

What Is A Family? 什麼一個家庭?

The Family As God Intended It

I. Intro: Everywhere I go, people are concerned about the family. A universal felt need. Family life is changing and everyone is concerned. (High divorce rates/Fatherless children)

II. The Model of the Godhead (Wilma-1988) 神性的模式

Where did you get your view of marriage and family? 你從那裡得到婚姻與家庭的觀點?

A. Goal-Not the 目標不在於“Good old days 以前的好日子”, Jewish 猶太人的, Eastern 東方的, Western 西方的 or Victorian 維多利亞風格的.

What was God's original intention and purpose? 上帝最開始的目的是什麼?

1. We attach biblical to traditional. 我們把聖經附屬到傳統

2. We see the family through our own grid. 我們經由自我的框架來看家庭 We need to evaluate our traditions by the Bible and by the model of the Trinity. 我們需要用聖經與三位一體的模範來評價傳統

B. Attributes-The Character of God 上帝品格的特質

To Answer the question: What is a family? We have to first answer the question:

Who is God? 上帝是誰? He is the creator and designer of family. 祂是家庭的設計與創造者

Not a human institution. 不是由人類所設立的制度

1. Faithful, righteous, covenant keeping, trustworthy, compassionate, gentle.

忠實的 公義的 守約定的 值得信任的 憐憫的 溫和的

2. Unity 聯合 Jn 17:11 One as we are, 像我們合一 10:30 I and the Father are one 我與父原為一 (Diversity 多樣化, oneness 單一性) A relationship model in the Trinity. 三位一體的關係榜樣

3. Respect/honor 尊重/尊崇 Mt 3:17 Beloved son-well pleased

Jn 17:1 ...Son may glorify you.

4. Obedience/Submission 服從/順從 Jn 14:31 Do exactly as Father commands

Jn 15:10 I have obeyed my Father's commands

Jn 6:38 not my own will-will of Him who sent me

Jn 16:13 He will not speak on his own

5. Covenant love 聖約的愛 (Trinity Love 三位一體的愛)

I Jn 4:16 God is Love

Jn 15:9 As the Father has loved me

17:24...you loved me before the creation...

6. Roles 角色 Jn 14:28...Father is greater than I, I Cor 15:24-28 (No self-seeking)

III. The Family As God Created It 家庭依照上帝創造的樣子

*Mt 19:4...at the beginning the Creator made them male & female (Gen 1:27-28, 2:24)

:8...But it was not this way from the beginning

Present practice is not the point of reference, Original intention and purpose

A. Marriage was made up of two people in His image-婚姻是兩個按照祂的形像的人結合的

What were Adam and Eve like? 亞當與夏娃像誰?

Gen 1:27-28

Gal 5:22-23 Love, joy, peace, patience...

Mt 5:3-12 Nature & Character

I Cor 13: Patient, kind not boastful, rude...

Col 1:15 ...image of the invisible God (Jn 14:9 Seen me-seen the Father)

These scriptures give us the model for a husband, wife, son, daughter

- Heb 1:3 Exact representation of his being (I Cor 15:45 1st Adam/Last Adam)
- B. Perfect Male/Female 完全的男性/女性
 Together they reflected something of God/Clothed in God's glory 穿著上帝的榮耀
1. Unity/diversity (A perfect balance of oneness and separateness)
 I Cor 12-One Body/Many parts 許多肢體
 Gen 2:24-25 Shame free/sin free 不受羞辱與罪的控制
 Trinity 3 in 1
2. Sexuality/Intimacy 親密
 Male/female-complimentary, celebration, joy, shame free
 Total commitment/total person/total life
 Commitment based on covenant
3. A sin-free relationship-openness, no alienation, fear, anxiety, guilt, abuse
- C. Blessing of God (His presence was central to their life) Instituted by God
1. Gen 1:31...very good
 2. Ps 133 Unity-life, anointing, fellowship
 3. Communion with the Father/His presence
 4. Authored by God
- D. Purpose/Task/Mission/Destiny
1. Gen 1:28 Dominion, fruitful, multiply, fill the earth with God's Glory, His presence and extend His Kingdom.
 *Family is central to the missions call
 It takes at least two people to demonstrate love, unity, etc.
 The power of a loving family on the mission field
 *The call to procreation, leaving a legacy, passing on a godly heritage
2. Gen 12:1-3 All peoples/families on earth will be blessed through you.
- E. God's Plan was Oneness-Gen. 2:24. The devil's plan-isolate, divide, destroy.
- F. Family was meant to be built around covenant.
- G. Write out a definition of family/marriage 請寫出婚姻或家庭的定義

The Family As Sin Made It (Gen 3)

Introduction

Gen 5:3 Adam...became the father of a son in his own...image (stamp of Adam)
 Ex 20:5...visiting iniquity,...to the third and fourth generation. (Generation impact)
 Rom 5:12...through one man sin entered (the family)

*The dysfunctional family (Fallen family) All families are living below what God intended

*We have a distorted and marred view of family life and God's character. God's image was distorted. Father was distorted.

I. Fear (Rejection, failure, punishment, future, death) Mistrust

Gen 3:10 I was afraid

I Jn 4:18 No fear in love, perfect love casts out fear.

Performance-based relationships. Conditional love leads to fear.

