

THE PERFECT



Sanctuary

THE PERFECT

Family

WE ALL KNOW OF FAMILIES THAT
WE THINK OF AS GODLY FAMILIES.



- ❖ Faithful to The Lord
- ❖ Great / Solid Marriage
- ❖ Raise Their Children Well
- ❖ An Example For Others To Follow

COLOSSIANS 3:18-21 (NKJV)

¹⁸ Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them. ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

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THE CURRENT MORAL CRISIS

- ❖ The “FAMILY,” as God designed it, is under attack
- ❖ Radical feminism, LGBT advocates; radical individualism; *significant others, etc.
- ❖ Divorce epidemic, broken homes, disconnected families, abuse, drugs, etc.



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THE CURRENT MORAL CRISIS

Married with Children

From the start of the 20th century through 1950, 80% of households were occupied by married couples and their children.

According to the 2010 census, that percentage fell to 48% with just 20% being married with children.

The Statistical Reality of the Modern Family - <http://ncu.edu/blog/the-statistical-reality-of-the-modern-family>



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THE CURRENT MORAL CRISIS

*(U.S. Bureau of the
Census, 2006)*

About “40% of all US
children are now born
outside of wedlock,
including 25% of caucasian
babies, 46% of Hispanic
babies, and 69% of
African-American babies.”

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THE CURRENT MORAL CRISIS

*(U.S. Bureau of the
Census, 2006)*

The percentage of two-parent families varies by ethnic/cultural group: 87% of Asian children live in two-parent homes; 76% of Caucasians; 70% of Hispanics; and 42% of African American.

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THE CURRENT MORAL CRISIS

- ❖ In 1960, just 13% of married adults were in a second or subsequent marriage - today, close to 25% are (42 million adults). Triple 1960.
- ❖ 40% of marriages are remarriages



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THE CURRENT MORAL CRISIS

*(U.S. Bureau of the
Census, 2008)*

The number of cohabiting couples has increased 800% since the 1960's, when fewer than 500,000 couples were cohabiting. in 2008, 6.8 million couples were cohabiting.

<http://www.smartstepfamilies.com/view/statistics>



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THE CURRENT MORAL CRISIS

- ❖ “Serial transitions in and out of marriage/divorce/cohabitation is now typical of family life in the US but has significant consequences for children” - (Cherlin, 2009). -
- ❖ “The more parental partnerships that children experience, the lower their over-all emotional, psychological, & academic well-being.”



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THE FAMILY / REALITY

- ❖ The first family - Gen 2-4
- ❖ Noah's family - Gen 6,7; 9:1-28
- ❖ Abraham's family - Gen 12-21
- ❖ Isaac's family - Gen 25:20-27:46
- ❖ Jacob's family - Gen 29-42
- ❖ David's family - 2 Sam. 12; 13:1



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THE FAMILY / REALITY

- ❖ Families are comprised of imperfect people - every family has challenges, problems, and dilemmas, that need to be overcome. . . .
- ❖ When God comes first in the heart of every family member - the family will be as God designed it!



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DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9 (NKJV)

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord *is* one!

⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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WHERE GOD IS LOVED SUPREMEPLY - (4,5)



- Everything revolves around God - priorities, focus & loyalty - Mark 12:29-31; Mat 6:19-24
- God is loved supremely - When a family has God at its center - when God is its foundation - When God is in control of what it does.

