

The Home as God Would Have it (1)
Understanding the Purpose of the Home
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Introduction: God has given us strong bulwarks for our good.

- A. When God provides then it is sufficient! **(Ps 68:10-12, 18-19)**
 - 1. Our greatest need is to see life as God does.
 - 2. When we do that, then we will understand our need of help and our need of teaching.
- B. Satan is also aware of God's provisions and works hard to deny men access.
 - 1. Satan cannot defeat God's word once implanted in the heart. **(1 Jn 2:14)**
 - 2. Satan tries successfully to deny men access. **(Lk 8:11-12; 2 Cor 4:3-4)**
 - 3. Sadly, many Christians let Satan deny them access to the bulwark of a godly home. This has always been a curse for God's people.
(Judges 2:7-12)

I. The Home is a place of serving

- A. We should not be surprised that the home reflects the nature of God!
(Mt 20:25-28)
 - 1. The world cannot understand the value of denying self.
 - 2. Many enter the marriage relationship like a contact between two distrustful businesses seeking to gain an advantage. (Ex. Pre-nuptial)
 - 3. Many reject God's plan because they have seen Satan's plan and think it is the same! (Ex. Feminist visit to our services, "Patriarchal")
- B. The husband and wife look to meet the needs of the other. **(Gen 2:18)**
 - 1. As the head the husband is the leader, but what kind of leader?
(Eph 5:23-25)
 - 2. If things are not going well in my home, the buck stops with me!
 - 3. A good leader must listen and find the real needs of those under him.
 - a. Have you ever worked for a boss that would not listen?
 - b. What is your mate struggling with right now? Do you have a plan to help and provide?
 - c. Are you too busy for your home? What kind of servant are you?
 - 4. The wife, while not the head, has the same goal of serving. **(Eph 5:33)**
 - 5. Some have been overcome by depression and have become "ego-centered". The whole world revolves around their personal needs.
- C. Have we forgotten this goal?
 - 1. Ask yourself some serious questions.
 - 2. Some do things in entering their marriage that makes this goal unlikely.

II. The Home is a place of teaching

- A. The primary teaching of my children is done in the home.
(Deut 6:7-10; Eph 6:4)
 - 1. There are great things that can be taught in a bible class that meets twice a week. Sadly, that is where many children learn what they will learn.
 - 2. Many "raised in the church" have learned from the assemblies alone. The

church must not supplant the home!

- B. Many within the church do not possess a biblical faith and therefore do not know how to instill it.
 - 1. “God has no grandchildren.” How often do you talk with your children about the nature of God? (**Heb 11:6, Josh 4:6-9**)
 - 2. Some of the worst influences to building a biblical faith to my children have been children of other Christians!
 - 3. Moving to Virginia has brought enormous blessings to our home.

III. The Home is a place to heal and to grow

- A. We need a place to go to be built up when we are hurting. If I was hurting I would call out for “daddy” or “mama!”
 - 1. It is not just a place but it is people who will help us heal. (**Heb 12:12-13**)
 - 2. In my home my occasion for hurting was also an occasion to gain wisdom! (**Prov 1:8, 10, 15; 2:1**)
 - 3. Sometimes the hurting came from my parents so that I might learn! (**Heb 12:9-11**)
- B. Have we forgotten this purpose of the home?
 - 1. I have seen mothers talk publicly about their children in front of them in inappropriate ways. Some have instilled failure and not faith! (**Prov 11:29**)
 - 2. There is no place for uncontrolled anger, harsh words and intimidation in the home. (**Prov 17:1; 21:9; 25:24**)
 - 3. Some of the most humbling lessons have come from seeing the fruits of these kinds of homes “in the church.”

IV. The Home is an introduction to God

- A. It is true that a child’s first impression of what his Heavenly Father is like comes from his earthly father.
 - 1. Does this message sink in with you as a parent? What does my child see?
 - 2. Hopefully he will see a humble person seeking to be taught of God and in turn leading the way to heaven for his family. (**1 Cor 4:15-16; 11:1**)
- B. Satan seeks to pervert the image of the one true God.
 - 1. Just like the dishonest Politician, he tries to lie about what God is like. (**Jn 8:44**)
 - 2. Do you have these kinds of conversations with your children? Do you ever talk about the character of God? If you won’t then Satan will.
 - 3. When good things come into our home, I try to talk about God. Is your home a house of praise? (**Ps 28:6-7**)

Conclusion: What is the driving purpose of your home?

- A. It is never too late to start over. God will help you and so will your spiritual family!
- B. Let each of us make our homes a taste of heaven!
- C. Where does a strong church come from? ...elders come from?