



WEEKLY SERMON

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Message: The Christian Home

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Text: Ephesians 5:22-6:4

FIRST: Here is a statement about **Inviting the Un-Churched:** A study revealed that about two-thirds are willing to receive information about a local church from a family member and 56% from a friend or neighbor. The message is clear that the unclenched are open to conversations about church. In Mark 16:15 Jesus told us to, "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." How sad, only 2% of church members invite an un-churched person to church. 98% of church goers never extend an invitation in a given year.

SECOND: Here is a statement about **"The Old Fashioned Hymns:"** One of the greatest contributions to the spiritual development of my life has come from the influence of sacred songs. In Colossians 3:16 we read,

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

It has been said, the most important book next to your BIBLE is your HYMN BOOK. Someone has said,

"Enshrine within its pages, beautifully phased in words and melodies are the songs written by the inspired saints of yesteryears and poets and composers of today." Its truths are glorious and priceless, worth more than silver and gold. With glad hearts, we can share and sing the sublime truths of God's eternal goodness, His sovereignty, His will, and design to come, and the Savior's mighty love. Herein is a spiritual treasury of devotion, aspiration, comfort, and assurance. Take your Hymn Book and cherish it and cast it not aside lightly. Hold it with reverant hands as you sing unto Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

THIRD: Here are five **"Spiritual LIFE-GIVING VITAMINS"** you ought to consider

1. VITAMIN A: This is the **ACCEPTANCE** vitamin. It stands for new life or life eternal. You see, Christ died for our sins, and by accepting Him we get this new life. John 1: 12, **"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**

2. VITAMIN B: This is the **BELIEF** vitamin. It is essential to the development and normal functioning of our new life. Our Great Physician explains, in Mark 9:23 **"all things are possible to him that believeth."**

3. VITAMIN C: This is the **CONFESSION** vitamin. It must be used daily to keep us in perfect condition. I John 1:9, “**If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**”

4. VITAMIN D: This is the **DETERMINATION** vitamin. It is most necessary. This has a wonderful effect upon one's backbone, which, of course, is vital to good posture. Simply determine from I Corinthians 2:2, “**not to know anything save Jesus Christ and Him crucified.**”

5. VITAMIN E: This is the well-known and absolutely necessary **ENDURANCE** vitamin. It is demanded for an element of true beauty. II Timothy 2:3, “**Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.**”

FOURTH: Here are **TEN** saying I trust will be a blessing to you.

1. Make it the first morning business of your life to understand some part of the Bible clearly, and make it your daily business to obey it in all that you do understand. —**John Ruskin**

2. Without the anointing of the Holy Spirit, the preacher may storm, the teacher may strive, the Christian worker may sweat, but all to no avail. - **Vance Havner**

3. A good character is the best tombstone. Those who loved you and were helped by you will remember you when forget-me-nots are withered. Carve your name on hearts and not on marble. - **Charles Spurgeon**

4. We cannot choose the consequences of our sin, and we cannot choose the way in which our sin will find us out, but we should never forget that it always will. **R. B. Ouellette**

5. What makes the difference is not how many times you have been through the Bible, but how many times and how thoroughly the Bible has been through you. - **Gipsy Smith**

6. Sin in the soul is like Jonah in the ship. It turns the smoothest water into a tempestuous sea. The DEVIL is never too BUSY TO ROCK THE CRADLE of a SLEEPING BACKSLIDER.

7. The only way to build a church, if you are to have a Bible church, is to preach out of the Bible, teach the Bible and read the Bible. **Lester Roloff**

8. Success is failure turned inside out, and sometimes you cannot tell how close you are, for it may be near, when it seems so far. So stick to the fight, when you are hardest hit. It's when things seem the worst, that you need to determine to Don't QUIT.

