

God Loves The Home:
family matters



GULF SHORES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gulf Shores, AL

BIBLE CLASS STUDY GUIDE

Prepared by Ray Reynolds



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LESSON #1 = Why God Matters

Introduction: *In this series we are going to take a close look at the home. We realize that the marriage was the first institution and the family unit is a distinct part of it. What does God expect in the home? What parts of the family are most important? In this lesson we will see why God matters...*

Discussion:

I. God Wants A Holy Covenant With His People

- A. The covenant is a contract with a holy God (**Matthew 5:48**).
- B. The covenant is a commitment to the holy work (**Matthew 6:33**).
- C. The covenant is a compulsion to living a holy life (**Matthew 7:24-27**).

II. God Wants A Holy Covenant With The Family

- A. God has a plan for your spouse (**Genesis 2:18-25**).
- B. God has a plan for your parents (**Exodus 20:12**).
- C. God has a plan for your children (**Proverbs 22:6**).

III. God Wants A Holy Covenant Between Brothers & Sisters

- A. It is good for us to love each other (**John 13:34-35**).
- B. It is good for us to serve each other (**Acts 2:42-45**).
- C. It is good for us to unify with each other (**I Corinthians 1:10**).

IV. God Wants A Holy Covenant On His Terms

- A. He requires honesty and integrity (**Matthew 6:2, 5, 16**).
- B. He requires faithfulness and sacrifice (**Luke 16:10, Acts 2, 4**).
- C. He requires patience and perseverance (**I Corinthians 15:58, Ephesians 4:2**).

Conclusion: *We hope that you will join us for this entire series. We will see that God loves the home. He has a plan for the home and the family. Family matters to God and it should matter to us. How is your home? How is your relationship with God? What can you do to prove to God, and the world, that the family matters to you? May God bless the home!*



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LESSON #2 = Why Marriage Matters

Introduction: *In this series we are going to take a close look at the home. We realize that the marriage was the first institution and the family unit is a distinct part of it. What does God expect in the home? What parts of the family are most important? In this lesson we will see why marriage matters...*

Discussion:

I. Marriage Was Meant For Companionship

- A. Companionship establishes our covenant (**Matthew 19:4, Genesis 1:28**).
- B. Companionship blesses our communication (**Matthew 19:5-6, Ephesians 5:21-33**).
- C. Companionship strengthens our commitment (**Matthew 19:8-9, Genesis 2:24**).

II. Marriage Was Meant For Cooperation

- A. Cooperation with one another (**Matthew 19:3-9, I Peter 3:1-7**).
- B. Cooperation through our emotions (**Romans 8:6-7, I Corinthians 7:5**).
- C. Cooperation with gifts and ministry (**Ephesians 4:11-16, 5:21-6:4**).

III. Marriage Was Meant For Completion

- A. A husband and wife will complete each other physically.
- B. A husband and wife will complete each other psychologically.
- C. A husband and wife will complete each other emotionally.
- D. A husband and wife will complete each other sexually.
- E. A husband and wife will complete each other conversationally.
- F. A husband and wife will complete each other relationally.
- G. A husband and wife will complete each other spiritually.

IV. Marriage Was Meant For Consecration

- A. Consecration means undefiled (**Genesis 2:18, 25, Hebrews 13:4**).
- B. Consecration means unique (**Genesis 2:23, I Corinthians 7:2**).
- C. Consecration means unwavering (**Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:3-9**).

