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## THE FAMILY: IDEAL? OR STEREOTYPED?

|                    | <u>Ideal (Godly)</u>                        | <u>Stereotype (Worldly)</u>                                 |
|--------------------|---|---|
| 1. <b>Father</b>   | Loving,<br>leads by example,<br>hard worker | jerk, never around,<br>disinterested<br>lazy, irresponsible |
| 2. <b>Mother</b>   | Caring, comforting,<br>instructing          | selfish, insecure,<br>lecturing                             |
| 3. <b>Children</b> | Compliant,<br>eager to help                 | resentful,<br>independent,                                  |
| 4. <b>Husband</b>  | attentive, giving,<br>serving               | demanding,<br>disrespectful                                 |
| 5. <b>Wife</b>     | Helper, supporter                           | nagging, complaining  |

### Consider the stereotypes of "in-laws" and step-parents / step-children:

Nosy, bossy, assuming, critical, condemning, etc.

## **STEPS TO BETTTER STEP FAMILIES**

*So how does a family cope with in-laws and "step" relations ?*

**1. Re-establish order** - first things first, get understanding on the new order of the home. it is so much easier to create before a marriage than to try it afterwards. be aware of what you're inheriting and set the pace accordingly.

**2. Respect** - never, never, never, lose respect or show disrespect to another family member. be honoring in every conversation and establish healthy boundaries.

**3. Realistic expectations** - allow for space and individual preferences. don't be demanding and choose your battles wisely. don't make mountains out of molehills!

**4. Return to scripture**- start from the beginning with Bible based behavior. being Godly is more important than being right.

## **INFLUENCE ON FAMILIES?**

Does the Govt. or the Church have a greater influence on the family?

How?            (education)            (finances)

Why?

1. Teen age abortions (without parental consent at the health dept), Sex Ed, AIDS, distribution of condoms?
2. Financial support from the state or the parent in time of crisis?  
(without jobs, HUD, DFS daycare, elderly, etc..)
3. Prayer in school?            Prayer at homes?
4. Bibles in school?            Bibles in homes? (private devotions)
5. Discipline?            Spanking (in public, in private)  
When parents don't teach discipline who has to fix the problems?
6. Who spends the most time with kids? Parents or Public schools?
7. How does the Govt. propose solutions? **MONEY.**  
Prescribe Ritalin for ADHD
8. Who teaches morality?  
Same sex marriages, discrimination, tolerance, etc
9. Who takes the greatest responsibility?
  - a. intervention in family violence, abuse, etc.
  - b. counseling with dysfunctional families  
(abnormal or impaired function of a bodily system)

# **BIBLICAL ROLES IN THE FAMILY**

**Role**. The characteristic and expected social behavior of an individual. **3.** A function or position.

**role model** A person who serves as a model in a particular behavioral or social role for another person to emulate.

## **HUSBAND -**

COL 3:19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.[23] For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. [24] Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

EPH 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her [26] to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, [27] and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. [28] In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. [29] After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- [30] for we are members of his body. [31] "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." [32] This is a profound mystery--but I am talking about Christ and the church. [33] However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself,

PR 15:27 A greedy man brings trouble to his family, (ACTIONS OF ONE BRINGS CONSEQUENSES TO ALL)

1PE 3:7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

## **WIFE**

PR 18:22 He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.

PR 19:13 A foolish son is his father's ruin, and a quarrelsome wife is like a constant dripping. Houses and wealth are inherited from parents, but a prudent wife is from the LORD.

PR 31:10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. She gets up while it is still dark; she provides food for her family and portions for her servant girls. She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. She opens her arms to the poor

and extends her hands to the needy. When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple. Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

1PE 3:1 Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, [2] when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. [3] Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. [4] Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. [5] For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, [6] like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

## **FATHER**

EPH 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

COL 3:21 Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

PR 13:24 He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.

LK 11:11 "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? [12] Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? [13] If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

DT 21:18 If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother and will not listen to them when they discipline him, [19] his father and mother shall take hold of him and bring him to the elders at the gate of his town. [20] They shall say to the elders, "This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious. He will not obey us. He is a profligate and a drunkard." [21] Then all the men of his town shall stone him to death. You must purge the evil from among you. All Israel will hear of it and be afraid.

## **MOTHER**

RU 4:13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then he went to her, and the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. [14] The women said to Naomi: "Praise be

to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! [15] He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth."

Then Naomi took the child, laid him in her lap and cared for him. [17] The women living there said, "Naomi has a son." And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

1SA 1:21 When the man Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vow, [22] Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the LORD, and he will live there always."

