

Thus Saith The Lord

Hearken

- Listen
Attentively
- Hear Intelligently
- Walk Obediently



Marriage and Family

Basic Building Block of society.

In the beginning, God created Adam,
A man alone.

God looked at him and said,

“This ain’t good.”

“He needs help.”

God created a woman to be his help.

Suitable for him.

Thus began marriage.

Mark 10:7-9 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Satan and sin destroys close to a million families
in the United States -- every year.

This evil is as prevalent in the church,
as it is in the world.

The total numbers of U.S. divorces (excluding the non-counting states) reported finalized annually are 957,200 in 2000, 944,317 in 1999, and 947,384 in 1998.

<http://www.divorcereform.org/rates.html#anchor1135809>

What can be done?

We can't fix the whole world,

But, with **God's help**,

We can each fix himself or herself.

Sin is to blame for it all.

Me first

Child's attitude

Men need to be

men;

Men of God.

Marriage is the time to quit being little boys;

Playing with your buddies and your toys.

Accept Responsibility.

Women need to be women.

**Mature and Stable
in temperament.**

Keeping their homes

Self-disciplined and training their children.

Submissive unto God, and a genuine help
unto her husband.

Husbands and wives need to allow God to take out
of us every trace of selfishness:

Each wanting his own way;

Wanting to make **self** look bigger.

Repent

Of all fussing and cussing

Whining

Learn a mature and godly love.

Mature men and women know that **Love serves.**

Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Too many people reject a
happy marriage opportunity,
looking for romance; eros.

Real Love is a choice.

A successful marriage will have a balance
of Eros, Phileo, and Agape.

Three types of sin = Three destroyers of family.

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

Lust of the flesh -- Obsession with pleasure:

adultery, pornography, drugs, alcohol

Lust of the eyes -- Materialism; big old wanter.

The Pride of life -- Look and feel important.

Power Struggles

Things married couples fight about:



Not enough money

How to spend money

Who is in control?

Problem: Sin.

Lust of the flesh.

Lust of the eyes

Pride of life.



1 Tim. 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

It is a godly **man's great joy** to provide for his family.

No **real man** will ever complain about the need.

**Find a job, do it well, and
bring the money home.**

“Marriage isn’t a word -- it’s a sentence.”

Some man who loved himself more than he loved his wife and children said that.

He really enjoyed working just enough to get what he wanted.

He liked getting what he wanted.

Bible say? Love seeketh not her own:

Will, Way, Pleasure



Husband earns and
provides

And a wife needs to be
careful with that
provision.

CONTENT NOT DEMANDING

Godliness with contentment is great gain.

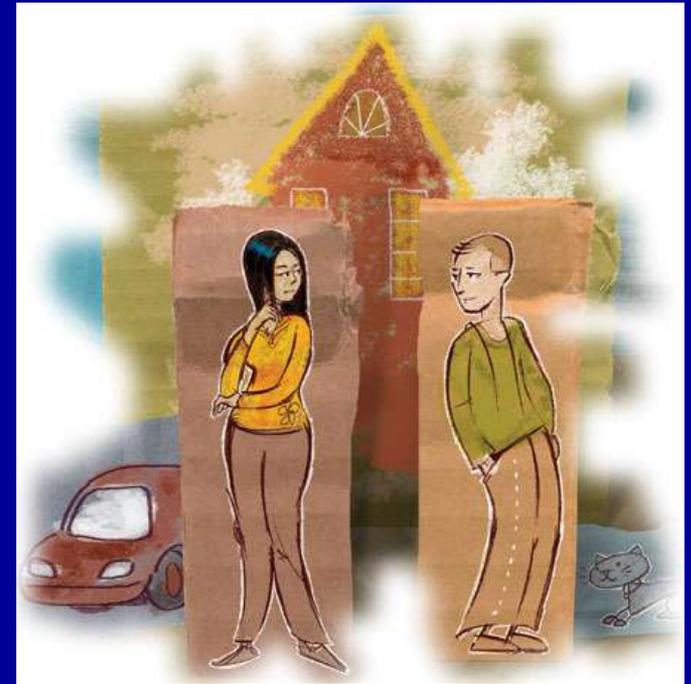
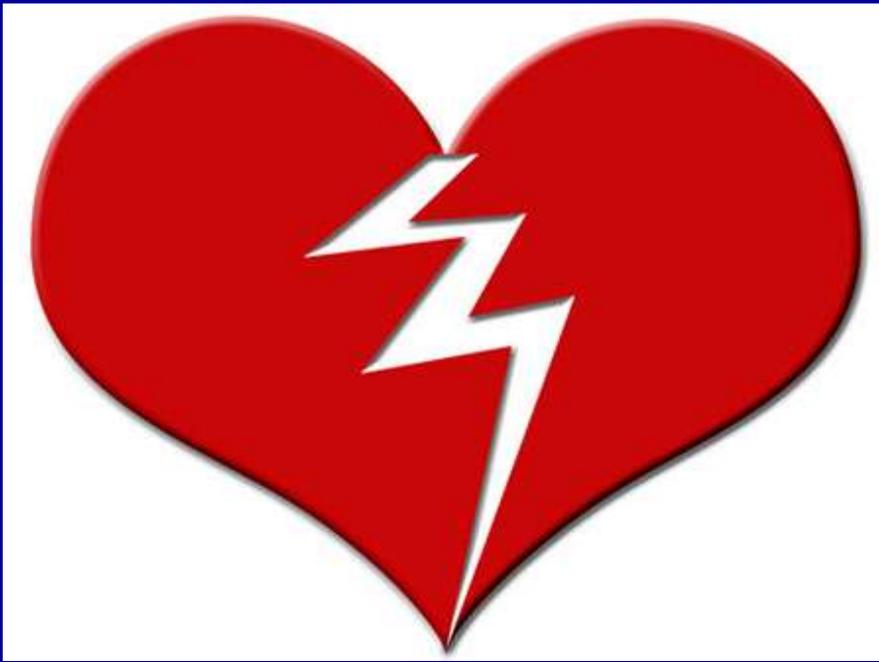
1 Timothy 6:6

1 Tim. 6:8 And having food and raiment (*clothes*)
let us be therewith content.

Hebrews 13:5 Let your conversation (*way of life*)
be without covetousness; and be content with such
things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never
leave thee, nor forsake thee.

If you cull this, cull John 3:16 too.

If this won't do to live by, the other won't do to
die by.



Marriage is not meant to be fifty-fifty.

For marriage to be right, each member of the family has to give 100% to the family.

Men must become men -- godly men.

Not control freaks, but themselves out of control.

Men of temperance and godliness,

The spiritual leaders in their homes.

Earning a living and bringing it home.

**Strong enough to be
gentle men.**

Women must be mature, godly women.

Loving and respecting their husbands.

Keeping their homes.

Caring for their children.

Not seeking her own way, will, or benefit.

Seeking to bless her family.

Closing Thoughts:

I can't change anybody but me.

It is a sin for me to depend on any other person for **my happiness.**

**God is the Source of happiness
seek Him.**

Joy is the fruit of God's Holy Spirit.

His Spirit lives within me.

Submit to Him.