

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 111

The Kids Aren't Alright
As God Intended
(The Family)



2018

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



LESSON

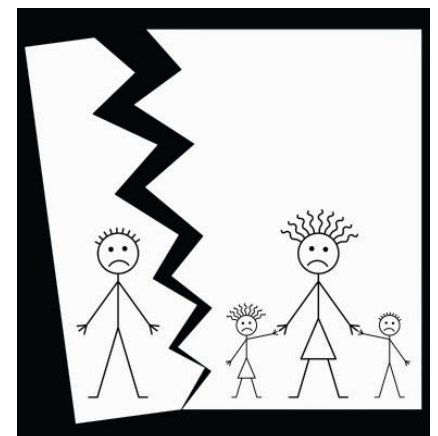
Hi Kids. In our last two lessons we have been learning about wisdom as taught in the Bible. We learned about wisdom, the good kind and the bad kind, and we've touched a little bit on how to use our God given wisdom in areas of our daily life.



Now let's ask the Lord in prayer for help on how to MASTER or be really good at living daily in His wisdom. Let's also ask Him how to know the right thing to do and then for the guidance from the Holy Spirit to do it.

So we have been seeking out wisdom from the book of [Proverbs](#) on these matters because the book of the [Proverbs](#) is a "how-to-do-it" book...that is how to make the right choices and take the right actions in our daily lives that is pleasing to God.

An especially important area of daily living that we certainly need wisdom in these days is the family and family life. Listen kids, this is an area of our lives that the devil attacks daily! Yes, he hates God's very important foundation of the family! He hates God's very important foundation of marriage as well. So he attacks and attacks the very center of God's plan for human beings. He wants to tear it apart...destroy it.



You must realize that this is the cause that has made marriage and the family in serious crisis today...BIG trouble.



Yes we're going to take an honest look at what is going on in each area of daily living and we will begin today with the family and the many ways the family is being attacked in the United States today, which is being led by the devil and the world he controls.

Here are some of the many problems facing families today: fatherlessness; no respect for authority and in particular...the parents; putting down the importance of the roles of the husband and the father; feminism by placing the female role in the family as more important the male role and supporting rebelliousness in the woman/wife; both parents working full time jobs while children are young; homosexual marriage; rules from our government that discourage marriage and encourage single women to have kids; activities that make it impossible for the family to even spend a meal together; activities that make it difficult for a family member to be at church services; the glorification and depictions of dysfunctional families; rebellious children glorified; rebellious wives glorified; and pressure to divorce for other reasons than those reasons that are taught in the Bible.

There has been an explosion in the number of children living in single parent households which include all races. So the Biblical family is in crisis in America today and it's been going on for a very long, long time.



So let's talk about it. Let's talk about fatherlessness first. Nobody would even think about driving a car that was missing two tires, right? No airline would let their pilots fly a plane that was missing half of its navigational equipment, now, would they?





Yet that is pretty much what we are asking kids to do in their daily lives more and more!! A child needs a loving father and a loving mother to find the way through life without major unrest.

We've been fooled into thinking from this corrupt demonic world that the broken up family is okay!!! IT IS NOT OKAY, kids!!! It's NEVER OKAY.

Yes things happen: parents can die; they can split up and it's tragic, but it happens. But what we don't get is the "oh well" attitude we find in our communities today. Oh Well, they'll be all right. Oh well, plenty of kids today are raised by one parent. Oh well, two mommies is the same thing pretty much as a mommy and a daddy. NO, NO, NO and NO!



Why is being able to use birth control considered a right in this country, but having a father and a mother is considered as unnecessary? This is outrageous!!! Actually it is demonic...the scheme to destroy God's plan for marriage and the family.

Really, many people seem to think it's more of a problem that a child is missing a tooth than that he is missing his father!



The social leaders in our communities do not see a child without a father as a problem! That's how anti-caring mankind has become from the influence by the devil and his campaign to go against EVERYTHING God has made for us and wanted us to live by.



God our Father,
Thank You for everything,
for the grace, for the guidance,
for taking care of us and for Your
never-ending love.