ISA 49:15 "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne?"

ISA 66:13 As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem."

1 Thess. 2: [7] but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children.

2 Tim.2:[5] I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also

PR 29:15 The rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a child left to himself disgraces his mother.

## **CHILDREN**

PR 1:8 Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

PR 10:1 A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother.

EX 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

1SA 2:12 Eli's sons were wicked men; they had no regard for the LORD. 1SA 2:17 This sin of the young men was very great in the LORD's sight, for they were treating the LORD's offering with contempt.

1SA 2:22 Now Eli, who was very old, heard about everything his sons were doing to all Israel and how they slept with the women who served at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. His sons, however, did not listen to their father's rebuke, for it was the LORD's will to put them to death.

MAL 4:5 "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. [6] He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."

EPH 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. [2] "Honor your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise-- [3] "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

## **SIBLINGS -**

GE 25:27 The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was a quiet man, staying among the tents. [28] Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

GE 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made a richly ornamented robe for him. [4] When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

PR 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

GE 30:1 When Rachel saw that she was not bearing Jacob any children, she became jealous of her sister. So she said to Jacob, "Give me children, or I'll die!"

2SA 13:1 In the course of time, Amnon son of David fell in love with Tamar, the beautiful sister of Absalom son of David.

LK 10:38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. [39] She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. [40] But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, [42] but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

## **PARENTS & FAMILY**

### **FOUNDATIONS FOR FAMILIES**

MT 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. [25] The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. [26] But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. [27] The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

**Matt.12:25** - Every household divided against itself will not stand.

**God's foundation      The world's practices**

- 
- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Trust (loyalty)                                    | Mistrust, broken promises          |
| 2. Security (protection)                              | insecurity, fear                   |
| 3. Responsibility (provision)                         | immediate gratification            |
| 4. Honor (respect, dignity)                           | Undefined roles, anarchy           |
| 5. Common goals (ideals, values)<br>aspirations       | unclear, changing                  |
| 6. Acceptance (forgiveness)<br>acceptance = rejection | performance based                  |
| 7. Community (shared identity,<br>Interdependence)    | independence, self<br>preservation |

### **God's Foundation Violation Quiz**

*Rate the severity of the following problems on  
A scale of 1 to 10 and then write the appropri-  
-ate Category violation from the previous page.*

\_\_\_\_ A father embarrasses his wife or child in public.  
Which Category Violation? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ A spouse flirts with the opposite sex  
Which Category Violation? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ A parent spends milk money on cigarettes  
Which Category Violation? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ A child "backtalks" their parents decisions  
Which Category Violation? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ A family never shares meals together  
Which Category Violation? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ A sibling makes fun of his brother or sister  
Which Category Violation? \_\_\_\_\_

## DEFINITIONS

**trust** Firm reliance on the integrity, ability, or character of a person or thing. **2.** Custody; care. **3.** Something committed into the care of another; charge. **4.a.** The condition and resulting obligation of having confidence placed in one. **b.** One in which confidence is placed. **5.** Reliance on something in the future; hope.

**security** Freedom from risk or danger; safety. **2.** Freedom from doubt, anxiety, or fear; confidence. **3.** Something that gives or assures safety, as: **a.** A group or department of private guards. **b.** Measures adopted by a government to prevent espionage, sabotage, or attack. **c.** Measures adopted, as by a business or homeowner, to prevent a crime such as burglary or assault.

**responsibility.** Liable to be required to give account, as of one's actions or of the discharge of a duty or trust. **2.** Involving personal accountability or ability to act without guidance or superior authority. **3.** Being a source or cause. **4.** Able to make moral or rational decisions on one's own and therefore answerable for one's behavior. **5.** Able to be trusted or depended upon; reliable.

**honor** **1.** High respect, as that shown for special merit; esteem. **2.a.** Good name; reputation. **b.** A source or cause of credit. **3.a.** Glory or recognition; distinction. **b.** A mark, token, or gesture of respect or distinction. **c.** A military decoration. **d.** A title conferred for achievement. **4.** Nobility of mind; probity. **5.** High rank. **6.** The dignity accorded to position.

**goal** . **1.** The purpose toward which an endeavor is directed; an objective. **i·de·al** . A conception of something in its absolute perfection. **2.** One that is regarded as a standard or model of perfection or excellence. **3.** An ultimate object of endeavor; a goal. **4.** An honorable or worthy principle or aim.

