

Influence In, And Through, The Home And Family

Deuteronomy 6:1-15

Focus On The Home

"The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the dwelling of the righteous." (Proverbs 3:33)

Origin Of The Family

In the beginning ... (Genesis 2:24)

God's plans are perfect! (Home, church, government)

So why so many problems in each of them?

One man ... One woman ... for life! (Genesis 2:24-26; Matthew 19:4-9)

God is to be at the center of the home.

(1 Corinthians 7:35; 11:3; Matthew 10:32-39)

Each generation is responsible for seeking

God and His will. (Acts 17:27; cf. Jeremiah 29:13)

Focus On The Home

What is seen? Is it a "refuge" or place of safety?

What's important: what is our home used for? Hospitality? Teaching the Bible?

(Acts 2:46; 12:12)

Who/what do we allow into our homes?

(1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Ephesians 4:29)

Is the home the most neglected "mission field" in the world?

If change is needed, we must begin in the home! It is where we're to learn to shine!

Focus On The Family

Prosperity depends on the family being what God intended: (Deuteronomy 6:1-15)

- **Generational change and impact.**

(Note verses 1-3; Psalms 78:4; 145:4;)

- **Is it happening again?** (Judges 2:10)

Honoring Our Marriage

The influences of vows that have been kept.

(Psalms 50:14; 61:5-8; 116:14; Ecclesiastes 5:4)

Honoring the family unit – and assigned roles

– as God intended it! (Titus 2:3-8; Ephesians 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:1-6)

The Role Of Fathers And Husbands

- **What if we don't do our duty?**
 - Don't be a stumbling block! (Luke 17:1-2)
 - **As husbands**
 - **Sacrificial/Servant leadership** (Ephesians 5:25-30; 1 Kings 12:7)
 - **"Understanding" leadership** (1 Peter 3:7; Luke 2:49-52)
 - **Humble leadership** (1 Peter 5:2-3)
 - **Selfless decision making** (Philippians 2:3-5)
 - **A great responsibility!**
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The Role Of Fathers And Husbands

As fathers

- **Diligent and consistent instruction and discipline** (Ephesians 6:1-4)
 - **Worship** – never to be asked, "are we going?" (Daniel 3:16)
 - **Ensure God's word is read every day.** (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 1 Timothy 4:6, 13-16)
 - **We can't abdicate this duty!**
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The Role Of Wives And Mothers

As mothers

- The expression "**The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world**" indicates the influence that the role is to have.
 - **If not mothers, who?** (Our schools, after care programs, camps, recreational pursuits?)
 - **Mothers are to be partners in their children's spiritual education.** (Titus 2:4; Ephesians 6:4; 2 Timothy 1:5-6; 3:14-15; cf. Acts 18:26)
 - **Providers for their families.** (Proverbs 31:27)
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The Role Of Parents

The need to present a unified front!

(1 Corinthians 1:10; When should "parenting" be discussed?)

The call for consistency! (Ephesians 6:4)

Establish priorities ahead of time.

(Matthew 6:33)

Make an investment in their spiritual future as much as their academic!

The Influence Of Children

- **Be an example of those who believe.** (1 Timothy 4:12)
- **Establish your own faith.** (John 4:42; 2 Timothy 1:6)
- **Continue building on your faith.** (2 Timothy 3:14-17)
- **Be faithful even if your parents aren't.**
- **Shine your light to your family.** (Philippians 2:12)
- **No greater joy!** (3 John 4)

What Destroys The Home And Influence

- **Selfishness** (James 3:14-16; 4:1-3)
 - **Carnality** (Galatians 5:19ff)
 - **Greed** (Colossians 3:5; Luke 12:15)
 - **Lack of (agape) love** (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)
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**What Re-Establishes The Influence Of
The Home?**

- **Refocus on the spiritual** (Colossians 3:1-2)
 - **Fulfill our roles** (Luke 17:10)
 - **Subjection to God's word** (James 1:19-21)
 - **Repentance** (2 Corinthians 7:10-11)
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