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WHEN GOD'S WORD TRULY RESIDES IN THE HEART - (6)

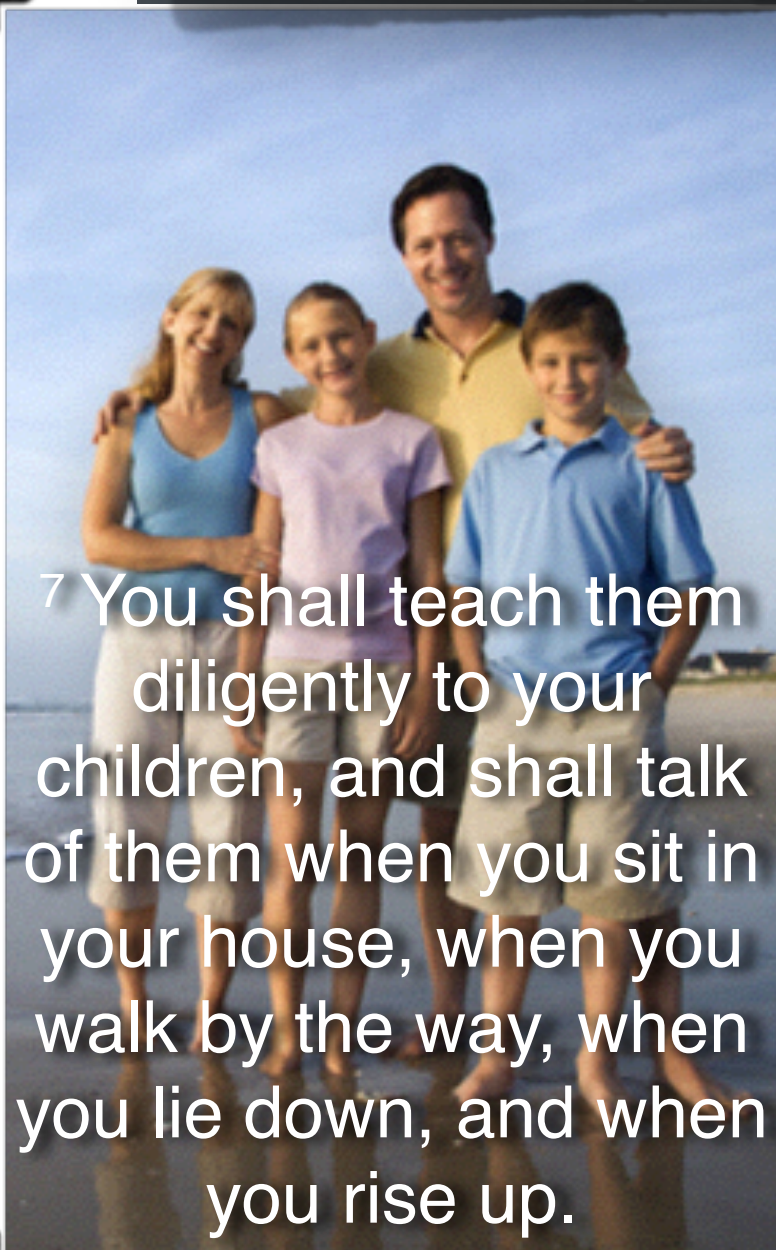
- God's people are to meditate on God's word, to keep it in their hearts.
 - Will keep from sin - Ps 119:11
 - Will preserve - Pr. 2:10,11; 3:1-5
 - Render obedience acceptable - Rom 6:16-18; 1 John 5:3
 - Worship & total submission in word & deed - Col. 3:16,17



