

The Light - Junior Series

Lesson 114

The Family is a Precious Gift from God



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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. Just 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 is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



LESSON

In our series on practical wisdom, we have been looking at different areas of our daily life and asking the Lord for wisdom about how to master the art of daily living. We have been learning this from the book of Proverbs.

Let's now look at what the Bible has to say about the family. All of us could use more wisdom when it comes to family life these days.

In His perfect design for mankind, God planned for the family to be right up there on the top along with marriage. The family is one of the four institutions or foundations that God has designed for mankind. It is extremely important.



Here's a list of the four institutions or foundations of God's master design:

Volition or **free will** – freedom for the individual to make choices in life. It's your "decider."

Marriage – a union between one man and one woman.

Family – children born and raised by father and mother in the union.

Nations – individual countries established by God for the protection of the family unit.



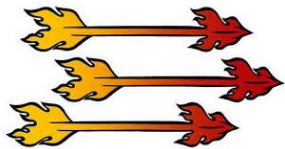
Do you see how important the family is? God established nations to protect it. Why, you ask? Because mankind is born with a sin nature that is inherited from Adam after he sinned in the Garden and passed it down to each human being born into the world. It is passed down by the father (only) of every human being.

The sin nature is totally hostile to God and goes against everything that God stands for or establishes. Why? Because the god of this world, Satan, is God's ENEMY and he tries everything to get mankind to rebel against God.

Our sin natures live in our flesh and automatically rebel against God but with Satan trying to influence us from the outside as well, it's a double whammy!!! Remember, he was the one who got Adam and Eve to sin in the Garden. Satan hates God. They are ARCH enemies and when Adam chose to sin along with Eve, Satan took over ruling the world from Adam.



SATAN



So, you can say, kids, that the Biblical family is under attack from Satan and is in crisis these days not only in America where it is very bad already, but all over the world.

We looked at one major attack in recent lesson and that is families without fathers. We saw the facts about how bad the problem has become in America, and the damage that a family without a father causes on our children and our community.

And we saw what the Bible has to say about the families without fathers especially the orphan (children without either parents). But kids, whatever your family situation is, God is your perfect Father in heaven. He watches over you and provides for you."



Now all of these facts prove what the Word (Bible) of our Lord concerning the family has to say. It's no accident that the great Old Testament book of **Proverbs**, practical wisdom for daily life, was written by a father to his sons. That father is Solomon, King David's son who wrote in **Prov 4:1-5**. "Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. (2) I give you sound learning, so do not reject my teaching. (3) For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and loved by my mother. (4) Then he taught me, and he said to me, '**Take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands,**



and you will live. (5) Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them.”

It is why the father AND the mother are shown as so important to the well-being of the children. Prov 6:20-21. “My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. (21) Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck.”



It helps to explain why the Lord tells the Christian husband not to divorce his wife. 1 Cor 7:10-11. “To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): a wife must not separate (divorce) from her husband. (11) But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled (get back together) to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.”

The Lord gave the human race a precious the institution or foundation of the family.



gift when He gave us

He must be so sad when He sees people that don't understand any of this. The reason they don't understand it, is that they do not know God's Word.



Let's remember this great gift today and keep it close to our hearts, okay? Let's do it by walking through the Bible. We will see the gift first given to us in the book of Genesis. We will see in future lessons the gift honored and held up in the Ten Commandments. We will see the gift used to bring about God's amazing plan for saving the human race and we will see the gift in the Christian way of life.

Now let's first look at the Trinity. You remember what that is right, kids? Yes, of course you do. It is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. They are the PERFECT family because they are GOD!

Our family relationships extend out to us through Christ by marriage, brothers and sisters, with authority, and obedience just to name some. The family is patterned after the relationships that exist in the Trinity.



What a precious gift God gave us in the family. The family is the core foundation for living life here on earth. It is a gift meant for all people. The family is a gift that was given to the human race BEFORE the human race sinned in the Garden. Gen 1:26-28 "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' (27) God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (28) God blessed them; and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and control it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'" Be fruitful and multiply. God said this after He blessed the male (husband) and female (wife). This is pointing to having children. Lots of them!

Look at how God thought of EVERYTHING for the union of marriage for mankind!!! Gen 2:18-25 "Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.' (19) Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. (20) The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him. (21) So, the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then the Lord took one of Adam's ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. (22) The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man (Adam), and brought her (Eve) to the man (Adam). (23) The man said, 'This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman because she was taken out of Man.' (24) For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. (25) And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed." You can see, kids, what a precious gift God gave us in the family. God made partners for all the animals. Then He made a partner or helper for Adam, too. He even made her out of one of Adam's ribs!!! So that makes her part of Adam. They are a team. So, through the ages of time, when a man and a woman get married, they are part of each other just like Adam and Eve. God sees husband and wife as one! This is a great gift and mysterious at the same time.





So not too long after this, Adam and Eve sinned and mankind sinned, too, because all of mankind was in Adam when he sinned! Adam and Eve sinned or fell away or broke their relationship with God when Adam disobeyed the LORD God and sinned.

This was terrible because when it happened, immediately sin and death entered into the human race. The effect on the family was really bad...really bad!!! Some results of this were awful: the husband, Adam, and the wife, Eve, were fighting and blaming one another. Then God purposely removed them out from the perfect Garden of Eden. When their sons were born, one son killed his brother out of jealousy and rage. Adam and Eve and their children no longer had everything given to them free. In the Garden, everything for food and comfort was there for free for them but, they lost it, and after being kicked out of the Garden, they had to work really, really hard to grow their food, find food for their animals, have shelter, and clothing. It was really tough on them. Sin does this to mankind.

As time passed for many, many, many years, things got even worse. To the point that we see what was on God's mind in [Gen 6:5-7](#). "Then the Lord saw that the wickedness (from the sin nature) of man was great on the earth, and that every plan of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. (6) The Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was upset in His heart. (7) The Lord said, 'I will blot out (erase) man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them.'" God had a plan...

So, the Lord sent the great flood which wiped out the entire human race...almost!

Until next time...stay in the Word.

Close in prayer.

