

The Biblical Messenger



Volume 43 Number 14

"The Family God Wants"

Mike Bonner

In the beginning when God created Adam and Eve, He established them as a family unit (Gen. 2.24ff). This idea is seen throughout the Patriarchal system and into the Mosaic system and of course today under Christianity. When considering family unity, we must be aware of what family is. Family is a group of people living in the same household related by blood or marriage. Also, a family is characterized by a group of people with the same ancestry. Focused upon the family

The family has always been a priority to God. When Cain slew Abel, his brother, he asked the Lord, "am I my brother's keeper?" The implication here is this, he was to be a watcher of his brother (Gen. 4.9). It's obvious that anger can break down the moral fiber of the family. Our focus should be like that of Christ, "if you're angry with your brother, go

to him and him alone and resolve the matter" (Matt. 5:23-24). In the beginning, God made Adam and Eve, husband and wife. She was bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh (Gen. 2.23). Unfortunately, Lamech didn't focus upon God and went to establish his own way of living. He took to himself two (2) wives (Gen. 4.19); a break down in the family structure and major deviation from the original order which God instituted. When our focus is upon self and our own lust, it causes us to deviate from the will of God resulting in foolishness such as this.

Genuine concentration upon the family is essential to spiritual, emotional, psychological, and even physical development. This places great responsibility upon the father (man) to have a genuine relationship with God (Job 1.5). Job is a powerful example of a man who sought to please the Lord and lift his children up to God in prayer. Like Manoah, who sought the Lord for wisdom in how to rear up this child (Sampson) in the way of Jehovah (Judges 13.8). Manoah had the attitude of the Psalmist, "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.", furthermore, "As arrows are in the

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Meeting Times

Sunday 9:30a, 10:30a, 5:00p
Wednesday 7:00p

“The Family God Wants!” continued

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hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.” This must be the attitude of the church and the father’s who occupy the church; we must see our children in this light and point them in the proper direction.

As the church focuses upon the family, she must realize the impact the family makes on the world. Israel Rodriguez said at one time, “the message you teach your children is the message they’ll give the world.” Of course, we understand our children will make their own decisions, and hopefully they will tell the world of the good message of Jesus, but we must tell and show them the message as well. Let us be mindful to place more emphasis on the husband and wife relationship. This relationship must be one of longevity (Matt. 19.1-12; Rom. 7.1-2). It must be one of loyalty, fidelity, and security in the Lord (Eph. 5.22-26). Parents must be reminded that children come into the world, without sense and void of understanding, which means we must teach them the word of God and why it’s necessary to honor the Lord and seek His wisdom (Prov. 23.7).

The Family God wants has to understand its value to one another, the society it’s in, and the world it influences. So the “B-Attitudes” come to mind on how to condition the heart to think like the Lord in all situations (Matt. 5.1-12). Learning these great attributes will aid us in our approaches to our neighbors and friends to the glory of God (Eph. 5.15). Furthermore, we consider the family and how the “Fruit of the Spirit” can be employed as well. Our families should exemplify love, joy, peace and so forth, thus drawing all men to God through the medium of doing works of righteousness (Gal. 5.22-23; John 12.32). Finally, the Christian graces come to mind as it relates to our families. What do we mean? Adding to our faith is vital to our growth and our neighbors. The moral excellence of the Lord should overwhelm those we come in contact with (2 Pet. 1.5ff).

In conclusion, we must really focus upon the family and the beauty of being an extension of God’s moral culture in the chaotic and perverse world we live in (Phil. 2.15). When the family is working and demonstrating the attitudes of Christ, the fruit of the Spirit and the Christian graces, what better invitation can one have to come to Christ than that? Unlike the world, when things aren’t what they seem, the people of God can be natural, organic and genuine in their love and sincerity (Phil. 1.9-10). The family God wants should give off an aroma of life, consisting of compassion, care, concern and comfort (2 Cor. 2.14-17). So let’s encourage failing marriages, let’s help wayward children, and let’s rescue out of the way families in and out of the church. God will be glorified when we remember to do our part in the system of Christianity. Let God be true

News and Notes

*The elders have indicated that
worship & class times will be as
follows:*

SUNDAY AM:
Bible class @ 9:30
Worship @ 10:30

SUNDAY PM:
Bible Study @ 5:00

WEDNESDAY PM:
Bible class @ 7:00

**Bible Study Material
For Evangelism!**
AngeloBibleStudy.com

Our Yearly Theme:
***"Serving Our Generation
By the Will of God"***
Acts 13:36

April Theme:
"Focus Upon Family!"
Psalms 127:1

April Men to Serve is Posted

Our Reading Trees are Growing
Nicely. Remember to put your leaves
in the basket.

**Submit Bible questions in the box in
the foyer for 4th Sunday Q/A's!**

Feed & Seed Monday.
Evenings @ 7:00

Secret Sister Reveal AND BRUNCH
will be 4/13 @ 10 a.m.!

Youth Devo 4/9
More Info to Come

This box left blank to protect our
family's privacy.

**Maintaining
Good Works**
Titus 3:14

Mass Media:
KWOJ-LP FM 102.5 (24/7)

Evangelism:

Christian Student Center
(University of Wyoming)
Don Iverson - India Work
Annual Gospel Meeting
Vacation Bible School
MORE Evangelism Tips



Edification:

Weekly Bible Classes
Young Men's Development
Conference
(BCS College Station)
Lads to Leaders

Benevolence:

Food Pantry

Records for 03/31

Class.....65
Worship.....109
Offering.....\$4,557

Records for 03/24

Class.....79
Worship.....103
Offering.....\$7,596

Worship

April 7, 2024

Announcements.....Randy Scott
Song Leader.....Larry Hettick
Opening Prayer.....Leon Martinez
Lord's Table.....Royce Williamson

Dustin Estes	Victor Arreola
Lance Modawell	Luke Modawell

Glen Braswell

Mike Bonner

Closing Prayer.....Rick Offill

5:00

Where to Begin Studying as Newly Weds

Opening Prayer.....Paul McCurdy
Songs.....Mike Bonner
Closing Prayer.....Eric Lopez

Scripture should be read from the
KJV, NKJV, or ASV (1901).

“to make ready a people for the Lord” (Luke 1:17)

Randy Scott

Sermon Notes-

"Focused Upon the Family"

Prayer: Mark W

Randy Scott