

GOD'S FAMILY PLAN..

Trinity C.U. Mar. 21, 2010 (Ephesians 5:22 - 6:4)

Pastor Bob Chroninger

It's interesting that Saturday the Daily Bread devotional was... "Marriage God's Way"... and Matt and Jamie wanted to dedicate Tanner to the Lord today... and unexpected events have taken Pastor Neal and Sandy away.... So Here Am I... The article was a reminder of God's plan for marriage...

Marriage creates one new family out of two... (leave, cleave, be joined... Gen.2:24; Mt. 19:5,6; Eph.5:31.

It provides a pure outlet for a divinely designed desire... 1Cor.7:2

It forms a mutually helpful team. Prov.31:11-12

Again... it's interesting that Paul begins with.....

I. THE WIFE... Eph. 5:22 - 24

A. The Requirement... vs.22

- Be submissive.... Be submissive to your own husband... Be submissive as unto the Lord

B. The Reason... vs.23

- The husband is the "head" of the wife....

- This is a responsibility...

- This is by the example of Jesus the Christ...

- He is the Head of the Church...

- He is the Savior of the "Body"...

- Therefore... vs. 24

- As the Church is subject to Christ ??? (how much now???)

- So.. let the wife be subject to her own husband..... in Everything...

** The Wife's Role in God's Family Plan...

II. THE HUSBAND.... Eph. 5:25 - 33 (Notice Guys... the Most Explanation is given to us!!!! Take Heed!

A. The Requirement... 25 a

- Love Your Wife... (agape) the self giving love... like God's love!

- As you love your own body... the two of us have become ONE....

- vs. 31... the oft quoted verse... (leave, cleave, be joined)

- And what God has joined together... let no one separate!! Mt.19:5,6

B. The Reason... 26, 27...

- Jesus gave His life for the Church.. (His "Body"... His "bride" to be) He is our example...

- His plan for the Church was to provide for.... protect... and present it to Himself....

- So... Husband.. Have the same care for your wife as for yourself... you do yourself a favor!!

- We are "one" in marriage... 29, nourish her... cherish her... just like Jesus cares for the Church

** The Husband's Role in God's Family Plan... A picture of a Great Mystery.. 32,33

III. THE CHILDREN.... 6:1,2 (Those young and not yet of age)

A. The Requirement... Obedience...

- Obey Your Parents.... God's Family Plan for Children... Your first duty!!!

- the welfare of the child depends upon it... too many children "rule" the household...

- the happiness of family life and the good of the community depends upon it

- "in the Lord"... as if you were serving the Lord Jesus Himself!!!

- No parent has the right to teach his child to steal, lie, cheat, etc.....

- Honor Your Parents... the Fifth Commandment.... Ex.20:12... Learn to be obedient to God!!

B. The Reason...

- It is the RIGHT THING to do.... Kids... learn it Quick!! Eph.6:1

- It is well pleasing to the Lord! Col.3:20..

- It is rewarding.... 6:13

IV. THE FATHERS.... (That's The Rest of The Plan!!!) 6:4

A. Don't Provoke Your Children to Wrath.... by unreasonableness in demands or severity punishment

B. Do Bring Them UP....

- In the Nurture of the Lord.... training and discipline....

- In The Admonition of the Lord.... "putting into mind".... teaching, counseling...

BUT.... WHERE'S THE HOW???? LOOK AT 5:15 - 18... ONLY BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CONTROL OF THE FAMILY MEMBERS!!!!!!!!!!