⁶ “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

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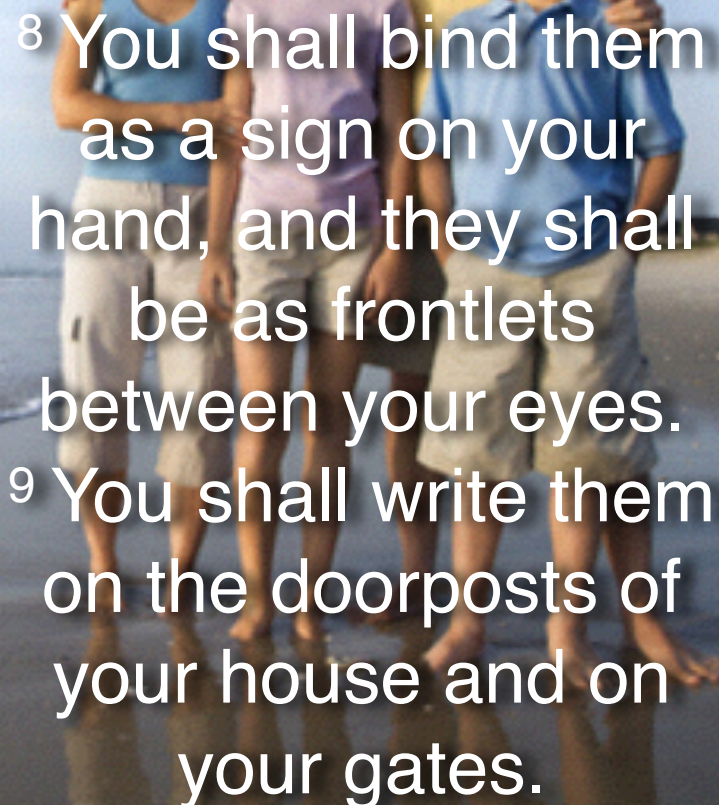
WHERE GOD'S WORD IS TAUGHT DILIGENTLY - (7)



- Where the Bible is taught academically, systematically & consistently - Deut 4:9,10; 11:19;
- The word of God should be constantly discussed and explained
 - In the home
 - While traveling
 - At the end & beginning of each day

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WHERE GOD'S WORD IS LIVED OUT FAITHFULLY - (8)

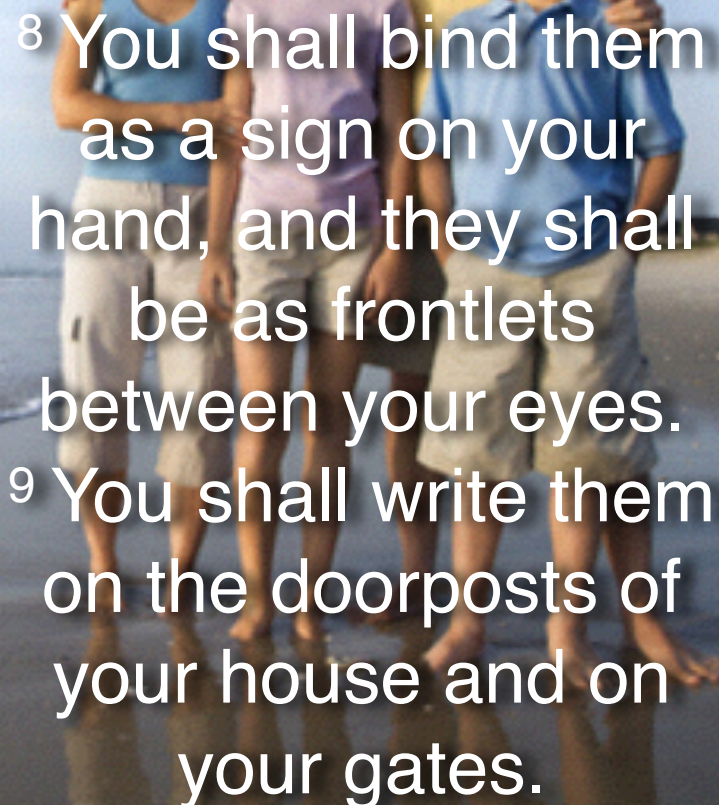


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- “As these words are figurative, and denote an undeviating observance of the divine commands.” (K & D)
 - God’s word **MUST** be practiced constantly & consistently.
 - It is imperative that parents provide godly examples for their children - (attendance / participation in worship / holy living / loving one another / charitable / etc. ...)