**acceptance** **1.** The act or process of accepting. **2.** The state of being accepted or acceptable. **3.** Favorable reception; approval. **4.** Belief in something; VALIDATION; ENDORSEMENT

**Community** **1.a.** A group of people living in the same locality and under the same government. **b.** The district or locality in which such a group lives. **2.** A group of people having common interests. **3.a.** Similarity or identity. **b.** Sharing, participation, and fellowship.

**Marriage**—Joining, uniting, entering into an intimate, permanent relationship, of



social and legal dependence to found and maintain a family

**Family**-A group that dwells under one roof, with one head, having common ancestry. The basic unit in society having two adults living together and cooperating in the care and rearing of their own children.

**HOME**– Place of residence where a family lives together. A familiar or congenial environment. Habitat, dwelling, domicile, or the established environment for personal attention.

**Husband**– Master of the house, manager, steward, married man.

**Wife**-A married woman acting in a specified capacity.

**Father**-A man who has begotten a child, the founder, producer and authoritative leader having responsibility for care, guidance, provision & protection.

**Mother**-One who bears children, having maternal tenderness and affection.

**Parent**– One who begets, gives birth to, or nurtures and raises a child; a father or a mother. 2. An ancestor; a progenitor. 3. An organism that produces or generates offspring. 4. A guardian; a protector. 5. A source or cause; an origin. To act as a parent to; raise and nurture. 6. To cause to come into existence; originate.

**Child/Children.** . A person between birth and puberty. . An infant; a baby. . One who is childish or immature. . A son or daughter; an offspring. . Members of a tribe; descendants. . An individual regarded as strongly affected by another

## **Role of the family and the value of the home:**

AC 10:1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. [2] He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.

[33] At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. [34] The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God--he and his whole family.

PR 3:33 The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous.

PR 27:8 Like a bird that strays from its nest is a man who strays from his home.

DT 20:5 The officers shall say to the army: "Has anyone built a new house and not dedicated it? Let him go home, or he may die in battle and someone else may dedicate it. [6] Has anyone planted a vineyard and not begun to enjoy it? Let him go home, or he may die in battle and someone else enjoy it. [7] Has anyone become pledged to a woman and not married her? Let him go home, or he may die in battle and someone else marry her." [8] Then the officers shall add, "Is any man afraid or fainthearted? Let him go home so that his brothers will not become disheartened too."

JOS 22:6 Then Joshua blessed them and sent them away, and they went to their homes. When Joshua sent them home, he blessed them, [8] saying, "Return to your homes with your great wealth--with large herds of livestock, with silver, gold, bronze and iron, and a great quantity of clothing--and divide with your brothers the plunder from your enemies."

2 Sam.7..." `The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: [12] When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. [13] He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. [14] I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men

Acts 2:[46] Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

1TI 5:3 Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. [4] But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.

[8] If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

DUET [6] These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. [7] Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. [8] Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. [9] Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

## **The Spiritual family dwells together in God's house:**

PS 27:10 Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.

PS 68:5 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families,

MT 6:9 "This, then, is how you should pray: " `Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

MT 12:46 While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. [47] Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you."

He replied to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" [49] Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. [50] For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

JN 14:23 Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

Rom.8:[15] For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." [16] The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Eph.1:[5] he predestined us to be **adopted as his sons** through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-

DT 13:6 If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you love, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying, "Let us go and worship other gods" (gods that neither you nor your fathers have known, [7] gods of the peoples around you, whether near or far, from one end of the land to the other), [8] do not yield to him or listen to him. Show him no pity. Do not spare him or shield him.

Josh.24:15 -choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Gal.6:[10] Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

## **Family Laws**

Families ruled by Gods laws are less likely to end up in court! However "Family law" practices are some of the most lucrative because many Christians right now that are spending a fortune on attorneys for the following battles:

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**1. Divorce** - MAL 2:16 "I hate divorce," says the LORD God of Israel,

**2. Domestic violence** - GE 6:11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled

with violence

**3. Child abuse and neglect** - MT 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

**4. Custody battles / Adoption** - PS 68:5 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families,

**5. Juvenile delinquency** -2TI 3:1 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves...proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents.

Family values continue to decrease across the nation with no standards of morality. There seems to be no right or wrong. Children are left to make up their own mind as parents fail to pass on traditional principles. For example :

1. Over 50% of young adults plan to live together with a partner before marriage.
2. Only 47% believe it is morally wrong to have a child out of wedlock.
3. 67 % of all adults have either been divorced or have divorced parents.
4. The average father spends less than 30 minutes a week with his children.