9. May you never forget on your best day that you still need God as desperately as you did on your worst day.

10. Walking by faith means being prepared to trust where we are not permitted to see.

In His Amazing Grace
Pastor David Miklas

“The Sanctity of the Home”

INTRODUCTION: In our brief study on the Christian family we come to the Book of Ephesians 5:22-6:4. Since the Epistle to the Ephesians is distinctly a church epistle, the family herein described is of necessity a Christian family.

In verses 22-24 we have the **wife’s submission** clearly commanded.

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. (23) For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. (24) Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

In verses 25-33 we have the **husband’s affection** clearly defined.

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; (26) That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, (27) That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. (28) So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. (29) For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: (30) For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. (31) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. (32) This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. (33) Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

In chapter 6:1-4 we have the **child-parent** relationship described.

“Children, OBEY your parents in the Lord: for this is right. (2) HONOUR thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) (3) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. (4) And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

So from this passage, if we would build our **LIVES**, our **HOMES** and our **MARRIAGES** by the prescription God gives us here, we would have **HOMES THAT GLORIFY GOD.**

The longer I live, the more I deal with people's problems, and the more I see of raw humanity, the more I am convinced that the Word of God has the answers to those problems, those perils, those difficulties, those trials and those heartaches that we have in our individual lives, in our homes, in our churches, in our businesses, on our jobs, in the nation and in the world.

The home plays a vital role in the affairs of the world. Every area of life—government, politics, business, the economy, education—is affected by what happens in the home.

It was said, **"As goes the home, so goes the nation."**

It was said, **"The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."**

The home didn't just spring up yesterday or in the last century. It is the oldest institution known to man.

The home was in existence before the church was in existence.

The home was in existence before there was a government.

The home was in existence before there was ever a system of education.

The home is the **basic unit of society**, and all else stems from the home.

The home is the **flagship of morality** in our nation.

The home is the **cornerstone of democracy**. No nation is any stronger than the homes that make it up.

The home is the **bulwark of society**—the **pillar** upon which all social affairs are built.

The home is the **backbone of Christianity**. The church is what the homes make it, nothing more

and nothing less.

Let me slip into your home for a moment, draw the curtain back and look at what is happening.

Please understand that I am not judging, because by their fruits ye shall know them. However show me the books you read, the entertainment you engage in, the kind of music you listen to, the movies you watch, the language you speak, and I will tell you the moral and spiritual temperature of your home.

Jesus Christ deserves a place in your home. He should be the unseen Guest at every meal. He is the only One who can straighten out your marital problems. The psychologist, the counselor, the psychiatrist, the pastor and your friends can contribute, but only in Christ will you find the solutions.

THE FUNCTION OF THE HOME IS THREEFOLD:

It is biological. Through the birth of offspring, the home is reproduced.

It is sociological. The first social contact that a child has is within the framework of their home. It is a little society within itself. In the home, social mores are learned at an early age.

It is theological. Early in life, patterns of behavior, manners, deportment and conduct are learned in the home.

So the function of the home is biological, sociological and theological. Listen from Deuteronomy 6:6-9 to what God says through Moses:

“And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: (7) And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. (8) And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. (9) And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.”

Many **“How To”** books have been written:

“How to raise children,"

“How to be a good husband,"

“How to be a good wife," and even

“How to have a happy family."

These all contribute, but the one Book that gives us divinely inspired principles is the Bible.

If we try to keep up with the spirit of this world, if we try to follow the precepts of modern psychology, modern psychiatry and modern counseling, we are in trouble.

Unless it is based upon the Word of God, it is not worthy of our time, it will not answer our questions, and it will not provide the solution to any nor all of our problems.

We must get back to the Bible. We must get on our faces before God and beg Him to give insight, foresight, proper perspective and wisdom.

Moses said, **“When you get up in the morning, when you walk during the day, when you lie down at night, write it on the doorposts.** The Bible has the answers to the perplexing problems that confront us in this century. This is a mad, mixed-up world. Satan is insidiously creeping into homes, schools, churches, organizations, government and politics, bent on destroying the foundations of truth.