GOD DOES CARE! Ex 22:22-24 "You shall not upset any widow or orphan. (23) If you upset him at all, and if he does cry out to Me, I will surely hear his cry; (24) and my anger will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless." Boy sounds like God means business! Oh by the way, when God uses the word "orphan" He means a child who has lost his father! Lam 5:3 "We have become orphans without a father, our mothers are like widows." In Hebrew the word means "fatherless" and in fact that is a better English use for the

word.

God carries out justice for the orphan. He provides for their basic needs. You can see it here in [Deut 10:17-18](#). "For the Lord your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality nor takes a bribe. (18) He hands out justice for the orphan and the widow, and shows His love for the alien by giving him food and clothing (and all his needs)."

Our God is known as the "Father of the fatherless". [Psalm 68:5](#) "A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows, is God in His holy habitation."

God tells His people to look after the widows and the orphans. [Isa 1:17](#) "Learn to do good; seek justice, scold the ruthless, defend the orphan, plead for the widow."

[James 1:27](#) "Pure and unsoiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world."



We used the pilot example a little earlier in the lesson on purpose to bring out a point. Bad things happen. A pilot will be flying a plane and his navigational equipment could fail. However, there is a BIG difference between that and INTENTIONALLY putting people in a bad situation or acting like it's no big deal when people are in a bad situation.

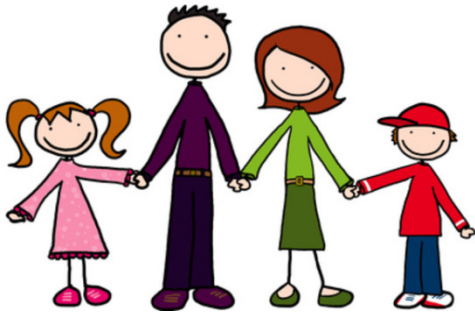
The worldly solutions that mankind counts on these days are NOT working and NEVER will. ONLY God's solutions work and they are ALL found in the Bible, God's Holy Word.

Before we go any further, let's be very careful not to fall into fear or blame. We know from studying God's Word who is to blame for the evil in this world...the devil. Our struggle is NOT against flesh and blood but...[Eph 6:12](#) "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the **rulers**, against the **powers**, against the **world forces of this darkness**, against the **spiritual forces of wickedness** in the heavenly *places (universe)*." It's the devil and his demonic forces that cause the chaos! The Bible tells us so! Don't forget it.



SATAN

So kids, there's no need to fear because the perfect love of our Father throws out fear. 1 John 4:18 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love throws out fear..."



with married couples with children!

Now let's look at some shocking numbers about the family in America: In 1970, 40 percent of American households consisted of married couples with children. Today that number is down to just 19% of homes



In 1970, according to the census bureau, 85.2% of American children were living with two parents. Today, only 63% are living with two married parents, which means 37% aren't. The kids are not alright.

The proportion of children raised in single-parent homes has risen from 5 percent in 1960 to about 30 percent now! That is insane!

If you were in a class of 20 students in 1970, on average 3 of them did not live with their two parents. BUT TODAY 7 out of the 20 are not living with their two parents! This is just shocking.

If you went to a camp with 100 children in 1970, 15 would not be living with their two parents. If you were to run that camp today, the number would be 37 out of 100.



In 1970 only 7 percent of children were living with unmarried mothers. Today it's 48 percent!!! In fact, half the children born to women under 30 years old in America today are born to mothers who are not married.

So what's the big deal? Here's the big deal: the research is in, and the kids are NOT alright. Kids raised by single moms do not do as well as kids raised by their own married parents. Children in single-parent families are far more likely to live in poverty, for one thing and nearly half of the children living with a single mother – 45 percent – live below the poverty line. Let that sink in, kids.

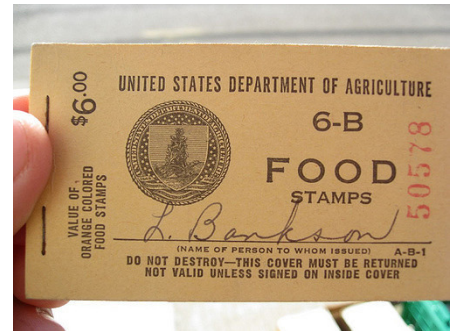




Only 13% of children living with both parents live below the poverty line in America. That is a BIG difference.