### **HARMONY IN THE HOME**

Mom with 8 kids

Lori Voeller

1. Each one must practice self-denial  
train children in simple obedience  
(more training = less spanking)
2. When this mom got married, she couldn't cook,  
didn't like to do laundry was not domestic. She learned it and taught it.
3. Phil. 2:2 - unity- common purposes

The parent can not be distracted if they expect the children to pay attention.

4. Teach immediate response for children
  - a. have your child stop what they are doing when you are speaking to them.
  - b. teach them to communicate and make a wise appeal
  - c. delayed obedience is disobedience
  - d. make it cheerful - attitude can be taught
    - \* no negative body language

For 9 years she had special days

1. "Stand in line and salute" day
2. "I'd be glad to" day
  - with a smile!

- Her 8 years old and 6 year old are in charge of laundry.

### **RULES FOR CHORES:**

1. Unconditional - no deals, no questions - no exceptions
2. Thorough -
3. Immediate -
4. Cheerful-

Her two year old can recite these principles.

Gen. 21:1 - God tested Abraham, so we should give our children a pop quiz.

### **A HUSBAND'S MINISTRY TO HIS WIFE**

*1PE 3:7    EPH 5:25-33*

1. Love - Sacrifice-for her when she is unlovable
  - Savior-before she meets your needs
  - Satisfy-representative of Christ in home
  - Sanctify - cleans her history
2. Live - Dwelling peace - harmony time priority /
  - make yourself at home

3. Know her - Study, understand, fears, disappointments, etc.
4. Honor - Princess, queen, chivalry, special date, appreciation, prefer her
5. Pray - Spiritual heirs together, she is the mirror

Without Spot - "external"

Without Wrinkle - "internal"

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FAMILY**

A basic or fundamental group of people who:

1. Dwell      A. Dwell under one roof or some house  
hang out together, spend down time
2. Share      B. Share the same lineage, bloodline  
clothes, food, car, etc.
3. Think      C. have a commitment to the same                                      values and  
goals. Prone to have                                      common intellectual input.
4. Socialize    D. establish common social traits  
interactions, relationships

\* one guy said he was so far "out on a limb" that he might fall out of the family tree!

The home should always be a place of:

1. Unconditional love—no matter what
2. acceptance—recognized and celebrated individualism
3. Fertile soil for learning and growing
4. Support—Moral, emotional, etc.
5. Consistent Boundaries with healthy consequences

Many feel rejected, lonely, & despised by their own family. Even Jesus was rejected by his own (Mark 3:21, 6:1-4) but longs to adopt us into his own family.

## The Family is Under Attack

### 1. Our natural family

#### What

A. order, authority

B. love

#### Why

TV sitcoms

Like Simpsons, Married w/Children

Rosanne

abuse, neglect

### 2. Our spiritual family: The Church

#### What

A. Apathy

B. Leadership

#### Why

Religion vs. Relationship

Televangelists

Bakker / Swaggart

### 3. Generational Curses

Numbers 14:18 `The LORD is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.'

Genograms—Diagrams are used in the mental health field to depict patterns of behavior over several generations in a particular family.

## FUEL FOR FEUDS:

### VALUES WORTH ESTABLISHING

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| TRADITIONAL VIEWS   | LIBERAL            |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| MONOGAMY            | POLIGAMY           |
| HETEROSEXUAL        | BI/ HOMOSEXUAL     |
| PROCREATION         | ABORTION           |
| PERMANENCE          | DIVORCE OPTION     |
| VOWS                | PRENUPTIAL         |
| ROLE RESPONSIBILITY | UNISEX             |
| VIRGINITY           | PROMISCUOUS        |
| TRUST               | SELF- PRESERVATION |

---

JOINING / CLEAVING

INDEPENDENCE

## AMORAL ISSUES OF CONFLICT

---

GET UP EARLY  
HAVE A BEDTIME  
GO OUT FOR ENTERTAINMENT  
EAT OUT  
SAVE MONEY  
KEEP A TIDY HOUSE  
RECREATION / SPORTS  
SPEND TIME W/ EACH OTHER  
HAVE SEVERAL CHILDREN  
DRESS FORMALLY  
WATCH T.V.  
TAKE VACATIONS  
LISTEN TO ROCK MUSIC

SLEEP IN  
STAY UP LATE  
STAY HOME  
HOME COOKED MEALS  
SPEND MONEY  
LIVE MORE MESSY  
RELAX  
SPEND TIME W/ FRIENDS  
FEW OR NO CHILDREN  
DRESS CASUALY  
READ  
WORK AROUND HOME  
LISTEN TO COUNTRY