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WHERE GOD'S WORD IS LIVED OUT FAITHFULLY - (8)

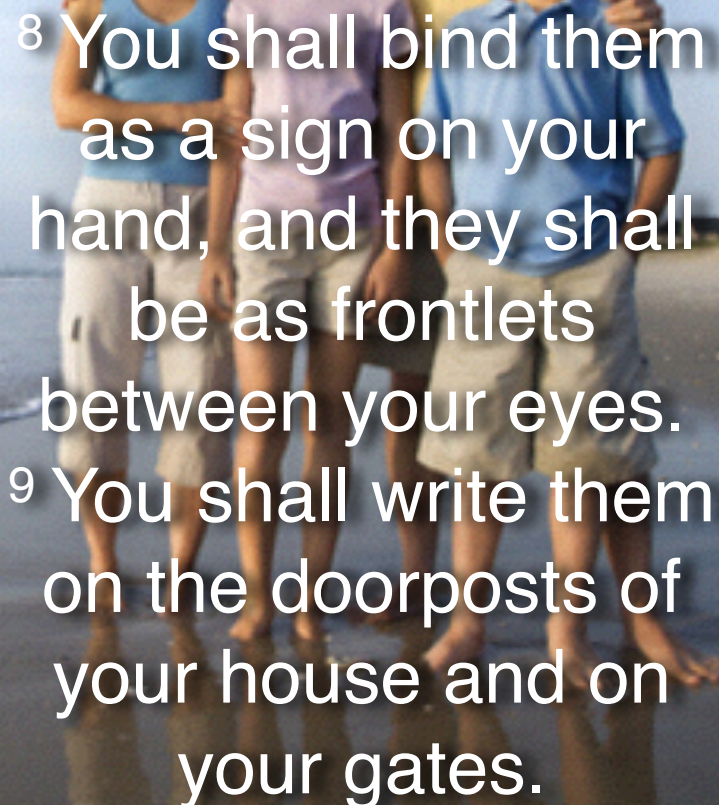


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- Where God's defined roles are fulfilled.
- Husband / Father - Loves, Provides, Leads, & Trains – (Eph 5:25,28; 1 Pet. 3:7; Eph 6:4; 1 Tim. 5:8)
- Wife / Mother - Submits willingly to husband; Guides & keeps the house (Eph 5:22-24; 1 Pet. 3:1-6; Titus 2:4-5; 1 Tim 5:14; Titus 2:5)
- Children - Respect & obey their parents - (Eph. 6:1-4; 2 Tim. 3:1-5)

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WHERE GOD'S WORD IS LIVED OUT FAITHFULLY - (8)



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- Where parents train / discipline their children
 - Train in Way Of Lord - Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:1-4; Deut 6:7
 - Strict / Watchful / Careful - actively involved & protecting - (Prov 29:15,17; 1 Cor. 15:33)
 - Punishing disobedience & rebellion - Prov.13:24; 19:18; 22:15; 23:13-14.

COLOSSIANS 3:18-21 (NKJV)

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- ❖ Families are comprised of imperfect people - with challenges, problems, and dilemmas, that need to be overcome.
- ❖ Let us NEVER be deceived into turning to modern psychology, liberal & godless educators, or Hollywood for guidance & leadership in dealing with family & societal problems!



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- ❖ To properly & successfully address & overcome any problem - we must appeal to God's word & FOLLOW IT!
- ❖ When God comes first in the heart of every family member - the family will be as God designed it!
- ❖ OH, how we NEED GODLY HOMES!



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THE GODLY FAMILY

- ❖ Do we love God with all our heart, soul, mind & strength? - Mark 12:29-32
- ❖ Is God's word IN US - Guiding us, influencing our words & deeds? - Col. 3:16,17
- ❖ Are we the godly examples we ought to be? Phil 1:27
- ❖ Is God your FATHER? - Gal 3:26,27



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w65stchurchofchrist.org/coc/sermons/](http://w65stchurchofchrist.org/coc/sermons/)

DEUTERONOMY 6:1-8 (NKJV)

¹ “Now this is the commandment, and these are the statutes and judgments which the Lord your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe them in the land which you are crossing over to possess, ² that you may fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.

DEUTERONOMY 6:1-8 (NKJV)

³ Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you—‘a land flowing with milk and honey.’ ⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

DEUTERONOMY 6:1-8 (NKJV)

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