II. Guilt/Shame-A defective/bad person. Shame-based families. Something is wrong with you.

- Gen 3:8 They hid from the Lord
 Gen 3:7 Realized they were naked
 Gen 3:10 Because I was naked, so I hid
 Loss of God's glory
- III. Broken Relationships破裂的關係 (Alienation) Divorce離婚
 Gen 3 Vertical/Horizontal, Loss of eye contact, less than honest
 Walls, barriers, distance, isolation, closing of our spirit. Hostilities敵意.
- IV. Blame指責
 Gen 3:12-13 Each other, God, Devil
 Defensive, pride, never apologize, win every argument.
- V. Pain/sickness痛苦/疾病
 Gen 3:16-17 Multiplied in childbirth, toil
 Woundedness, emotional pain, physical pain, relational pain, broken hearts.
 Family can be the source of our deepest pains.
- VI. Oppression壓迫/Abuse of power and position地位與權力的濫用
 Gen 3:16 Rule over you
 Domination支配, control控制, abuse濫用, intimidation.恐嚇
 Spiritual warfare屬靈爭戰, conflict, enmity between Satan and humans人類與撒旦的不合
- VII. Loss of blessing失去祝福/communion交流/fellowship團契
 Gen 3 Driven from the garden-No longer had daily communion.
 Lack of God's presence缺乏上帝的同在. Alienated, cut off.
- VIII. Death/Murder死亡/謀殺
 Rom. 6:23 Wages of Sin. (Physical death, Spiritual, Darkness)
 Gen 2:17 ...for when you eat of it you will surely die
 Gen 3:19 To dust you will return
 Gen 4:1-12 Cain and Abel Violence/rage.
- IX. Rivalry競爭/Jealousy妒嫉/Envy羨慕/
 Sin breaks up a family
 Strife, family feuds家庭的世仇, selfish ambition, partiality偏心.
 Cain/Abel, Jacob/Esau, Sarah/Hagar, Isaac/Ishmael, Jacob/Laban
- X. Mistrust疑惑/Suspicion
 Mt 10:21-22, 35-36 A man's enemies will be members of his own household
- XI. Drunkenness/Betrayal-Addictions
 Gen 9:20-21 Noah
- XII. Deceit/Manipulation/Lying/Dishonesty/Selfishness
 Gen 12:10-13 Abraham & Sarah
 Gen 27 Jacob/Esau, Gen 29 Jacob/Laban, Gen 39 Joseph/Brothers
- XIII. Incest/Rape/Violence/Abuse/Sexual perversion/Dominance/Control/Lust/Immorality
 Defilement/Bondage/Strongholds/Habits.
 Judges 9 Abimelech kills 70 brothers
 Gen 6 Sons of God/Daughters of men
 Gen 19 Sodom & Gomorrah, Lot & daughters
 Gen 34 Dinah raped (Jacob's daughter)
 Gen 38 Judah/Tamar
- XIV. Divorce/Fragmentation
- XV. Self centeredness is the essence of sin.
 As a result of sin we have a marred view of family. Wrong thinking, attitudes, wounds.

- XVI. God wants to set us free from the pains and distortions of our own model so we can speak into the family life of others. (Joel 2-I will make up the years)
- XVII. Transforming agents: The Character of God, The Word of God, The Spirit of God and the People of God. (Jn 8:31-32 Truth sets us free, Rom 12:2 Transformed mind, I Cor 3:18)

The Family As Grace Restores It

God wants to restore family life

- A. Restored Image (A Christ-like husband, wife, child, mother, father)
- Col 1:15 He is the image
 - Heb 1:3 He is...the exact representation of His nature
 - Eph 2:10...his workmanship
 - Rom 8:29...Conformed to likeness of His son
 - II Cor 5:17 New Creation-old things passed away, behold new things have come
 - Personal holiness, purity, the work of the Cross. Evangelism and Discipleship
- B. Restored Blessing and Life, healing and freedom
- Jn 10:10 Abundant family life
 - Ex 20:6 Showing loving kindness to thousands
 - Joel 2:25 I will make up to you the years...locust have eaten
 - Ps 27:10 Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me
 - A Father to the fatherless. No matter how bad it was God can restore!
 - Deut 28:13 Head & not the tail
 - Rom 5:20 Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more
- C. Restored Unity/Oneness (Gen 2:24, Ps 133-Anointing, life blessing)
- Eph 2:14-18 He himself is our peace, Hostilities removed, walls broken down
 - Reconcile alienated people, "Power of the Cross"
 - Jn 13-34-35 Love one another-A new commandment I give to you
 - Mal 4:6 Turn hearts
 - II Cor 5:18-19 Ministry of Reconciliation (To God and one another)
- D. A dwelling place for the Lord 上帝居住的地方
- II Cor 6:16-18 I will live with them and walk among them and I will be their God...
 - God wants to live in the midst of families
 - Restored fellowship & relationship
- E. Restored Destiny-A sense of purpose and mission
- Leaving a legacy-Ps 78:1-8
 - Josh 24:15 We will serve the Lord
 - The home-a center for prayer, hospitality, worship, discipleship
 - Gen 18:19 Abraham-will direct his children to keep the way of the Lord
 - Mt 24:18-19 Go therefore, Acts 1:8 Witnesses, Jn 15:8 Father glorified by much fruit
 - Families reaching families, Families in Ministry Gen 12 A blessing to the nations.
- F. Restoring God's Plan-Male/Female Roles
- Eph 5:21-33 Husbands/wives, I Peter 3:1-7 (Servant/leader and Loving/helper)
 - Eph 6:1-4 Parents/children-Honor, respect, Jesus and the Father's example.
 - Proverbs-Child raising, Love, nurturing, protection-Training, discipline
 - Deut 6:4 In Life seminar-Passing on the legacy. Arrows sent out.

H. Godly sexuality

Marriage as the protective environment for expressing godly sexuality.

I Thess 4:3-8-God's will

I Cor 7:1-5-Meeting each other's needs

Song of Solomon-delight, Prov 5:15-23-satisfaction Heb 13:5 Undeified

I. Restored Covenant

Mt 19:4-6 Leave, Cleave, Become One, Gen 2:24

Upholding Covenant Love and The Character of God