## TYPICAL MALE / FEMALE CHARACTERISTICS

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### MEN

### WOMEN

TEND TO CATOGORIZE

LUMP ISSUES TOGETHER

THINK IN HEADLINES

THINK IN FINE PRINT (DETAILS)

FACTS / ISSUES

MORE IN TOUCH W/ FEELINGS



GOAL ORIENTED (HUNT)

PEOPLE ORIENTED (SHOP)

SEX (PHYSICAL NEED)

ROMANCE (EMOTIONAL NEED)

STRUCTURE ORIENTED

NURTURE ORIENTED

TEND TO LECTURE

TAKE THINGS TO PERSONAL

## **HIDDEN KEYS TO LOVING RELATIONSHIPS**

### **GARY SMALLEY**

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#### 1. RECOGNISE AND VALUE YOUR MATES DIFFERENCES

A. A MAN NEEDS TO RECOGNISE THE TREMENDOUS WORTH OF A WOMEN.

1. LISTEN TO HER
2. ASK HOW SHE FEELS

B. A WOMEN NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND THE "LEFT BRAIN" MINDSET OF A MAN.

1. A MAN NEEDS TO BE ADMIRER
2. HE NEEDS TO KNOW HIS ADVICE IS VALUABLE

#### 2. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR SUCCESS

A. SECURITY

B. A ROUTINE PATTERN OF MEANINGFUL COMMUNICATION

C. CONSISTANT, MEANINGFULL, SEXUAL AND NON SEX UAL TOUCH

#### 3. OVERCOMING THE MAJOR DESTROYERS OF RELATIONSHIPS

\* POWER STRUGGLES ARE THE NET RESULT OF UNRESOLVED ANGER

LEVEL 1. ISSUES ARE CONSTANTLY RAISED, BUT NEVER RESOLVED

LEVEL 2. WE DROP THE ISSUE AND PICK ON THE PERSON

LEVEL 3. WE ATTACK THE RELATIONSHIP

A. FEELING LIKE OUR SPOUSE DEVALUES US BLOCKS OUR GOALS

B. FEELINGS OF GUILT, RESENTMENT, REJECTION, AND DEPRESSION

C. FEELING DIS HARMONY FROM A "CLOSED SPIRIT"

\* EXAMPLES OF A CLOSED SPIRIT:

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1. CRITISISING UNJUSTLY

2. HARSH WORDS

3. TAKING SOMEONE FOR GRANTED

4. TELLING SOMEONE THEIR OPINIONS DONT MATTER

5. DISMISSING SOMEONES NEEDS AS UNIMPORTANT
6. MAKING JOKES ABOUT PERSONAL CHARACTER OR PHYSICAL FLAWS.
7. NOT TRUSTING WHEN ITS DESERVED
8. SARCASTIC STATEMENTS
9. PUBLICLY RUDE
10. REFUSING TO ADMIT MISTAKES

#### HOW TO RE-OPEN A "CLOSED SPIRIT"

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1. BE GENTLE AND TENDER HEARTED
2. LISTEN AND SEEK TO UNDERSTAND
3. ACKNOWLEDGE THE HURT AND ADMIT YOUR MISTAKES
4. TOUCH WITH RESPECT, HOLD
5. ASK FORGIVENESS

#### COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES: (SEEK TO...)

1. CLARIFY THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS
2. GET A DEEPER LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING
3. PRAISE AND ENCOURAGE
4. LOVINGLY CORRECT (NOT BLAME OR GRIPE)
5. BECOME A STUDENT OF THE OTHER PERSONS NEEDS
6. USE APPROPRIATE TIMING
7. BE PERSISTANT WITHOUT BEING DEMANDING

### **FAMOUS FAMILY QUOTES**

1. Authority without wisdom is like a heavy ax without an edge, fitter to bruise than polish.
2. The best way to teach character is to have it around the house.
3. My mother said to me, "If you become a soldier you'll be a general; if you become a monk you'll end up as the pope." Instead, I became a painter and wound up as a Picasso. Pablo Picasso

4. The family you come from isn't as important as the family you're going to have.  
Ring Lardner

5. To bring up a child in the way he should go; travel that way yourself once in a while. Josh Billings

6. In truth, most of what we think, feel, say, and do is in response to the home where we grew up.

7. The family is a classroom where we learn the skills that will one day enable us to live on the outside.

8. Every dad is the family role model, whether he wants to be or not. Dennis Rainey

9. The child that never learns to obey his parents in the home will not obey God or man out of the home. Susanne Wesley

10. I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life. Abraham Lincoln

11. If you want your child to accept your values when he reaches teen years, then you must be worthy of his respect during his younger days.  
James Dobson

