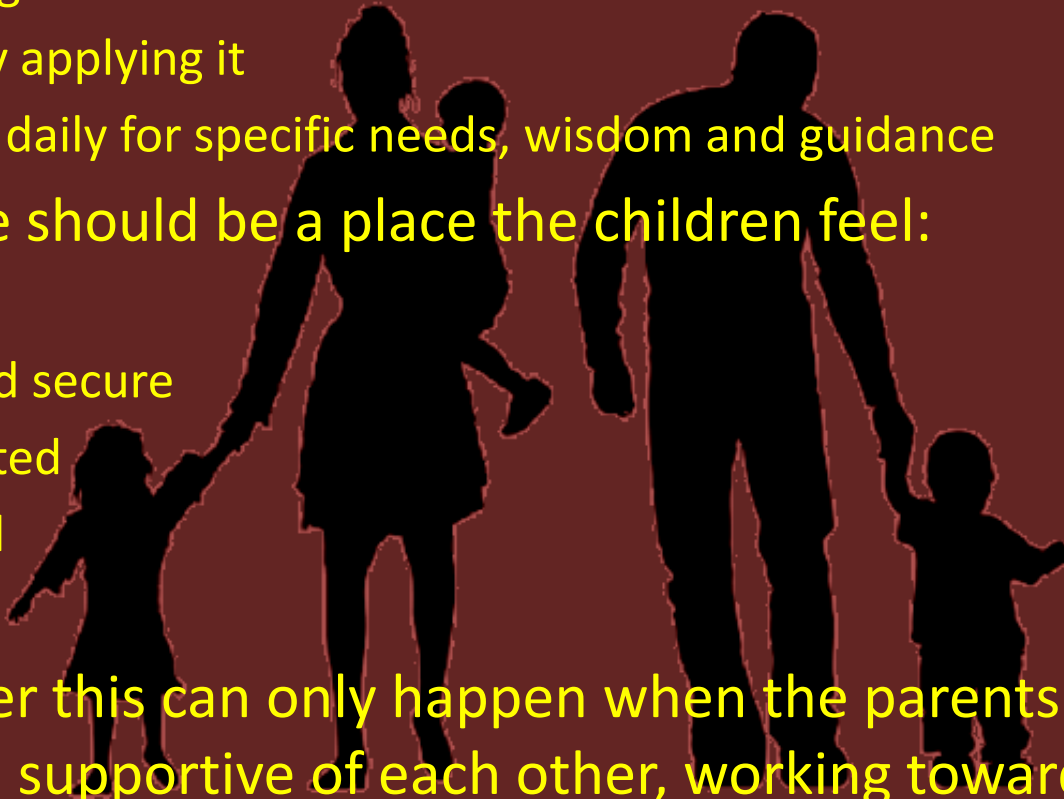
Children to the Parents

- Unsurprisingly the first commandment that deals with our relationship with other people is about parents. “Honour thy father and thy mother”
 - This is the first commandment with a promise attached, do you know what was promised? Can you find out?
- Proper training and obedience must first start in the home with the parents and God’s Word. Not the government and not the media
- Word to the wise
 - The Bible says that a wise son heareth the instruction of the father
 - It pleases God for children to obey and honour their parents and this should continue on in to adulthood.
 - How would you like to be honoured if you were the parent?
 - In what areas are you not obeying? Why?
 - What are some good reasons you should listen to your parents?
 - Does honouring your father and mother affect how you treat your brothers and sisters?

Read Col 3:20

Family Relationships

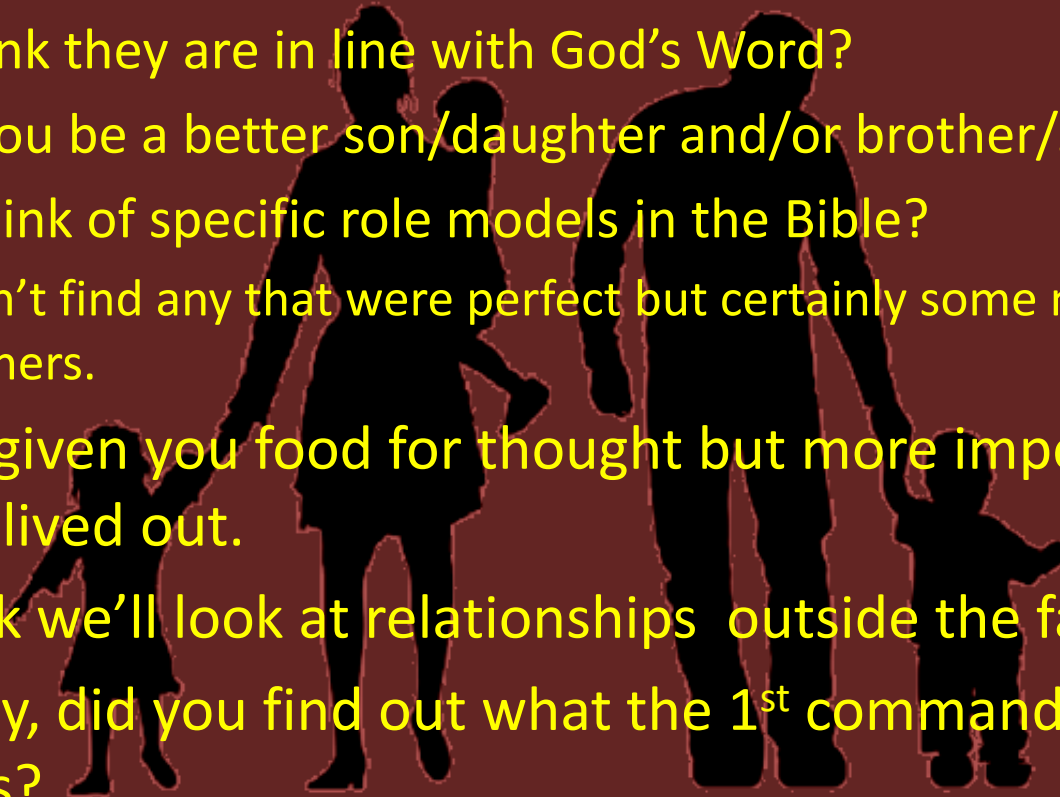
- Good family relationships starts with a good relationship with God
 - Knowing God and His Word
 - Actually applying it
 - Praying daily for specific needs, wisdom and guidance
- The home should be a place the children feel:
 - Loved
 - Safe and secure
 - Supported
 - Wanted
 - Happy
- Remember this can only happen when the parents are in step with God, supportive of each other, working toward the same goal, and each one filling their God given role.



Read Col 3:20

Family Relationships

- What are your ideas about family?
- Do you think they are in line with God's Word?
- How can you be a better son/daughter and/or brother/sister?
- Can you think of specific role models in the Bible?
 - You won't find any that were perfect but certainly some more godly than others.
- Hope it's given you food for thought but more importantly may it be lived out.
- Next week we'll look at relationships outside the family.
- By the way, did you find out what the 1st commandment with promise is?



Read James 1:22