



The Good News

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Family Matters

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The Bible has a great deal to teach us when it comes to family matters. God had a design in mind for the family that He established and authorized as far back as Adam and Eve. While this wonderful blessing exists for us in God's word, our society continues to find ways to bring about the destruction of the family as God has designed it. Yet, all the while, they question why our children are shooting each other in schools, why marriages amount to jokes on paper, and why crimes of jealousy, rage, selfishness, and malice continue to prevail in our society. Is it any wonder this is the case when the basic family designed by God is rejected?!

Structure: We live in a society in which there are numerous ways to define a "family unit" or structure. These include single-parent families, grandparent-only families, two male or two female families, and many possible combinations of such. While society may boast of such a diversified family chemistry, the Bible only authorizes one structure for a family: One man and one woman. Obviously, sometimes events beyond our control dictate the necessity for single-parent or grandparent-only families, but the desired structure should always be the example of the Bible; one man and one woman.

Roles of men and women: This has become much more malleable in recent years as opposed to 50 years ago. In today's society, the roles of men and women have become nearly interchangeable, and in some cases, reversed. While there are many cultural roles and duties that can certainly be reassigned, switched, or otherwise reorganized, there are some roles and duties

that God makes gender specific. These particular roles and duties should not be confused with any others. There are certain roles that men are to perform as a husband and a father, and there are certain roles that women are to perform as wives and mothers. These cannot be reassigned or switched, no matter how much society insists they can and should.

Proper rearing of children: As the family of society becomes twisted at its core structure, with roles of men and woman becoming confused, it is inevitable that the raising of children falls by the wayside as well. Our society has produced thousands of books that offer ways of raising children, offering various methods of disciplining and punishment. Unfortunately, few of them draw upon the wisdom incorporated into God's word concerning the raising of children. While society asks itself the reason for the continued degradation of this nation's youth, those who seek the knowledge and wisdom contained in the Bible will find the answers they seek for raising their children.

As we study God's word today on the matter of the God-designed family, let us have an open mind and ready heart to search the Scriptures and seek to apply what we learn to our family. In addition, our society desperately needs to hear what God's word has to say about the family. We can observe that the root of many of the problems in our nation is a direct result of not seeking the word of God. Let's be sure to pass along what we learn from God's word.