12. Sometimes you get so far away from your family, you think you're outside its influence forever. Then before you figure out what's happening, it's right there beside you, pulling the strings. Peter Collier

13. You can't do much about your ancestors but you can influence your descendants enormously. Anonymous

14. A little boy, age eight, gave a profound definition of parenthood: "Parents are just baby-sitters for God." Glen Wheeler

15. All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my mother. Abraham Lincoln

16. The greatest thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother. Josh McDowell

17. For many little girls, life with their father is a dress rehearsal for love and marriage. David Jeremiah

18. An Infallible way to make your child miserable is to satisfy all his demands. Henry Home (Lord Kames)

19. The kind of man who thinks that helping with the dishes is beneath him will also think that helping with the baby is beneath him, and then he certainly is not going to be a successful father. Eleanor Roosevelt

20. Confused parents don't know whether they're supposed to be a Thermostat, a Thermometer, or a Sizmograph, so the kids aren't dressed for the weather! (unknown)

21. Never give a child what he cries for, you will teach him to cry. John Wesley

22. You can not give your kids what you want them to have, you can only give them what you've got! Case Treat

### **E.V. HILL SPEAKS AT HIS WIFE'S FUNERAL**

Job 1:21 - The lord giveth and The Lord taketh away.

1. He called his wife "Baby"
2. She came from a well refined family.
3. Her daddy protected and provided for her, so he did the same for his daughter. A "mangy hoodlum" showed up to take his daughter and he sent him away!
4. His wife had a candlelit dinner cause they couldn't afford to pay the light bill.
5. His wife got up to drive the car in the middle of the night to protect him from a bomb threat!

# MARRIAGE & FAMILY SURVEY

**1. What is your definition of a dysfunctional family?**

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**2. What is the biggest problem between me and my spouse?**

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**3. What do they need to do different?**

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**4. What do I need to do different?**

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**5. What do I like most about my family life?**

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**6. What do I like most about my spouse?**

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## MAJOR NEEDS OF A COUPLE

HUSBAND:

ON SCALE 1-10

1. SEXUAL FULFILLMENT \_\_\_\_\_

2. RECREATIONAL COMPANIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

3. ATTRACTIVE SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

4. DOMESTIC SUPPORT \_\_\_\_\_

5. ADMIRATION \_\_\_\_\_

WIFE:

1. AFFECTION \_\_\_\_\_
2. CONVERSATION \_\_\_\_\_
3. HONESTY AND OPENNESS \_\_\_\_\_
4. FINANCIAL SECURITY \_\_\_\_\_
5. COMMITMENT TO THE FAMILY \_\_\_\_\_

BOTH:

1. PRIVATE TIME TOGETHER (DATES) \_\_\_\_\_
2. SHARED INTERESTS (HOBBIES) \_\_\_\_\_
3. MUTUAL GOALS, FUTURE PLANS \_\_\_\_\_

### **Main Causes of Marital Problems**

*Bill Gothard*

1. Putting your spouse second to other things,, Preoccupied with people, possessions, activities; Eph. 5:25
2. Lack of spiritual leadership; Eph. 5:23
3. Inadequate preparation for changes; I Peter 3:7
4. Unfavorable comparisons; II Cor. 10:12
5. Lack of inner discipline; Proverbs 5:15-23, 15:1
6. Failure to recognize the "Little" attempts of pleasing you; Pro. 31:28-31
7. Attempts to correct in public; I Peter 3:7
8. Rejection of her opinion; Matt 27:19
9. In consistent in discipline; Prov. 31:28

10. Unwilling to ask forgiveness; Luke 18:14,  
1 Tim. 1:18,19

## MARRIAGE PREPERATION QUESTIONNAIRE

### **Getting to Know each other:**

1. What first attracted me to my partner?
2. What character traits stand out the most in my partner?
3. What am I hoping will change in my partner after marriage?
4. What manners or habits do they have that annoys me?
5. Is there anything in the past, present, or future that seems to be secret or undisclosed?
6. What are my strongest points?
7. What are my weak points?
8. Why do I think I am ready for marriage?
9. Why do I think my partner is ready?
10. What has been my history of making and keeping commitments?

### **Family background:**

1. Describe your Fathers character traits.
2. Describe your Mothers character traits.
3. Describe your relationship with your brothers and sisters.

4. What have you learned most from your family?
5. What will be different in your new family?

Responsibilities:

1. Who will be responsible for...
  - a. Income / budgeting
  - b. Housework / chores
  - c. Children / care / discipline

Describe the Husbands role in 25 words or less.