Conclusion: *We hope that you will join us for this entire series. We will see that God loves the home. He has a plan for the home and the family. Family matters to God and it should matter to us. How is your home? How is your relationship with God? What can you do to prove to God, and the world, that the family matters to you? May God bless the home!*



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LESSON #3 = Why Dads Matter

Introduction: *In this series we are taking a close look at the Christian home. What does God expect in the home? What are the most important parts? In this lesson we will see why dads matter...*

Discussion:

I. Dads Need to Listen to God's Word

- A. Hear the Warnings of God (**Jeremiah 22:5**)
- B. Hear the Word of the Lord (**Romans 10:14, 17**)
- C. Hear the Wholesome Truth of God (**II Timothy 4:3-4**)

II. Dads Need to Love the Lord's Walk

- A. Total Dependence on God's Instruction (**Psalms 65:1-2**)
- B. Total Dedication Toward God's Plan (**Isaiah 55:8-9**)
- C. Total Denial of Self Toward God's Walk (**Matthew 16:24**)

III. Dads Need to Learn the Lord's Will

- A. Teach About God (**Proverbs 6:20-23**)
- B. Instruct About God's Plan (**Proverbs 14:12, 16:25**)
- C. Discipline Using God's Will (**Proverbs 22:6, 13:24**)

IV. Dads Need to Live the Lord's Way

- A. Our Wives Are A Godsend (**Genesis 2:18**)
- B. Our Homes Should Be Godly (**Joshua 24:15**)
- C. Our Children Are A Gift (**Psalms 127:3-5**)

Conclusion: *I got some of my notes today from my friend Mark Posey who is a gifted preacher and writer. He once said, "There is no school that families can attend and earn a degree in family strength. Families become strong because parents pay the price to follow God's instructions." AMEN! God wants strong families (**Ephesians 6:1-4**). He wants strong mothers and fathers. God takes our covenant seriously. How can we know that the family matters to God? The Bible tells us. How can we know that God matters to the family? We must show it! How is your home? How is your relationship with your dad? How is your relationship with your Heavenly Father?*



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LESSON #4 = Why Moms Matter

Introduction: *In this series we are taking a close look at the Christian home. What does God expect in the home? What are the most important parts? In this lesson we will see why moms matter...*

Discussion:

I. Moms Weave Relationships

A. The role of women in the home.

Genesis 2:18-25, Ephesians 5:22-33, I Timothy 5:14, I Peter 3:1-6

B. The role of women in the church.

Proverbs 31:10-31, Ephesians 4:11-16, I Timothy 2:12, Titus 2:3-5

C. The role of women in ministry.

Acts 18:2-3, 18-19, 26, Romans 16:3-4, I Corinthians 16:19, II Timothy 4:19

II. Moms Believe in the Family

A. The design of her home.

I Corinthians 11:3, Ephesians 5:22-33, Colossians 3:18-19

B. The honor in her home.

Exodus 20:12, Deuteronomy 5:16, Ephesians 6:2

C. The confidence in her home.

John 2:1-11, II Thessalonians 3:4, Philemon 21

III. Moms Grieve Over Sin & Death

A. The problems in the family.

Proverbs 1:8, 6:20, 10:1, 15:20, 19:26, 20:20, 23:22, 25, 29:15, 30:11, 17

B. The pain in the family.

Proverbs 31:15, 21, 26-27, Matthew 27:55-56, John 19:25-27

C. The preparations for the family.

Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 3:33-34, John 14:26, 15:26, 16:7, Acts 1:14

IV. Moms Receive Praise For Godly Living

A. Moms should be praised by their husband and children.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9, Proverbs 5:18, Matthew 19:19, I Timothy 5:8, I Peter 3:7

B. Moms should be praised for their example.

Ruth, I Samuel 1:11, 28, 2:19, II Timothy 1:5, 3:14-15, Deuteronomy 6:2

C. Moms should be praised for their spirituality.

Isaiah 53, Matthew 27:26, Luke 2:19, 41-52, John 19:25-27

Conclusion: *God takes our covenant seriously. How can we know that the family matters to God? The Bible tells us. How can we know that God matters to the family? We must show it! How is your home? How is your relationship with your mom? How is your relationship with your God?*



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LESSON #5 = Why Grandparents Matter

Introduction: *In this series we are taking a close look at the Christian home. What does God expect in the home? What are the most important parts? In this lesson we will see why grandparents matter...*

Discussion:

I. Grandparents Are Special

- A. Verified by the AARP, popular names for Grandfathers – Grampie, Gramps, Grump, Grumpa, Grandpa, Paw-Paw, PaPa, Grandpapa, Grampy, Granky, Gran-Gran, Gah-Gah, Bumpa, Fah-Fah, Jo-Jo, Tah-Tah, Fu-Fu.
- B. Verified by the AARP, popular names for Grandmothers – Nana, NeNe, Monie, May-May, Me-Me, My-My, Moo-Moo, Mugger, Ma, Maw-Maw, Ma-Moo, Me-Maw, Mammie, Big Mama, Granny.
- C. The Bible has much to say about grandparents (**Isaiah 46:4-5, Proverbs 17:6**).

II. Grandparents Speak Words of Life

- A. Too many times grandparents think they're out to pasture and their grandchildren don't want them to be around. Nothing could be further from the truth.
- B. Someone has said, "The reason grandparents and their grandchildren get along so well is because they share a common enemy."
- C. Remember your legacy (**Genesis 31:51-55, Psalm 92:14, II Timothy 1:5**).

III. Grandparents Share Love

- A. Many grandparents don't have a lot of money because they have shared with others.
- B. Most have learned that what you keep you lose and what you give you have.
- C. Share what you can give (**Luke 6:38, Proverbs 13:22, Proverbs 22:1**).

IV. Grandparents Stop Negative Feelings

- A. Who better to give attention to us when mom and dad cannot?
- B. Who will set the example for their grandchildren when parents ignore their kids?
- C. You can inspire the grandchildren (**Philippians 2:14, Proverbs 22:6, Titus 2:1-4**).

Conclusion: *God takes our covenant seriously. How can we know that the family matters to God? The Bible tells us. How can we know that God matters to the family? We must show it! How is your home? How is your relationship with your grandparents or grandchildren? How is your relationship with your God?*



Series Prepared by Ray Reynolds

LESSON #6 = Why Children Matter

Introduction: *In this series we are taking a close look at the Christian home. What does God expect in the home? What are the most important parts? In this lesson we will see why children matter...*

Discussion:

I. A Good Parent Loves His/Her Children

Romans 5:8, 8:37-39, John 3:16-17, I Peter 5:7, I John 4:19, Psalm 127:3

This love will be passed on to others.

II. A Good Parent Responds to His/Her Children

Genesis 6-9, John 3:16-17, Romans 3:23, Titus 3:3-7, Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 1:2-4

This respect will be passed on to others.

III. A Good Parent Blesses His/Her Children

Romans 8, Acts 2:38-39, Ephesians 1:3, Genesis 27, Numbers 6:24

This blessing will be passed on to others.

IV. A Good Parent Cherishes His/Her Children

Genesis 3, Ephesians 6:1-4, Colossians 3:20-21, Proverbs 22:6

This cherished feeling will be passed on to others.

V. A Good Parent Knows His/Her Children

Psalm 44:21, John 1:14, 2:25, Philippians 2:5-8, I Timothy 2:5, Hebrew 2:17-18, 4:15

This knowledge and relationship building will be passed on to others.

VI. A Good Parent Forgives His/Her Children

Matthew 26:28, Acts 2:38, Ephesians 1:7, 4:32, Colossians 3:13

This attitude of forgiveness will be passed on to others.

VII. A Good Parent Disciplines His/Her Children

Proverbs 3:11-12, Hebrews 12:5-8, Revelation 3:19, II Samuel 7:14, I Corinthians 4:21

This discipline will be passed on to others.

Conclusion: *God takes our covenant seriously. How can we know that the family matters to God? The Bible tells us. How can we know that God matters to the family? We must show it! How is your home? How is your relationship with your children and/or parents? How is your relationship with your God?*



Series Prepared by Ray Reynolds

LESSON #7 = Why Love Matters

Introduction: In this series we are taking a close look at the Christian home. What does God expect in the home? What are the most important parts? In this lesson we will see why love matters...