The only thing that will defeat Satan (Jesus proved this in His temptation) is the Word of God: **“It is written.”**

The church can provide basic biblical knowledge for your children, but it cannot mold the character

of your children.

The church is totally helpless to do anything without the full support and cooperation of parents. **When your children go wrong, don't blame the church, blame yourself.**

The church has based its principles and practices on the Word of God, and the home must conform to those principles and practices.

Remember this: The main difference between a house and a home is a four-letter word spelled L-O-V-E. A house is built by hands; a home is built by hearts.

There must be cooperation, togetherness, a walking together. **"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"**

THE HOME IS SACRED: There are four reasons why the home is a sacred institution.

FIRST: The home is sacred because God ordained it. There is a great deal of talk about open marriages, plural marriages, trial marriages or no marriage at all. However, the Bible gives a formula for marriage, and it began in the Garden with Adam and Eve. Please note that is Adam and Eve not Adam and Steve.

Why would two males or two females go to a courthouse to get a license to get married? The first command that God gives to families is to reproduce, and two males or two females cannot reproduce. Even if we didn't have Scripture against homosexuality and lesbianism, common sense would teach us better.

God brought together the first man and the first woman. God created man, and man was in the world by himself. Then God made the woman. Poor Eve didn't have much of a choice! It was Adam or nobody!

Genesis 2:21-24 gives us God's formula: **"And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; (22) And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. (23) And Adam 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) Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."**

The woman was not taken out of man's head, so that he could rule over her.
The woman was not taken out of his feet, so he might trample her underfoot.

But the woman was taken out of his side and near his heart, that he might love and protect her.

Wedlock is not a deadlock but a holy lock, and once it is locked, you are to throw away the key.

It is strange that people spend months and months preparing for a wedding ceremony and only a few minutes preparing for a marriage. The wedding ceremony is designed to last a few moments; the marriage is designed to last a lifetime.

We all admit that this sea of matrimony gets a little stormy at times. But remember living with him or her is not contingent on whether you love him or her like you did when you got married. Your living with him or her is a covenant that you entered into when you said, **"I will."**

In this modern age, when one little argument comes, remember God put man and woman together until death parts them.

SECOND: The home is sacred because God structured it. We need to remember that God structured the home thousands of years ago. Modern science, modern technology,

modern psychology, modern psychiatry and modern counseling cannot improve on God's plan.

Saying "**I will**" or "**I do**" is serious business. Paul tells us what God's divine structure is in I Corinthians 11:3, 8, 9

"But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. (8) For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. (9) Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."

Here is how Paul delineates God's structure.

Christ is the head of the man; the man is the head of the woman. God the Father is head of all, because He is head over Christ, who is head over the man, who is head over the woman.

There is the divine order, and when that order is reversed confusion and chaos follow.

Let's get it straight: Man is the head of the home, and the Bible says that woman is to be in subjection.

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church.. ..Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it."

This Scripture tells the father, the husband, that he is responsible to God for the spiritual leadership in the home. It is his responsibility to see that the home functions according to God's plan.

The home is a communication center where the family talks together. Dad, when did you last call the family together and say, "We are going to have a little fireside chat?"

The home is a prayer center. Dad, when was the last time you got your family together and prayed with them?

The home is a planning center. It is exciting for the entire family to sit down and all members plan what they want to do.

The home is a love center. How often have you said to one another (even parents to children and children to parents) - "I love you?"

The home is a recreation center. It doesn't take fancy toys and other forms of entertainment to make a family happy. Develop things right in the home to occupy leisure time, then you will know where your children are.

God has entrusted you with children, and what a responsibility!

**Take time with your children.
Teach them how to do things.
Play with them, love them and share with them.**

THIRD: The home is sacred because God honored it. There are three divinely ordained institutions, and God has given a specific honor to each of the three: the home, the government, and the church. God honors the home.