Describe the Wives role in 25 word or less.

### **QUIZ FOR EVERY MARRIED COUPLE**

1. Do I nit-pick? Do I find fault in what my mate wears, says, or does? How often
2. Do I take the time to encourage my mate?
3. Do we talk things out? Have we sat a time "just for us"?
4. When was the last time we took a weekend away from the children?
5. When was the last time I gave my mate a compliment?
6. When was the last time I gave my mate a special present for absolutely no particular reason except to say "I love you"?
7. Speaking of "I love you," when was the last time I said those three little wonderful word to my mate?
8. What is the one thing I know my mate



would love to have me do? Am I planning to do it this week?

9. Do we worship together? Is our church relevant to our lives?
10. Do I take the time to find out what my mate is really interested in? Do I take the time to understand the "ins and outs" of his or her favorite pastime or activity?
11. When was the last time I "kidnapped" my mate from the office (or maybe from the ironing board) and went on an overnight?
12. When was the last time I came home early from work to take care of little Buford or Festus and let my mate go window shopping or run some errands?
13. When was the last time i said, "I am sorry. I was wrong. Will you forgive me?"

**WHO AM I? WHAT DO I THINK?**

1. I think my family is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. My father is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. My mother is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. My brothers and sisters are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. My friends are \_\_\_\_\_

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6. I have learned from my family that

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7. My friends are supposed to \_\_\_\_\_

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8. When things go wrong I often \_\_\_\_\_

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9. Parents should

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10. Sometimes I worry about \_\_\_\_\_

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11. I feel good when \_\_\_\_\_

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12. I get mad when \_\_\_\_\_

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**CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS: WHAT DO OUR KIDS LEARN AT HOME?**

A. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength"( Mark 12:30, NIV )

1. Is your child learning the love of God through your mercy? love, tenderness and
2. Is he learning to talk about the Lord and to include plans? Him in his thoughts and
3. Is he learning to turn to Jesus for help when he is anxious or lonely? frightened or
4. Is he learning to read the bible?
5. Is he learning to pray?
6. Is he learning the meaning of faith and trust?
7. Is he learning the joy of the Christian way of life?
8. Is he learning the beauty of Jesus' birth and death/

B. "Love your neighbor as yourself" ( Mark 12:31 )

1. Is he learning to understand and empathize with the feelings of others?
2. Is he learning not to be selfish and demanding?
3. Is he learning to share?
4. Is he learning not to gossip and criticize others?
5. Is he learning to accept himself?

C. "Teach me to do your will, for you are my God"  
( Psalm 143:10 )

1. Is he learning to obey his parents as preparation for later obedience to God?
2. Is he learning to behave properly in church - God's house?
3. Is he learning a healthy appreciation for both aspects of God's nature: love and justice?
4. Is he learning that there are many forms of benevolent authority outside himself to which he must submit?
5. Is he learning the meaning of sin and its inevitable consequences?

D. "Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man" ( Ecclesiastes 12:13 )

1. Is he learning to be truthful and honest?
2. Is he learning to keep the Sabbath day holy?
3. Is he learning the relative insignificance of materialism?
4. Is he learning the meaning of Christian family and the faithfulness to it which God intends?
5. Is he learning to follow the dictates of his own conscience?

E. "But the fruit of the Spirit is... self control"  
( Galatians 5:22, 23 )

1. Is he learning to give a portion of his allowance ( and other money ) to God?
2. Is he learning to control his impulses?
3. Is he learning to work and carry responsibility?
4. Is he learning to tolerate minor frustration?
5. Is he learning to memorize and quote Scripture?

F. "He who humbles himself will be exalted"  
( Luke 14:11 ).

1. Is he learning a sense of appreciation?
2. Is he learning to thank God for the good things?
3. Is he learning to forgive and forget?
4. Is he learning the vast difference between self-worth and egotistical pride?
5. Is he learning to bow in reverence before e God of the universe

PR 3:11 My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

PR 13:24 He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.

PR 22:15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him.

PR 29:15 The rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a child left to himself disgraces his mother... Discipline your son, and he will give you peace; he will bring delight to your soul.

PR 22:6 Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

COL 3:21 Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

EPH 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

HEB 12[5] And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? [8] If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. [9] Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! [10] Our fathers disciplined us

**Beating and Spanking are not even closely related! Punishment should never be done in anger!**

### **Discipline For Children by James Dobson**

Discipline is different than punishment. Discipline is learning. Punishment comes later Discipline starts at birth. The parent needs to be in control. The child will test a parent so the parent needs to be prepared for it. It is the responsibility of the parent to define the, limits for the child and understand the nature of the child. It is the responsibility of the child to yield to the parents authority.