Discussion:

I. LOVE IS NECESSARY (I Corinthians 13:1-3)

- A. Necessary for spiritual gifts.
- B. Necessary for appropriate sacrifices.
- C. Necessary for works to have value.
- D. Necessary for effective preaching.
- E. Necessary for effective teaching.
- F. Necessary for knowledge not to be wasted.
- G. Necessary for us to please God.

II. LOVE IS GIVING (I Corinthians 13:4-7)

- A. Love suffers longs.
- B. Love is kind.
- C. Love rejoices in the truth.
- D. Love bears all things.
- E. Love believes all things.
- F. Love hopes all things.
- G. Love endures all things.

III. LOVE IS REJECTING (I Corinthians 13:4-7)

- A. Love does not envy.
- B. Love does not parade itself.
- C. Love is not puffed up.
- D. Love does not behave rudely.
- E. Love does not seek its own.
- F. Love is not provoked.
- G. Love thinks no evil.
- H. Love does not rejoice in iniquity.

IV. LOVE IS MATURE (I Corinthians 13:8-11)

- A. Love never fails.
- B. Love will outlast prophecies.
- C. Love will outlast tongues.
- D. Love will outlast knowledge.
- E. Love looks forward, not backward.
- F. Love leads us away from immaturity.
- G. Love leads us on toward perfection.

V. LOVE IS EVERLASTING (I Corinthians 13:12-13)

- A. Love will help us to see clearly.
- B. Love will help us to see ourselves.
- C. Love will help us to see others.
- D. Love is to be compared to faith.
- E. Love is to be compared to hope.
- F. Love is greatest human virtue.

Conclusion: God takes our covenant seriously. How can we know that the family matters to God? The Bible tells us. How can we know that God matters to the family? We must show it! How is your home? How is your love for your family? How is your relationship with your God?



Series Prepared by Ray Reynolds

LESSON #8 = Why Families Matter

Introduction: *In this series we are taking a close look at the home. We realize that the marriage was the first institution and the family unit is a distinct part of it. What does God expect in the home? What parts of the family are most important? In this lesson we will see why families matter...*

Discussion:

I. When Families Matter Physical Needs Are Met

- A. The husband should dwell with his wife (**I Peter 3:7**).
- B. The wife should make sure that her family is fed, clothed, and dry (**Proverbs 31:10-31**).
- C. The parents should provide for all of their children's needs (**I Timothy 5:8**).

II. When Families Matter Intellectual Needs Are Met

- A. The husband must not alienate his wife (**I Peter 3:7**) or provoke his children (**Ephesians 3:19, 21**).
- B. The wife should make sure that her family is educated (**II Timothy 1:5, 3:15, I Peter 3:1-6**).
- C. The parents share a responsibility in teaching (**Deuteronomy 11:18-21, Proverbs 22:6**).

III. When Families Matter Emotional Needs Are Met

- A. The husband should honor his wife (**I Peter 3:7**) and admonish his children (**Ephesians 6:4**).
- B. The wife should respect and submit to her husband (**Ephesians 5:22-24, 33, Colossians 3:18**).
- C. The children should respect and love all family members (**Ephesians 6:1-3, Colossians 3:20**).

IV. When Families Matter Sexual Needs Are Met

- A. The sexual union is nothing dirty or shameful because God created it (**Genesis 3:24-25**).
- B. The husband and the wife should meet their spouses sexual needs (**I Corinthians 7:2-5**).
- C. The children should respect the privacy of the parents (**Ephesians 5:22-6:4**).

V. When Families Matter Spiritual Needs Are Met

- A. The husband can have his prayers hindered if he does not take care of his wife (**I Peter 3:7**).
- B. The wife must not give up on her husband's spiritual development (**I Corinthians 7:10-16**).
- C. The entire family should aim for heaven (**Luke 16:19-31, Philippians 3:14**).

Conclusion: *We can clearly see that God loves the home. He has a plan for the home and the family. Family matters to God and it should matter to us. Are you helping or hindering your family? What are you contributing to your family? How is your home? How is your relationship with God? What can you do to prove to God, and the world, that the family matters to you? May God bless the home!*