Here's another shocker! It is not surprising to learn, then, that almost 65%

of American children under 17 live in a household that receives aid from one or more Federal programs like food stamps or welfare.



But poverty isn't the only problem for the kids.



Consider two other very serious social problems: teenage girls having babies and the young males going to prison.

Research done at Princeton University found that 65 percent of boys were drastically more likely to end up in jail or prison by the time they turn 30 if they are raised by a single mother compared with boys raised in a home with two married parents.

Also there's research on young men that suggests that they are less likely to get involved in criminal behavior when they have the affection, attention, and monitoring by their own mother and father.



But daughters need their dads also. Research done by the University of Arizona found that about 33 percent of girls whose fathers left home before they turned 6 ended up having babies as teenagers, compared with just 5 percent of girls whose fathers were there throughout their childhood.

This is not to say that ALL children who grow up without a father end up having babies as teenagers before 20 or go in jail. Most do not. But fathers are vital to the well-being of children.



It turns out that children born to parents who live together but aren't married have poorer health and fewer skills than those born to a married couple. The reason for that is the majority of couples that live together break up and don't stay together. In fact, 66% of unmarried parents living together will have split up before the child reaches the age of 12 (compared to 25% of married parents).

One bright spot in the research is this: children who end up in a single parent family as the result of the death of one parent do not have the same poor outcomes as children raised by single parents who get divorced or who are not married.

Sorry about all the numbers and percentages but all of these facts prove that we need the wisdom of our Lord concerning the family.

It's no accident that the great Old Testament book of practical wisdom for daily life was written by a father (Solomon) to his sons. Here's an example. [Prov 4:1-5](#) "Hear, O sons, the instruction of a father, and give attention that you may gain understanding, (2) For I give you sound teaching; do not ignore my instruction. (3) When I was a son to my father, tender and the only son in the sight of my mother, (4) then he taught me and said to me, 'Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments and live (well); (5) acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth.'"



This is why the father and the mother are shown as the center of the well-being of the children. [Prov 6:20-21](#) "My son, observe the commandment of your father and do not forsake the teaching of your mother; (21) Bind them continually on your heart; tie them around your neck."

This helps to explain why the Lord tells the Christian husband not to divorce his wife. [1 Cor 7:10-11](#) "But to the married I give instructions, not I, but

the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband (11) (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.”

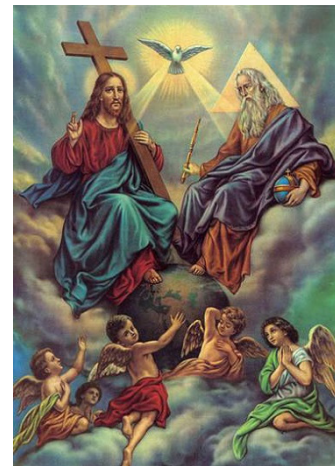
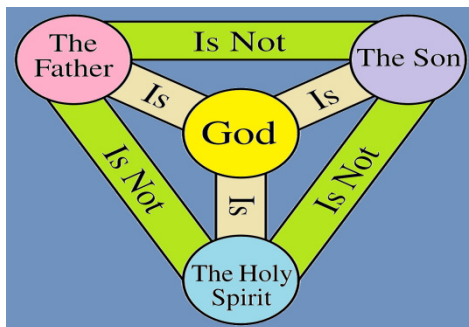


The Lord gave the human race a precious gift when He gave us the foundation of the family. He must be very sad when He sees people who don't understand this.

So let's leave this lesson with this: did you know that the family...with marriage, with the father and the son, with authority and roles, and obedience...is patterned after the relationships that exist within

the Trinity in heaven? Yes, it is!

What a precious gift we have that is a pattern of the heavenly family here on earth. It is a gift meant for all people. The Father provides for all people and He sends the rains on the evil and the good. He wants all people to be saved by His Son, Jesus Christ.



Close in prayer.

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Lighthouse Bible Church
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