Here are some steps to follow:

- 1. Define the boundaries**
- 2. When you are defiantly challenged, respond with confident decisiveness**

3. Distinguish between willful defiance and childish irresponsibility.
4. Reassure and teach after the confrontation is over.
5. Avoid impossible demands.
6. Let love be your guide.

Respect. Everyone needs to respect everyone.

### WHY DO I NEED A SPIRITUAL FAMILY?

#### 1. Care -

Sometimes my natural family is lacking  
and God makes up the lack...  
Peter do you love me? Feed my sheep

Gal. 4:5,6 - To redeem them that were under the law, that we receive the adoption of sons, and because we are sons, God has sent forth his spirit into your hearts, crying Abba, Father.

We get our needs met for love, acceptance, identity, forgiveness and a sense of belonging.

1 Cor. 12:25 - there should be no "schism" in the body;  
but that the members should have the same care, one for another. (a schism is an offense, division, or discord)

#### 2. Instruction -

Imparting knowledge, sharing information, giving direction for a certain procedure:

Paul said... "follow me as I follow Christ"  
he himself learned for 3 years in the desert before going into the ministry. He studied under Gamaliel.

#### 3. Establish order,

or it is called "DYSFUNCTIONAL"

A. A husband is to be the head, the wife in submission, and the children obedient... or chaos is inevitable!

B. A church must also have proper order by recognizing spiritual authority in Dept. heads, teachers and leaders.  
unfortunately many churches are disfunctional because they have adopted a democracy, where the popular vote rules...

1 Samuel 2:12 - Eli's sons were wicked men; they had no regard for the Lord.  
vs.17 - The sin of the young men was very great in the Lord's sight...  
(read vs 22.... through 36)

1 Tim. 3:5 - For if a man knows NOT how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?

#### **4. The Church reflects God's relationship w/His Children**

We all have an immediate family, an extended family, and sometimes family reunions or adopted families.

We are all "**BORN**" into a family...  
John 3:3 - unless a man is Born again, he can not enter the Kingdom of God. How...

- A. Of the Spirit - he will lead you to get saved and to find a church home.  
"as many as are lead by the spirit, they are the sons of God"
- B. Of water - John baptism of water for the remission of sins... as an EVIDENCE

Have you ever been to a family reunion and listen to people gossip

about who so and so married???

Well now they're in OUR family!!!

Haven't you heard... blah, blah, blah... yada, yada, yada

If God thinks you're good enough for His family. who are we to judge?

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### **BECOMING BEST FRIENDS WITH YOUR FAMILY**

#### **HAPPY FAMILIES HAVE....**

1. GREAT APPRECIATION OF EACH OTHER
2. MUCH TIME TOGETHER
3. GOOD COMMUNICATION HABITS
4. A COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER
5. THE ABILITY TO DEAL WITH CRISIS IN A POSITIVE MANNER
6. SHARE IN BONDING EXPERIENCES

#### **GETTING FREE FROM NEGATIVE EMOTIONS**

(ANGER, HURT FEELINGS, LONELINESS, WORRY, FEAR...)

1. DETERMINE YOUR SOURCE OF HAPPINESS
  - A. MATERIAL THINGS
  - B. OTHER PEOPLE
  - C. SPECIAL EVENTS
2. OVERCOME NEGATIVITY
3. RECOGNISE EMOTIONS, LOOK FOR A POSITIVE OUTCOME
  - A. GREATER SENSITIVITY
  - B. EMPATHY FOR OTHERS
  - C. MORE TOLERANCE
  - D. LESS JUDGEMENT

#### **PROFILE OF A PERSON WHO FIGHTS AGAINST IMPROVEMENT AND CHANGE**

1. THEY JUMP ON YOUR FAULTS AND FIGHT OFF ANY CORRECTION. EVEN IF THEIR FAULTS ARE CLEAR TO EVERYONE ELSE.
2. CONDESENDING AND CONVINCING THAT "ITS ALL YOUR FAULT"
3. COVERS UP A COMBINATION OF EMOTIONS: FEAR, ANGER, LONELINESS
4. FAILS TO DISPLAY EMPATHY, BUT EXPECTS IT FROM YOU
5. IGNORES LEGITIMATE BOUNDARIES OF YOUR TIME AND OBLIGATIONS

**Marshall Billingslea**