He honors the home by comparing the relationship of husband and wife to that of Christ and the church. 'Husbands, love your wives. Wives, be in submission. As Christ is the Head of the church, so the husband is the head of the home.'

Jesus didn't choose the synagogue in which to perform His first miracle. He

performed the first recorded miracle in a home, at a wedding in Cana of Galilee, thereby putting His divine approval upon the family, upon the home, upon the wedding ceremony and upon the marriage altar. The home is sacred because God honors it.

The home is sacred because God gave it a specific purpose to fulfill. Sadly enough, many homes have become armed camps. Mom and Dad fuss at each other. Dad fusses at the children, and the children fuss at each other.

There are going to be squabbles along the way, but

God never intended the home to be broken and scattered. Sin has done this.

God never intended for families to be divided. Sin has done this.

God never intended for families to be lost. Sin has done this.

These are busy days.

Fathers and mothers go their separate ways, in separate cars, paid for by separate bank accounts.

Latchkey children are free to come and go as they please.

The neighbor's house has become a place of refuge.

The kitchen has become a fast-food shop.

The den has become an entertainment center.

The family car has become a taxi.

You may be saying, "**But, Pastor, you don't understand we are so busy we can't be bothered.**" Yes, I do understand. I understand that we have to curtail some things to put first things first.

We have to give up some activities.

We are not going to be able to attend every meeting, every club, every entertainment.

We can't do all those things and bring up our children in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

Something has to give.

I wish we could blacken all the screens of all the televisions for a while. Any family togetherness now is the TV most of which is not fit for family entertainment.

It all adds up to the fact that we are sadly, tragically neglecting the God-given purpose for the home. The home is the place to honor God.

The home is a place to find spiritual strength and to cultivate family fellowship. There are four things necessary for family fellowship and strength: love, forgiveness, understanding and a listening ear.

The home is where you teach moral and doctrinal truths and Daddy is the leader. Dad, I warn you again: If you delegate your authority to the school, to the church, to the state, to Mother or to any other person or organization, you are violating God's divine plan, and it has disastrous consequences.

You can teach by precept. Just open your Bible and having family devotions.

Read a portion of the Word of God, and say to your children, "**This is what God says about this.**" Let them ask questions.

Read the Bible to them in family devotions. Oh, a family altar would alter many a family. Teach them right out of the Word of God, line upon line, precept upon precept.

You can teach by example. Lifestyle is the best teacher. Someone has said, "**The parent's life is the child's copybook.**" That means that your child will do what he sees you do.

If going to church on Wednesday night is important to you, your child will think so too

If **winning souls** is important to you, your child will believe it is important.
If **tithing** is important to you, he will believe it is important.
If **praying** and **Bible reading** is important for you, your child will believe it is important.
If **servicing God** is important in your life your child will think so too!

If **you** don't do these things, **your child** will get the idea that they are not important.

How sacred is the home? It is God's institution. He has entrusted us with it. Let us make it the best that we can. Remember, houses are built by hands; homes are built by hearts.

If God has spoken to your heart after reading the sermon, "**The Sanctity of the Home**," then right now talk to God about what He has spoken to you.

Do you have the assurance that one day you will go to heaven? If you have no assurance that you know Jesus Christ, then I trust you will decide to accept Him as your personal Savior. The Bible tells us in

Acts 16:31, "...**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...**"

Romans 10:13, "**For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**"

This prayer is here for those who need to ask Jesus to be their personal Savior: "**I do want to go to Heaven. I know I am a sinner, and I do believe Jesus Christ died for me. I realize I cannot buy this great salvation, nor can I earn it. Knowing Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave to pay my sin debt and to purchase my salvation, I do now trust Him as my Savior, and from this moment on I am completely depending on Him for my salvation.**"

If you made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior let me know? Please send an e-mail to, pdmikBBM@aol.com and I will send you some literature that will help you in your Christian life.

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