



# Quieting In-Law Rivalry

## GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sermon for March 8, 2015 by Ray Reynolds

Introduction: We are living in an age when the Christian home is under attack. We are bombarded from every side and it is taking its toll on faithful Christians. We need to put the family first! In this specific lesson we will focus on quieting in-law rivalry. When a couple starts dating, it doesn't take long to see that blending two households is going to be a difficult thing (**Genesis 2:4, Matthew 19:4-8, Mark 10:18**). Somehow two are intended to become one flesh. That is easier said than done. What does the Bible say about this? Are there good Bible examples? Let's study together...

Discussion:

**I. Consider the Affection of Your In-laws (Genesis 31:1-55)**

The story of Laban and Jacob reveals is about deception.

The story of Laban and Jacob reveals is about conflict.

The story of Laban and Jacob reveals is about resolution.

**II. Consider the Counsel of Your In-laws (Exodus 18:1-27 – v.24)**

The story of Jethro and Moses is about frustration.

The story of Jethro and Moses is about guidance.

The story of Jethro and Moses is about delegation.

**III. Consider the Faith of Your In-laws (Ruth 1:16-17)**

The story of Ruth and Naomi is about conviction.

The story of Ruth and Naomi is about suffering.

The story of Ruth and Naomi is about compassion.

**IV. Consider the Suffering of Your In-laws (Matthew 8:14-17)**

The story of Peter and his mother-in-law is about providence.

The story of Peter and his mother-in-law is about healing.

The story of Peter and his mother-in-law is about responsibility.

Conclusion: Praise God for in-laws that help to bring the family together. If there are any conflicts between you and your in-laws resolve them while you still have time. Quiet the rivalry between your families. Start learning to blend your families. We need to build strong Christian homes. Where are you in your Christian walk? Where is your family headed? How are things within your spiritual family? How is your relationship with the Heavenly Father? If you are not living as a faithful and godly family... PLEASE repent and set your house in order. Do you need prayers for any other thing going on in your life? The family of God is here to pray for you!

